

*AFFILIATED AGENCIES**Orange County
Transit District**Local Transportation
Authority**Service Authority for
Freeway Emergencies**Consolidated Transportation
Service Agency**Congestion Management
Agency*

April 17, 2025

The Honorable Tony Strickland
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 6730
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: **SB 364 (Strickland) – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Strickland:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors is pleased to support SB 364, which would improve the state's permitting process for outdoor advertising displays along newly aligned highways. The bill offers thoughtful clarification that supports more efficient coordination between infrastructure delivery and permitting timelines.

Under current regulations, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is not required to process applications for advertising displays along a new highway alignment until the project is officially accepted as complete. However, many highway segments open to the public for vehicular travel well before final project acceptance occurs. This gap between public use and permit eligibility can create avoidable delays in placing signage, even when the roadway is fully operational.

SB 364 provides a practical solution by requiring Caltrans to process permit applications once a highway segment is open for public use, regardless of whether the overall project has reached formal completion. Some cities in Orange County have encountered delays under current practice when seeking to place signage along newly opened highway segments, despite those segments already serving the public. This bill helps address those concerns by ensuring that existing infrastructure is not hindered by procedural timing issues. OCTA views this legislation as a reasonable step toward aligning policy with practice while preserving all relevant safety and operational standards.

A SUPPORT position aligns with OCTA's 2025-26 State Legislative Platform principle to "support streamlined environmental review and permitting processes for transportation projects and programs to avoid potentially duplicative and unnecessary analysis, while still maintaining traditional environmental protections."

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If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Kristin Jacinto, Executive Director of Government Relations, at (714) 560-5754 or kjacinto@octa.net.

Sincerely,



Doug Chaffee
Chair

DC:cb

c: Members, Orange County State Legislative Delegation
Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Topp Strategies