




July 1, 2022

To: Regional Planning and Highways Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: Orange County Transportation Authority State and Federal Grant Programs – Update and Recommendations

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority provides grants to local agencies through various state and federal funding programs. Status reports on these programs, as well as recommended project changes, are presented for review and approval.

Recommendations

- A. Approve three delay requests, one each from the cities of Costa Mesa, San Clemente, and Santa Ana.
- B. Remove prior conditions for approval and approve programming \$4.365 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds through the Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program for four projects in the City of Santa Ana along Bristol Street.
- C. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute a cooperative agreement with the City of Santa Ana for \$4.365 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds through the Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program for four projects in the City of Santa Ana along Bristol Street.
- D. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute any required agreements or amendments to facilitate the recommendations above.

Background

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) issues periodic state and federally funded calls for projects (call). Prior calls include the Pavement Management Relief Funding (PMRF) Program, Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program (BCIP), State-Local Partnership Program (SLPP) formula grant, and Arterial Pavement Management (APM) Program. OCTA may also nominate individual local agency-led projects for other state funding programs, such as the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) with concurrence from the local agency.

A combination of state and federal funds may be used to support the programs noted above. Funding sources for the prior calls include federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds, federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds, State Proposition 1B SLPP funds, and Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee funds. To ensure OCTA, state, and federal requirements are being met, OCTA regularly receives updates on the status of active projects from local agencies. Project-specific amendments are requested by local agencies and are presented for Board of Directors' (Board) review and approval.

Discussion

Since 2012, the Board has programmed \$108.635 million in state and federal funds to Orange County local agencies through the PMRF, BCIP, SLPP, APM calls, and nominated local agency-led projects for a total of 198 phases of work currently programmed for 185 projects. A summary of the project phases is provided in the table below, and additional detail on the status of active projects is provided in Attachment A.

Project Phase Status	Environmental/ Engineering	Right-of-Way	Construction	Total
Planned	3	3	43	49
Started	10	2	6	18
Completed	13	-	118	131
Total	26	5	167	198
<i>Cancelled</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>

Notes:

BCIP projects may have more than one phase of work.

Planned – Indicates that the funds for this phase have not been obligated.

Started – Indicates that the funds for this phase have been obligated.

Completed – Indicates that the work related to this phase is complete.

For the PMRF Program, approved by the Board on October 11, 2021, projects require additional approval through the California Transportation Commission (CTC). This update includes the status of PMRF projects considered for approval by the CTC through May 2022. OCTA does not expect additional projects to be added into the PMRF program in the future because the funding source has been exhausted. For this program, only project status will be reported as scope changes and other actions do not require Board approval, consistent with the Board approved PMRF guidelines.

Program Amendments

For this six-month review period, Board approval is requested for delay requests for projects in the cities of Costa Mesa, San Clemente, and Santa Ana (Santa Ana). The City of Costa Mesa's Adams Avenue and Pinecreek Drive Intersection Project is experiencing delays due to the incorporation of additional stakeholder feedback into the design and schedule coordination with adjacent street improvements. Costa Mesa is also currently working towards right-of-way certification, which may take additional time. The City of San Clemente's South El Camino Real Lane Reconfiguration and Buffered Bike Lane and Santa Ana's Warner Avenue Protected Bike Lanes from Oak Street to Grand Avenue projects are both experiencing delays due to schedule coordination with adjacent capital improvement projects. Both cities have requested delays to these projects; staff concurs and is recommending Board approval. Additional detail on these requests is provided in Attachment B.

In June 2019, as part of the funding recommendations for the 2019 Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program, the Board approved a conditional award of \$4.365 million in CMAQ funds for the following four projects in Santa Ana, contingent on completion of the Bristol Street Transit Corridor Study (Study):

- Bristol Street Protected Bike Lanes - Phase II: Warner Avenue to St. Andrew Place (\$1.508 million)
- Bristol Street Protected Bike Lanes - Phase III: St. Andrew Place to Edinger Avenue (\$0.743 million)
- Bristol Street Protected Bike Lanes - Phase IV: Civic Center Drive to Washington Avenue (\$0.794 million)
- Bristol Street Protected Bike Lanes - Phase V: 1st Street to Civic Center Drive (\$1.32 million)

Since the conditional award, no further advancements have been made towards the development of transit projects as they relate to the outcomes of the Study, primarily due to community issues. Additionally, two of the conditionally awarded projects, Phases II and IV noted above, have construction planned in coordination with Measure M2 Comprehensive Transportation Funding Program projects that

require contract award by June 2023. In addition, Phase II may assist the region in meeting its federal air quality requirements and should be delivered in a timely manner. Over the last several years, OCTA staff has coordinated with Santa Ana on project design to ensure that future transit needs would not be precluded with the improvements that would be carried out through these grants. Therefore, staff is recommending that the conditions for approval be removed, and the funds awarded to Santa Ana so that the four projects can proceed with implementation at this time.

Should the Board approve this item, OCTA will also execute cooperative agreements with Santa Ana that programs the \$4.365 million to Santa Ana for the projects listed above and includes a provision that ensures that construction of the bikeways will not preclude transit capital improvements along Bristol Street.

The Capital Funding Program Report, which summarizes the current programming of OCTA-issued state and federally funded calls based on actions that may be recommended in this report, as well as prior Board actions, is included as Attachment C.

Summary

Status reports from the PMRF Program, BCIP, SLPP, APM Program, and local agency led SCCP projects are provided for review. Staff recommends Board approval of program amendment requests for local agency projects. Staff is also recommending removing conditions for approval previously placed on four Santa Ana projects and related actions that would allow those projects to proceed.

Attachments

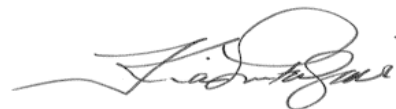
- A. State and Federal Grant Programs Project Status
- B. State and Federal Grant Programs, Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program Requests
- C. Capital Funding Program Report

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