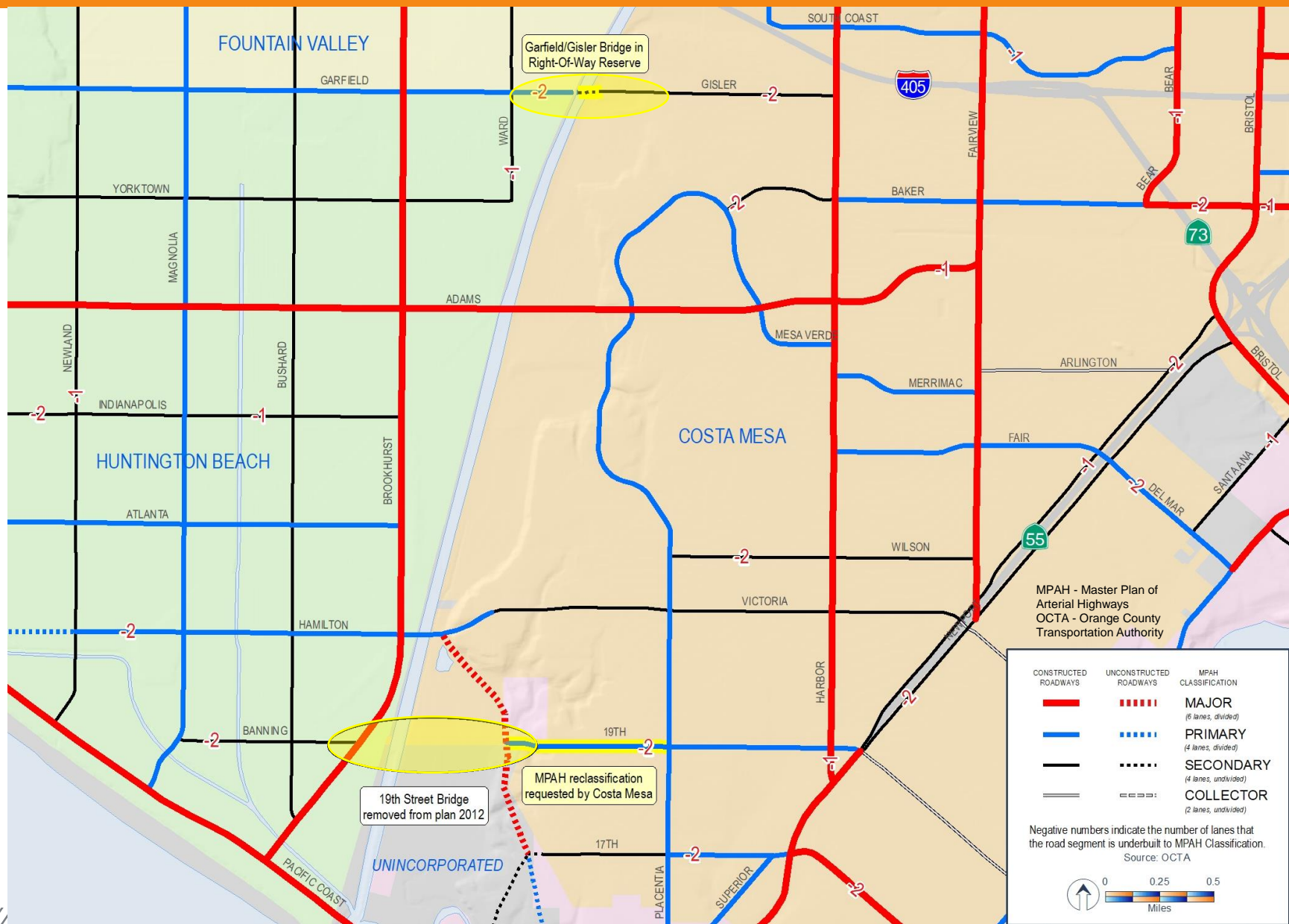


# Santa Ana River Crossings and 19th Street Reclassification Review and Status Update

# Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH)

- MPAH is a countywide transportation plan to support coordinated development of a regional roadway network
- Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) began administration in 1995
- **Responsibilities:**
  - **Process** amendments proposed by local agencies
    - Review to ensure amendments maintain the integrity and continuity of the MPAH system
  - **Facilitate** consensus building among affected agencies
    - Board of Directors' (Board)-approved policy requires a coordinated planning process with affected agencies

# Santa Ana River Crossings & 19th Street Request



# Santa Ana River Crossings

- Working to achieve consensus with local agencies since 1990s
- Multiple studies undertaken into early 2000s
  - Consensus not achieved
- 19th Street-Banning Bridge
  - Board-approved removal from MPAH with local consensus (November 2012)
- Garfield-Gisler Area Study (2006)
  - Cities of Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, and OCTA agreed to resolve through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed in 2006

# Garfield-Gisler Bridge MOU

Provides a consensus-based process to enable bridge removal

- Identifies alternative roadway improvements meant to maintain acceptable operations without the bridge
- Excludes bridge from city and regional planning, but space is reserved until alternative roadway improvements are proven effective

# MOU Status

- Alternative roadway improvements have been implemented as appropriate
- Traffic study planned to validate alternative roadway improvements
  - Will include the completed Interstate 405 Improvement Project
  - Allows for a consensus-based resolution with partner agencies
- Board decision by 2026

# 19th Street Reclassification

- Costa Mesa requested to reclassify 19th Street (2019)
  - Amend MPAH to align with the current two-lane roadway condition
- OCTA working to gain consensus with affected local agencies
  - Meeting with city management on May 30, 2024
  - Agreement to defer additional traffic studies until local agencies update General Plan housing assumptions
- OCTA will conduct a traffic study
  - Analyze potential amendments following General Plan updates
  - Allows for participation of all affected agencies

# Next Steps

- Procure consultant support for traffic studies
  - Garfield-Gisler Bridge Traffic Study
  - 19th Street Vicinity Traffic Study
- Monitor General Plan updates
- Initiate studies to build consensus in winter/spring 2025
  - Process amendments in accordance with the MOU and MPAH guidelines
- Conclude studies and define recommendations by late 2025
- Present to Board for approval by early 2026