




**February 5, 2018**

**To:** Regional Planning and Highways Committee

**From:** Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

**Subject:** 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Financial Plan

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority is responsible for the biennial preparation of the Federal Transportation Improvement Program for Orange County. This document is required under state and federal laws and includes the financial information for all regionally significant transportation improvement projects in Orange County, with a total value of approximately \$2.959 billion. A summary of the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and a supporting resolution are submitted for Board of Directors' approval.

### **Recommendations**

- A. Authorize programming actions for, and the submittal of, the Federal Transportation Improvement Program project list and financial plan for fiscal year 2018-19 through fiscal year 2023-24.
- B. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program to facilitate programming of projects.
- C. Adopt Resolution No. 2018-005 of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Transportation Authority.

### **Background**

The Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) is the programming document that implements the Regional Transportation Plan.

The FTIP is comprised of projects of regional significance and projects which are approved to receive state or federal funding. Regionally significant projects are those that would have significant impacts on regional travel and air quality.

Federal and state laws require that the FTIP is updated at least every two years and is financially constrained to reasonably anticipated revenues. Federal law also requires that the FTIP include a financial plan that demonstrates how the proposed improvements will be funded and implemented. The financial plan must include a list of all public and private funding sources reasonably expected during the life of the program.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) conducts a region-wide air quality assessment for the FTIP. Any project that is likely to receive federal funding for implementation must be included in the FTIP or added through an amendment process to demonstrate that it has been evaluated for air quality purposes.

### ***Discussion***

The 2019 FTIP contains a total of \$2.959 billion in reasonably anticipated federal, state, and local funding sources for projects throughout Orange County which are scheduled to begin some phase of work between fiscal year (FY) 2018-19 and FY 2023-24. The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is required to certify that the projects programmed in the first four years of the FTIP (FY 2018-19 through FY 2021-22) are of high-priority and will be implemented in accordance with each project's respective schedule. FTIP Guidelines further require that the projects programmed in the first four years of the plan must be fully funded, with an emphasis on projects programmed in the first two years for implementation. All local agencies with projects programmed in the FTIP provide a resolution from their governing board confirming that the projects or project components are fully funded in accordance with FTIP Guidelines. With respect to OCTA, the FTIP includes projects that have previously been approved for funding through prior Board of Directors (Board) actions.

The Transportation Corridor Agency (TCA) submitted for the 2018 FTIP full funding for all phases of the State Route 241 Connector to the 91 Express Lanes. This is inconsistent with OCTA Board direction from the December 11, 2017 Board meeting, and OCTA staff has updated the project in the FTIP accordingly. Right-of-way and construction funds, including a repurposed federal earmark for \$7.119 million, are no longer included in the FTIP. An update to the January 9, 2018, submittal to SCAG will remove these phases of work. OCTA staff met with the TCA on January 16, 2018 and advised TCA regarding the direction and rationale regarding these updates. Additionally, TCA submitted the environmental and engineering work underway for the TCA's Foothill Transportation Corridor South Project. This submittal is reflected in the project list.

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With Board approval, a financial plan (Attachment A) and resolution certifying OCTA's FTIP project submittals, referenced as Orange County Transportation Improvement Program (Attachment B), will be submitted to SCAG for review. Once SCAG has completed its review, SCAG will model the program and determine air quality benefits. SCAG is expected to present the FTIP to the public, regional transportation commissions, transportation committees, and regional council for review and comment by July 2018.

Following the public comment period, SCAG's Board will consider the 2019 FTIP, which, if approved, will be forwarded to the California Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration for final review and approval. The 2019 FTIP is anticipated to be fully approved in December 2018. A list of draft FTIP projects is included in Attachment C.

In order to meet SCAG's review deadline of March 2, 2018, minor changes or amendments to the FTIP project list may be necessary after the preparation of this report. Staff is recommending that the Board authorize staff to submit the FTIP project list to SCAG, as well as submit any project changes provided by local agencies, or validated changes requested by SCAG. This strategy will allow the most up to date project information to be included in the 2019 FTIP.

### ***Summary***

OCTA developed the 2019 FTIP and associated financial plan, including approximately \$2.959 billion of projects. Staff has worked with local agencies and consulted Board-approved plans and previous funding actions to develop the 2019 FTIP. With Board approval, the 2019 FTIP and associated funding plan will be submitted to SCAG.

***Attachments***

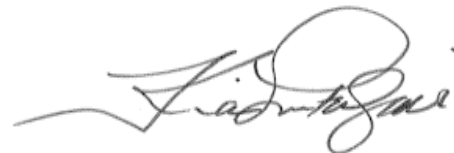
- A. Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Financial Plan Summary, Fiscal Year 2018-19 Through Fiscal Year 2023-24
- B. Resolution No. 2018-005 of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Transportation Authority, Fiscal Year 2018-19 to Fiscal Year 2023-24, Federal Transportation Improvement Program
- C. 2019 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Project List

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