



March 14, 2019

To: Transit Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: OC Streetcar Project Update

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority is currently underway with the implementation of the OC Streetcar project. This report provides a project update.

Recommendation

Receive and file as an information item.

Background

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the cities of Garden Grove and Santa Ana, is implementing a modern streetcar running between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center in the City of Santa Ana (City) and the Harbor Boulevard/Westminster Boulevard intersection in the City of Garden Grove (OC Streetcar). The OC Streetcar will improve transit connectivity and accessibility, increase transit options, relieve congestion, and provide benefits to the community and traveling public.

Construction of the 4.15-route-mile (8.3-track-mile) OC Streetcar line will involve complex and specialized work, including the installation of embedded track in streets, overhead catenary system to supply power to the vehicles, stops with canopies, bridges, and a maintenance and storage facility (MSF).

The OC Streetcar includes ten streetcar stops in each direction (four shared center platforms and six side platforms in each direction, for a total of 16 platforms). Each stop includes a canopy, benches, leaning rails, trash cans, lighting, changeable message signs, video cameras, a public address system, and ticket vending machines which will be procured separately. Platforms will be 14 inches high to enable level boarding. Also included are the installations of new traffic signals and transit signal priority at intersections.

The MSF can accommodate up to 15 modern streetcar vehicles and includes OC Streetcar administration, operations, vehicle maintenance, parts storage, and maintenance-of-way. Secured exterior vehicle storage, including a wye-track for turning vehicles end-for-end, a free-standing drive-through vehicle wash, employee parking, and fire department and delivery access will also be included.

On March 26, 2018, the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) awarded a contract to Siemens Industries, Inc. (Siemens) for the manufacture and delivery of eight modern streetcar vehicles, spare parts, and special tools. On September 24, 2018, the OCTA Board awarded the OC Streetcar construction contract to Walsh Construction Company (Walsh). On November 30, 2018, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) executed the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) which was a significant milestone as it secured \$149 million in federal New Starts discretionary funding for the OC Streetcar. In February 2019, the FFGA grant was awarded through the FTA Transit Award Management System, which was the final step necessary to begin the drawdown of federal funding.

Discussion

A status of ongoing OC Streetcar activities follows.

Right-of-Way Acquisition

Three parcels were acquired to accommodate the MSF on Fifth Street near Raitt Street. Possession of all property rights required to construct the OC Streetcar was completed on March 4, 2019.

Utility Relocation

There are numerous overhead and underground utilities that require relocation to accommodate the OC Streetcar. Wet utilities (sewer, water, and storm drains) are being relocated by Walsh as part of the construction contract. There are eight private utility companies with relocations underway. Final relocation of the private utilities is expected to be complete by August 2019, with the exception of final AT&T relocations which will take place after the sewer work is complete. OCTA closely coordinates with the utility companies to monitor progress, and work windows were included in the construction contract to minimize conflicts.

Permits

Construction of the OC Streetcar bridge across the Santa Ana River requires permits from two agencies: United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD). The Corps has committed to

issuing the required permits by mid-March 2019, and OCFDC has committed to issue the required encroachment permit upon final Corps permits being issued.

The City building permit required for construction of the MSF was issued to Walsh on February 27, 2019.

Construction Activities

OCTA executed the construction contract and issued a Limited Notice to Proceed (LNTP) to Walsh on November 19, 2018. The LNTP allowed Walsh to begin preparation of key pre-construction submittals before issuance of the Notice to Proceed with Construction (NTPC). Additionally, federal requirements would not allow OCTA to issue a NTPC until the FFGA was executed. Key deliverables completed during the LNTP include an approved 120-day schedule, a baseline schedule, quality plan, approval of a full-time safety representative, safety plans, and the stormwater pollution prevention program.

The NTPC was issued to Walsh on March 4, 2019. Generally speaking, construction activities will commence on the western half of the alignment, with the focus on preparations for construction of the Santa Ana River and Westminster Avenue bridges, the MSF, storm drain relocations, and sewer and water systems within City streets.

Walsh has 820 days from NTPC (June 1, 2021), to complete Milestone 1, which includes the MSF and a 1.4-mile section of test track from the MSF to the west approach of the Westminster Avenue bridge. This milestone is a critical target to meet the delivery schedule of the first vehicle. Milestone 2, the completion of all track and systems, is scheduled to be completed 910 days from NTPC (August 30, 2021).

Based upon the contractual construction duration of 1,065 days, and allowing sufficient time for integrated testing between the vehicles, infrastructure and systems following the completion of Milestone 2, the estimated revenue service date (RSD) is February 2, 2022. This revised RSD is approximately five months later than the RSD that was provided to the Board in July 2018.

Vehicle Manufacturing and Delivery

On November 12, 2018, an overview of the vehicle design process was provided to the Board. This overview included the status of submittal of key documents, including the schedule, document control process, project management plan, and quality assurance plan. The Board also approved the vehicle exterior design concept to be submitted to Siemens for further modifications as part of the design review process. Since November 2018, the submittals were approved by OCTA and the preliminary design review (PDR) process kicked off in early February 2019. As part of PDR, OCTA and Siemens have begun an iterative

review process where every major component and sub-system of the vehicle is reviewed by OCTA and technical consultants to confirm design compliance to the technical specification. These major elements include the carbody, doors, cab layout, propulsion, auxiliary power, energy absorbing bumpers, and related manuals. During the next six months, comments and revisions will be incorporated into a final design review package for OCTA's final review and approval. The production of the first car shell will be completed in December 2019.

Other key OC Streetcar updates include:

- Received approvals from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for grade crossings along the alignment,
- Responded to questions on the Operations and Maintenance Request for Proposals,
- Hosted the Safety and Security Review and the Fire Life Safety and Security Committees to direct and track compliance against the CPUC safety certification process and emergency planning/preparedness requirements.

Cost and Contingency

The overall OC Streetcar cost, as included in the FFGA, remains at \$407.7 million. This includes a 10.2 percent overall contingency.

Public Outreach

OCTA has a comprehensive Public Awareness Campaign designed to keep stakeholders, community members, and property owners informed about the OC Streetcar construction activities. Recently OCTA has focused the outreach efforts on community notifications for utility relocation activities, distribution of the Business Resource Guide (BRG), and installation of sidewalk decals along the alignment. OCTA has supported Southern California Edison (SCE) and Southern California Gas (SCG) by providing community notifications about traffic impacts related to relocation efforts; however, planned power outage notifications remain SCE's responsibility. Outreach notifications are provided in English and Spanish.

The BRG was developed with several components, including signage, individual briefings, a resource directory of agencies and organizations that provide low and no cost consulting services, a business spotlight program that will provide exposure through social media and other outlets, and participation in an Eat, Shop, Play Coupon program meant to provide additional customer visibility. Implementation of the BRG is multi-phased. The initial phase included the distribution of a program overview flyer by outreach staff to more than 300 businesses along the alignment. The flyer briefly described the program and invited business owners to make an appointment to review the packet and discuss

its interest. The next phase will include follow up appointments and the distribution of the entire packet to every business owner. These community visits continue to build rapport with business owners, and reinforces OCTA's commitment to provide community members with personal and responsive interactions.

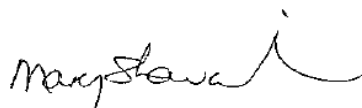
A sidewalk decal was developed in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese to alert pedestrians to upcoming construction and to build awareness of stop locations. Thirty decals were applied to sidewalks along Santa Ana Boulevard, with the exception of 4th Street, as well as a location near the terminus stop at Harbor Boulevard and Westminster Avenue. SCG has begun relocation work that will impact the 4th Street sidewalk areas between Birch Street and French Street. Once SCG's work is concluded, the decals will be installed. Planning is underway for a Stakeholder Working Group and two community meetings in April 2019 to provide information about the OC Streetcar construction activities and milestones. Also under development is a project app that will provide real time information about OC Streetcar construction activities.

Summary

An update on the OC Streetcar project is provided for the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors' review.

Attachment

None.

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