



COMMITTEE TRANSMITTAL

August 8, 2022

To: Members of the Board of Directors

From: Andrea West, Interim Clerk of the Board

Andrea West

Subject: Amendment to Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for Preparation of the Project Report and Environmental Document for the Interstate 5/EI Toro Road Interchange Project

Regional Planning and Highways Committee Meeting of August 1, 2022

Present: Directors Bartlett, Delgleize, Foley, Harper, Muller, and Murphy

Absent: Director Chaffee

Committee Vote

This item was passed by the Members present.

Committee Recommendations

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 1 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-6-1262 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the California Department of Transportation to provide federal funding, which the California Department of Transportation will draw directly, to complete environmental phase services for preparation of the project report and environmental document for the Interstate 5/EI Toro Road Interchange Project.
- B. Authorize the use of up to \$4,813,000 in additional Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds for the Interstate 5/EI Toro Road Interchange Project.
- C. Authorize the use of up to \$350,000 in additional Measure M2 funds for public outreach efforts for the Interstate 5/EI Toro Road Interchange Project.
- D. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute or amend all necessary agreements to facilitate the above actions.



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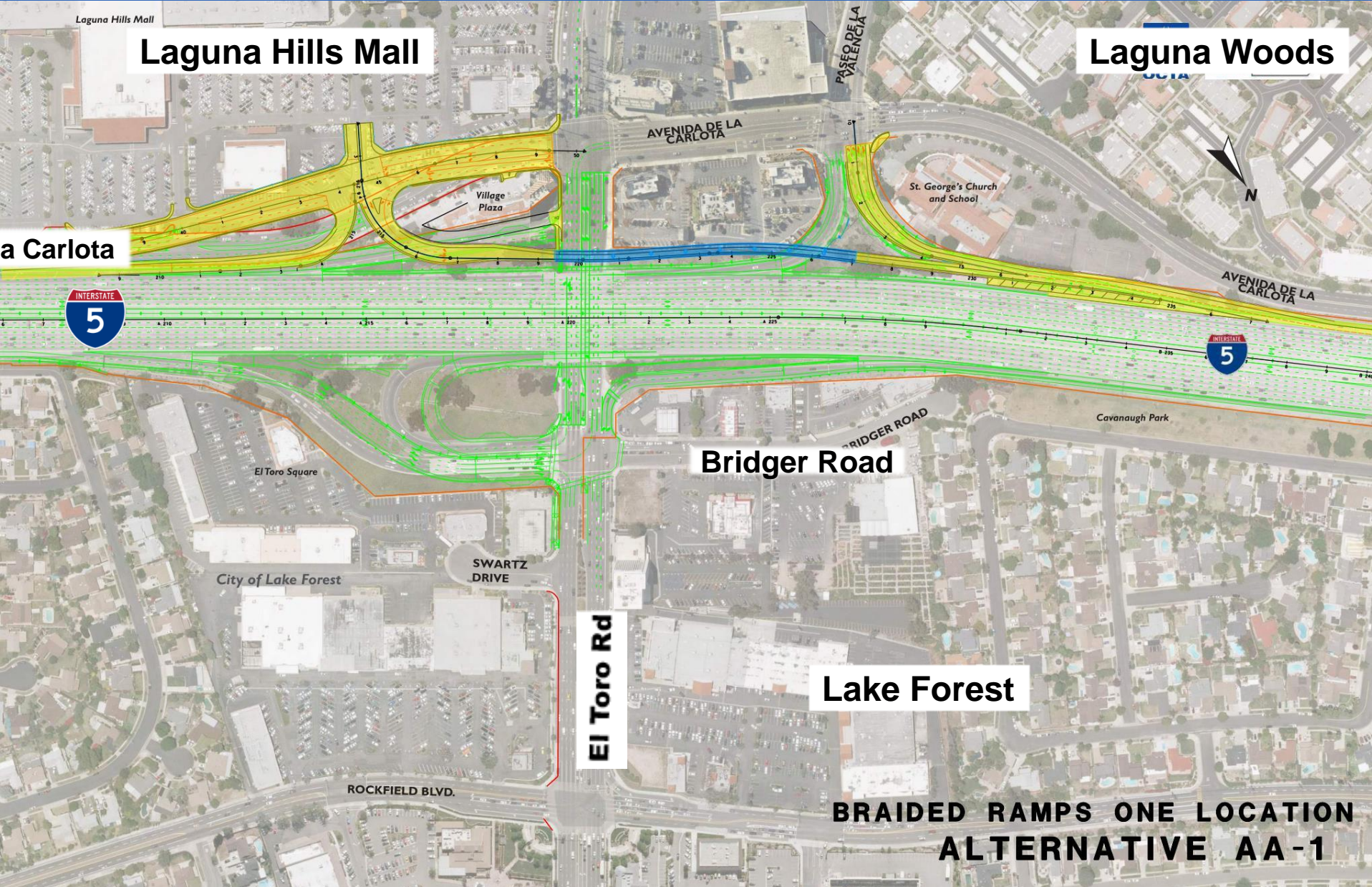
Committee Discussion

In response to discussion and questions at the Regional Planning and Highways Committee meeting on August 1, 2022, this transmittal includes graphics of the two alternatives, AA-1 and AA-5, that will move forward for evaluation in the environmental phase, as well as additional information on the city council project updates.

Following the Interstate 5/EI Toro Road interchange project update provided to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors on May 9, 2022, OCTA staff presented the project update to each of the three city councils in May and June. All three city councils received the presentation, asked questions, and provided feedback on the project alternatives. The Laguna Woods City Council took a specific action to strongly object to one of the previous alternatives in the 2019 draft environmental document, alternative 2, the original flyover alternative, that impacts the northeast quadrant of the interchange. With respect to the two new alternatives recommended to move forward as part of this item, AA-1 and AA-5, all three city councils asked questions and provided feedback on project improvements, potential impacts, and cost and schedule. The city councils' comments and feedback on the two new alternatives were acknowledged, and the three city councils were assured that the new alternatives will be fully studied and evaluated during the environmental phase. Based on the recommendation by staff from the three cities and this collective feedback provided by the city councils, staff recommends amending the cooperative agreement with the California Department of Transportation to restart the environmental phase and proceed with a full environmental analysis of the two new alternatives, AA-1 and AA-5.

Attachment

Assessment Alternative (AA)-1: Braided Ramps One Location



Avenida De La Carlota

Laguna Hills Mall

Laguna Woods

Bridger Road

Lake Forest

El Toro Rd

**BRAIDED RAMPS ONE LOCATION
ALTERNATIVE AA-1**

AA-5: Flyover with Roundabout (Close to Rockfield Boulevard)

