

2019 Regional Capacity Program and Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program Call Applications Not Recommended for Funding

Regional Capacity Program:

Project applications submitted by the cities of Irvine and Laguna Beach were reviewed, but are not recommended for funding. These projects do not meet the environmental approval threshold, specified in the CTFP Guidelines, which state that “OCTA will not consider any projects for funding for right-of-way or construction without final adopted project level environmental clearance documentation at the time of the application.” This requirement is intended to ensure timely implementation of projects.

Each of these applications may be resubmitted and considered in the next funding round should they obtain appropriate environmental and city project approvals prior to submittal of their next grant funding requests. The next RCP funding cycle is anticipated to be released in fall 2019.

Two projects in the City of Newport Beach (Newport Beach) were also not recommended for funding. Pacific Coast Highway/Old Newport Boulevard is not recommended for funding due to a lack of clear documentation justifying the project’s specific right-of-way (ROW) requirements and proposed mitigation measures. In addition, a significant element of the project includes acquisition of state-owned ROW that has not been determined as available. Newport Beach’s second project, West Coast Highway/Superior (Balboa) was also not recommended for funding due to the project’s primary improvements being focused upon a grade-separated bicycle and pedestrian bridge, rather than on clear quantifiable traffic improvements to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways. Given this project’s emphasis on active transportation improvements, it is suggested that Newport Beach apply for funding for this project under other programs, which are more focused on active/pedestrian transportation improvement objectives.

Two project applications submitted by the City of Santa Ana (Santa Ana) were initially recommended for funding by both the Orange County Transportation Authority Technical Steering Committee (TSC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). However, based upon the Board of Director’s (Board) May 13, 2019 determination that Santa Ana is ineligible to receive net M2 revenues, these projects cannot be considered for M2 funding at this time. This has resulted in the TSC and TAC’s programming recommendations for the RCP being revised downward from \$2.14 million to \$.835 million. Santa Ana will be able to compete in future calls. However, allocation of M2 funds would depend upon reestablishment of Santa Ana’s eligibility to receive net M2 revenues.

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Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program:

A project application submitted by the City of Buena Park for La Palma Avenue was reviewed, but is not recommended for funding. This project was not competitive enough to warrant accelerating programming commitments beyond the Board's originally authorized amount of \$8.0 million.