



# MINUTES

## *Regional Planning and Highways Committee Meeting*

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### **Committee Members Present**

*Lori Donchak, Chair  
Shawn Nelson, Vice Chairman  
Andrew Do  
Barbara Delgleize  
Mark A. Murphy  
Michelle Steel*

### **Staff Present**

*Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
Ken Phipps, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Laurena Weinert, Clerk of the Board  
Olga Prado, Assistant Clerk of the Board  
James Donich, General Counsel  
OCTA Staff and Members of the General Public*

### **Committee Members Absent**

*Todd Spitzer*

## **Call to Order**

The September 7, 2017 regular meeting of the Regional Planning and Highways Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Donchak at 10:33 a.m.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Delgleize led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **1. Public Comments**

No public comments were received.

## **Special Calendar**

There were no Special Calendar matters.

## **Consent Calendar (Items 2 through 6)**

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, seconded by Director M. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to approve the minutes of the Regional Planning and Highways Committee meeting of August 7, 2017.



### **3. Cooperative Agreements for Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program Projects**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, seconded by Director M. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-7-1827 for the El Toro Road (east) Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-7-1828 for the Magnolia Street Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project.
- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-7-1829 for the Brookhurst Street Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Project.

### **4. Grant Award for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, seconded by Director M. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer or designee to accept the grant award and execute grant-related agreements with the California Office of Traffic Safety to develop and implement the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Program.

### **5. Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5 and Authority to Acquire Right-of-Way**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, seconded by Director M. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-7-1936 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the California Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$850,000, to perform right-of-way support services for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer, or his designee, to initiate discussions with property owners and utility owners, make offers, and execute agreements for the acquisition of all necessary real property interests and necessary utility relocations.



### **6. Motorist Services Update for Fiscal Year 2016-17**

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, seconded by Director M. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to receive and file as an information item.

### **Regular Calendar**

### **7. Consultant Selection for the Preparation of Plans, Specifications, and Estimates for the State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5**

Steven King, Project Manager, Highway Programs, reported on the consultant selection for the preparation of plans, specifications, and estimates for the State Route 55 (SR-55) Improvement Project between Interstate 405 (I-405) and Interstate 5 (I-5) as follows:

- Environmental phase of the project is nearly complete and the project is ready to move into final design.
- Final environmental document was approved by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the project report is expected to be completed early next week.
- Selection of a consultant will allow the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) to move forward with the final design and begin construction in late 2020.
- Four proposals were received and evaluated, three teams were interviewed, and a recommendation was made to select WKE, Inc., to perform the required work.
- Provided information on WKE, Inc.'s interview, key staff experience, recent projects led by the firm, and work plan.

A motion was made by Director Do, seconded by Director Delgleize, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Approve the selection of WKE, Inc., as the firm to prepare the plans, specifications, and estimates for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-7-1719 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and WKE, Inc., to prepare the plans, specifications, and estimates for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5.



### **8. 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program**

Adriann Cardoso, Capital Programming Manager, Planning, provided background information on OCTA's 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and a PowerPoint presentation as follows:

- 2018 STIP Overview;
- Program of Projects and Funding Target; and
- Next Steps.

Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), noted the importance of SB 1 stabilizing the STIP, and commented on the "Next 10 Plan" that recommends accelerating projects.

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, seconded by Director M. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Approve the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program submittal to program \$267.873 million to seven projects, from fiscal year 2018-19 through fiscal year 2022-23.
- B. Approve the use of up to \$97.418 million in Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds for the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program projects.
- C. Approve the use of up to \$23.355 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds for the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program projects.
- D. Approve the use of up to \$178.338 million in Measure M2 funds for the 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program projects.
- E. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments to the State Transportation Improvement Program and the Federal Transportation Improvement Program, as well as execute any necessary agreements to facilitate the recommendations above.



### **9. Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program Restoration Projects Additional Funding Request**

Lesley Hill, Project Manager, Environmental Mitigation Program, Planning, provided an overview of the Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program restoration projects additional funding requests as follows:

- The Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan was finalized and approved by the OCTA Board of Directors in November 2016.
- Permits were received in June 2017 from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Wildlife Agencies).
- OCTA is utilizing some of that mitigation to obtain state and federal clean water act permits for the freeway projects.
- United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has additional regulations and requirements (above and beyond the Wildlife Agencies' needs) for long-term management of the restoration projects;
- Funding being requested today was not included in the Measure M2 freeway project Wildlife Agencies permits.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Utilizing existing open space to do double-duty is a common and acceptable best practice; however, requirements and needs vary.
- The funds come from the environmental mitigation component of Measure M2, however, when the budget was built earlier this year, the exact amount/date was not anticipated.
- This streamlining process will allow for major time and money savings.

A motion was made by Director Delgleize, seconded by Committee Vice Chairman Nelson, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute an amount up to \$805,000 to fund the expedited clean water permitting requirements.
- B. Authorize staff to amend the fiscal year 2017-18 budget to include the recommended funding amount.



### **10. Interstate 5 (Avenida Pico to San Diego County Line) Project Status Update**

Kurt Brotcke, Director, Strategic Planning, provided opening remarks and introduced Joseph Alcock, Section Manager, Corridor Studies. He also referenced a handout provided the Committee Members - "2017 Traffic Flow – San Clemente Area" map.

Mr. Alcock reported as follows:

- Work on this project commenced last summer, with several important milestones completed since.
- Project Development Team (PDT) was created;
- To date, six formal PDT meetings have been held;
- In May, Purpose and Needs Statement was finalized;
- In July, the 2040 Baseline Traffic Forecast was developed;
- 2040 Baseline Traffic Forecast will be used to evaluate the proposed project alternatives;
- This past summer, initial conceptual improvement alternatives were initiated; and
- Next steps.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Legislation related to reversible lane consideration.
- Details on the "2017 Traffic Flow – San Clemente Area" map (handout).
- Amount of lanes and capacity are subject to refinement of the traffic studies.
- The traffic analysis is underway, and staff is working with Caltrans, the Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA), the City of San Clemente, and the San Diego Association of Governments.
- Expectations on capturing TCA scenarios.
- San Diego has plans for a managed lane facility up to the Orange/San Diego County border.
- Number counts reflected on the map (handout) and comparison to other areas.
- Future plans for work on the Interstate 405 and Interstate 605 with the City of Long Beach or Los Angeles County.

After the discussion, no action was taken on this receive and file information item.



### **Discussion Items**

#### **11. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Darrell Johnson, CEO, reported that:

- OCTA is leading up toward the February 2018 bus service change as part of the OC 360° Bus Program. He stated that staff continues to be involved with the community and has hosted a series of community events through the month of August. In addition, a roundtable discussion event will be held this evening at the OCTA Headquarters to solicit feedback, which will be incorporated and presented as part of the September 25<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing.
- A series of outreach activities are in place related to Interstate 405 Improvement Project. On September 9<sup>th</sup>, OCTA will participate in the Leisure World Community Expo in Seal Beach to provide additional information on the project.
- On September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, OCTA will participate in the Fiestas Patrias Festival in the City of Santa Ana, and will provide information related to the OC Streetcar Project.
- The Santa Ana College Pass Program went into effect approximately one week ago. The initial five days were very positive, with a lot of usage by students. In addition, on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, OCTA, in conjunction with Santa Ana College, will host an event to celebrate the program's kick-off. Chairman Hennessey and Directors Do and Shaw are expected to be in attendance.

#### **12. Committee Members' Reports**

There were no Committee Members' reports.

#### **13. Closed Session**

A Closed Session was not conducted at this meeting.



# MINUTES

## *Regional Planning and Highways Committee Meeting*

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### 14. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **10:30 a.m. on Monday, October 2, 2017**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room - Conference Room 07, Orange, California.

ATTEST

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Olga Prado  
Assistant Clerk of the Board

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Lori Donchak  
Committee Chair