

M03 Interlocking Complete

By Sam Sowko, Senior Construction Engineer and Mobolaji Ojuri, Contractor, Construction Engineering, M&E

The Measure RR M03 Interlocking renewal project is complete! Contract 15CQ-100 to replace critical District infrastructure was awarded on December 18th, 2017, to ProVen Management Inc. (PMI), for \$6,543,210.00. All track and civil construction was finished on December 18th, 2018, marking the completion of the contract on schedule. In addition, the contract came in more than 5% under budget. The huge success of this project should be attributed to the immense planning and coordination efforts between Maintenance & Engineering, Transportation, and PMI. All trackwork was completed in four weekend shutdowns during August and September. After completing the track construction, the District worked with the City of Oakland to beautify the construction laydown area with improvements along 4th Street, which included resurfacing the street and parking lot, placing new sidewalk, pouring curb and gutter, planting new trees, and fencing off BART property to secure the area.

“These before and after photos are astonishing. The scope of work you all completed in short order is a marvel; major kudos! Big thanks to you and the team for a job well done”

– Ahmed Ali Bob, Community Engagement & Communication Coordination, City of Oakland Department of Transportation

Along with train control and traction power component upgrades, key elements involved in upgrading the existing District infrastructure included removal and replacement of the entire at-grade ballasted track section, replacement of three #15 turnouts with new concrete tie turnouts, and the replacement of Maintenance of Way (MOW) 05 and MOW 06. The contract was administered through M&E’s Construction Engineering Services Division with then Division Manager **Laurence Farrell** and Resident Engineer **Samuel Sowko**, and led by then Principal Track Engineer, **David Scherer** and Program Manager **Lyn Williams**. Although this was a competitive bid contract, the project could not have been executed without partnerships with BART Maintenance, including management support from Train Control’s **Charles Mann**, Traction Power’s **Richard Watson** and Track’s **Thomas Delaney**. The complex wayside infrastructure replacement and cutovers required on this project are a true example of teamwork and coordination resulting in the successful restoration of uninterrupted service after each weekend shutdown.

Many thanks to all parties involved with the planning, design, and construction effort!

