




**June 3, 2019**

**To:** Regional Planning and Highways Committee

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

**Subject:** Funding Recommendations for the 2019 Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program

### **Overview**

On September 24, 2018 the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors released the Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program 2019 call for projects. The Orange County Transportation Authority received 20 applications requesting \$32.24 million for bicycle facility projects. Funding recommendations are presented for review and approval.

### **Recommendations**

- A. Approve 12 projects for \$20.40 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds, contingent on the California Department of Transportation's approval of project eligibility.
- B. Approve conditional award of four projects in the City of Santa Ana for \$4.37 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds, contingent on completion and consideration of the Bristol Street Transit Corridor Study, and the California Department of Transportation's approval of project eligibility.
- C. Approve conditional award of one project in the City of San Clemente for \$1.07 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program funds, contingent on the Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment approval, and the California Department of Transportation's approval of project eligibility.
- D. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute cooperative agreements with each local agency selected to receive funding through the Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program.
- E. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute or amend any necessary agreements to facilitate the above actions.

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***Background***

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program funding is made available through the federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act. The Capital Programming Policies approved by the Board of Directors (Board) authorize the use of ten percent of annual CMAQ funds towards bicycle and pedestrian projects.

On September 24, 2018, the Board released the 2019 Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program (BCIP) call for projects (call), making approximately \$25 million available for programming in fiscal year (FY) 2019-20 through FY 2023-24. An additional \$0.84 million in CMAQ savings is also available for reprogramming through the 2019 BCIP call, for a total program capacity of \$25.84 million.

To date, the Board has awarded \$34.98 million in funding through three previous BCIP call cycles to 46 projects. With savings and cancellations, the total previously awarded program value is currently \$38.43 million to 38 projects.

***Discussion***

On November 15, 2018, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) received 20 BCIP applications requesting \$32.24 million in CMAQ funds from 12 local agencies. However, requests for six project phases were withdrawn, leaving 17 projects requesting \$30.11 million in CMAQ funds, which were advanced for review.

Staff conducted an initial review of all applications to confirm that the applications were consistent with the 2019 BCIP call Guidelines and Procedures (Guidelines). Staff also convened a five-person advisory panel consisting of representatives from the OCTA Technical Advisory Committee, the OCTA Planning Division, the California Department of Transportation, and the Citizens Advisory Committee Bicycle and Pedestrian sub-committee, to score each project based on the Board-approved scoring criteria, which is detailed in the Guidelines.

The resulting recommendations (Attachment A) include funding three projects for environmental phases and 14 projects for implementation phases, for a total of \$25.84 million. Eleven different Orange County local agencies will lead these projects that include gap closures, crossing signals, new Class I bikeway facilities, bridges, and pre-construction work for multi-purpose trails. Project descriptions are provided in Attachment B. Project locations are depicted in Attachment C.

Conditional Awards

Staff is recommending a conditional award to the City of San Clemente's South El Camino Real Lane Reconfiguration and Buffered Bike Lane Project contingent on the required Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment approval.

Staff is recommending conditional awards to the City of Santa Ana's Bristol Street Protected Bike Lanes projects (Phases II, III, IV, and V), contingent on completion and consideration of the Bristol Street Transit Corridor Study. The Bristol Street Transit Corridor Study will analyze options for improving transit service on Bristol Street between 17th Street and Baker Street and is scheduled to be completed in summer 2020. These four bikeway projects are in the project study area and should be coordinated with future transit expansion concepts.

Next Steps

Contingent on Board-approval, OCTA will enter into cooperative agreements (Attachment D) with the local agencies recommended for funding. OCTA will program the projects in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program, and work with the local agencies to seek and receive state and federal approvals. Lastly, OCTA will monitor progress and provide support as needed.

The Comprehensive Funding Plan (CFP), which provides funding information for OCTA-funded capital projects, is provided in Attachment E. The CFP demonstrates the current project programming based on actions recommended in this report and prior Board actions.

***Summary***

The OCTA Board released the BCIP 2019 call on September 24, 2018, to fund projects in FY 2019-20 through FY 2023-24. Seventeen projects are recommended for funding. OCTA and the local agencies who were awarded BCIP funding will enter into cooperative agreements to ensure that the projects meet all of the requirements outlined in the Board-approved guidelines.

***Attachments***

- A. 2019 Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program, Funding Recommendations – Project List
- B. 2019 Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program, Project Descriptions
- C. 2019 BCIP Projects Recommended for Funding
- D. Term Sheet, Cooperative Agreement Between Orange County Transportation Authority and Local Agencies for the Bicycle Corridor Improvement Program Projects
- E. Capital Funding Program Report

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