



October 7, 2019

To: Regional Planning and Highways Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority administers the Master Plan of Arterial Highways, including the review and approval of amendments requested by local agencies. The City of San Clemente has requested amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways that are recommended for approval. A status update on the active Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments is also provided.

Recommendations

- A. Approve the following amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways, contingent upon the Orange County Transportation Authority receiving documentation that the City of San Clemente has amended its general plan and has complied with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act:
- Reclassify Camino Mira Costa (Camino de Estrella to Camino Capistrano) from a secondary (four-lane, undivided) arterial to a divided collector (two-lane, divided) arterial; and
 - Reclassify Camino Capistrano (Del Gado Road and North El Camino Real) from a secondary (four-lane, undivided) arterial to a collector (two-lane, undivided) arterial.

If the City of San Clemente does not update its general plan within three years to reflect the Master Plan of Arterial Highway amendments, the contingent amendments will expire, but can be returned to the Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors for reconsideration and action.

If the original proposed Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments are modified as a result of the California Environmental Quality Act and/or general plan amendment process, the modified Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments shall be returned to the Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors for consideration and action.

- B. Direct the Executive Director of Planning, or his designee, to file a Notice of Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act in support of the Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments.
- C. Receive and file a status report on the active Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments.

Background

Proposed amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH) are reviewed by Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and stakeholder agencies prior to being submitted to the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) for approval. Following this process, the City of San Clemente (San Clemente) has requested amendments to the MPAH (Attachment A) in order to:

- Reclassify Camino Mira Costa (Camino de Estrella to Camino Capistrano) from a secondary (four-lane, undivided) to a divided collector (two-lane, divided) arterial; and
- Reclassify Camino Capistrano (Del Gado Road and North El Camino Real) from a secondary (four-lane, undivided) to a collector (two-lane, undivided) arterial.

Details on the requested amendments are discussed below, and supporting documents are provided in attachments B and C. Additionally, an update on all active MPAH amendments is provided in Attachment D.

Discussion

San Clemente has proposed to modify lane configurations along the segments noted above to provide for consistent roadway configuration and continuous Class II bicycle facilities. At its connection with the City of Dana Point (Dana Point), the current MPAH classification of Camino Capistrano becomes a two-lane, collector facility. Therefore, the proposed amendment would result in a consistent MPAH classification between the cities of San Clemente and Dana Point. Additionally, the proposed Class II bicycle facilities would connect with existing Class II bikeways on North El Camino Real. These reclassifications have been publicly vetted by San Clemente and they support the implementation of the San Clemente's general plan goals and policies for mobility and complete streets.

Existing traffic volumes on Camino Mira Costa are between 7,700 average daily traffic (ADT) and 9,000 ADT. On Camino Capistrano, existing traffic volumes are between 4,900 ADT and 8,200 ADT. Future volumes are forecasted to be between 9,500 ADT and 10,600 ADT on Camino Mira Costa and between

5,300 ADT and 10,500 ADT on Camino Capistrano. Based on these future volumes, the proposed reclassifications would not have a negative impact on intersection level of service. Therefore, the requested MPAH amendments are acceptable for meeting future travel demand.

Furthermore, Dana Point supports the proposed reclassification as indicated by the support letter provided in Attachment C. As such, staff believes that San Clemente has satisfied MPAH amendment requirements and recommends approval of San Clemente's MPAH amendment request.

California Environmental Quality Act

Amendments to the MPAH are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review. As such, if the Board approves the recommendations, OCTA will file a Notice of Exemption from CEQA in support of the proposed amendments to the MPAH.

MPAH Status Update

As indicated in Attachment D, there are currently 32 active amendments proposed for the MPAH. Many of these amendment requests are awaiting local action to amend their respective general plans. Others are either under review, are in the cooperative study process, are pending resolution of issues with other agencies, or are awaiting refinement of development plans.

The status report includes an update regarding the mitigation monitoring for Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) C-6-083. This MOU was established in 2006 to address the designation of the proposed Garfield-Gisler Bridge as a right-of-way reserve facility. Per the MOU, the cities of Costa Mesa, Fountain Valley, and Huntington Beach are responsible for implementing strategic improvements to offset the need for the Bridge. To date, reasonable progress has been made on implementation of 19 of the 25 mitigation measures. The remaining mitigations have either not been triggered and/or not funded at this time. At the request of the cities, OCTA is coordinating an amendment to extend the MOU and revisit the designation of the Garfield-Gisler Bridge at a later date.

Summary

San Clemente has requested amendments to the MPAH. Based upon the information provided by San Clemente, the requirements of the MPAH have been satisfied, and Board approval of staff's recommendations is requested. A summary of active MPAH amendments is also provided for the Board review.

Attachments

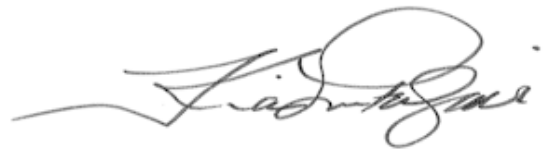
- A. Letter from Tom Bonigut, Public Works Director/City Engineer, City of San Clemente, to Kurt Brotcke, Director, Strategic Planning, Orange County Transportation Authority, Dated September 17, 2018, RE: Request to modify the lane configuration on Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH) Segments – Camino Mira Costa and Camino Capistrano
- B. City of San Clemente, MPAH Amendments Request
- C. Letter from Matthew Sinacori, P.E., Director of Public Works & Engineering Services/City Engineer, City of Dana Point, to Kurt Brotcke, Director, Strategic Planning, Orange County Transportation Authority, Dated March 5, 2019, Subject: Request to Amend the Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH) Segments for Camino Capistrano and Camino Mira Costa
- D. Status Report on Active Master Plan of Arterial Highways Amendments

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