



MINUTES

Regional Planning and Highways Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present

Mark A. Murphy, Chairman
Barbara Delgleize, Vice Chair
Lisa A. Bartlett
Doug Chaffee
Joe Muller
Richard Murphy
Miguel Pulido

Staff Present

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Ken Phipps, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Laurena Weinert, Clerk of the Board
Olga Prado, Assistant Clerk of the Board
James Donich, General Counsel
Cassie Trapesonian, Assistant General Counsel
OCTA Staff and Members of the General Public

Committee Members Absent

None

Call to Order

The December 2, 2019 regular meeting of the Regional Planning and Highways (RP&H) Committee was called to order by Committee Chairman M. Murphy at 10:34 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Chaffee led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Special Calendar

There were no Special Calendar matters.

Consent Calendar (Items 2 through 10)

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to approve the minutes of the Regional Planning and Highways Committee meeting of November 4, 2019.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.



3. Amendment to Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Authorize the use of an additional \$1.5 million in federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds for the State Route 55 improvement project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 2 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-7-1753 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the California Department of Transportation to update Funding Summary No. 3, in the amount of \$1.5 million, for design funding for the State Route 55 improvement project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5. This will increase the maximum obligation of funding for the plans, specifications, and estimates to a total contract value of \$22.2 million.
- C. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute or amend all necessary agreements to facilitate the above recommendation.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

4. Amendment to Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the Interstate 5 High-Occupancy Vehicle Improvement Project Between Pacific Coast Highway and San Juan Creek Road

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Cooperative Agreement No. C-3-1504 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the California Department of Transportation to increase construction capital funding, in the amount of \$900,000, for construction of the Interstate 5 high-occupancy vehicle improvement project between Pacific Coast Highway and San Juan Creek Road. This will increase the maximum obligation of the construction phase of the agreement to a total contract value of \$63,954,500.



4. (Continued)

- B. Authorize the use of up to \$900,000 Measure M2 funds for construction capital funding for the Interstate 5 high-occupancy vehicle improvement project between Pacific Coast Highway and San Juan Creek Road.
- C. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute any necessary amendments and/or agreements to facilitate associated programming actions.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

5. Amendment to Agreement for Additional Design Services for State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. C-7-1719 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and WKE, Inc., in the amount of \$1,219,977, for additional design services for the State Route 55 improvement project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5. This will increase the maximum cumulative obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$18,609,141.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

6. 2020 Technical Steering Committee Membership

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to approve proposed 2020 Technical Steering Committee membership.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

7. Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs Semi-Annual Review - September 2019

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to approve the requested adjustments to Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs projects and Local Fair Share Program funds.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.



8. Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program Update

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to receive and file as an information item.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

9. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Measure M2 Annual Eligibility Review

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Approve 33 currently eligible local agencies as eligible to continue to receive Measure M2 net revenues.
- B. Receive and file the Measure M2 eligibility verification documents submitted by the cities of Santa Ana and Stanton.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

10. Measure M2 Quarterly Progress Report for the Period of July 2019 Through September 2019

A motion was made by Director Chaffee, seconded by Director R. Murphy, and declared passed by those present, to receive and file as an information item.

Directors Bartlett and Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

Regular Calendar

11. Active Transportation Update

Charlie Larwood, Department Manager, Planning and Analysis, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item as follows:

- Education;
- Enforcement;
- Safe Routes to School;
- Funding Planning and Implementation;
- OC Loop;
- Explore New Regional Bike Connectors;
- Recent "Meet on Beach" Event; and
- Next Steps.



11. (Continued)

A discussion ensued as follows:

- Committee Vice Chair Delgleize and Director Chaffee attended the “Meet on Beach” event that included great activities and met with some of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) staff.
- OCTA has not received feedback from the northern corridor cities about the “Meet on Beach” event; however, OCTA did hear from several people about enjoying the event.
- For the Safe Routes to School Action Plan, OCTA reached out to the Orange County Department of Education and 300 local grammar schools.
- Information on the Safe Routes to School program will be provided to the RP&H Committee Members to pass on to their local school districts.

No action was taken on this receive and file information item.

12. Draft 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy

Warren Whiteaker, Senior Transportation Analyst, Planning, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item as follows:

- Background on 2020 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities (RTP/SCS) Strategy;
- 2020 RTP/SCS Challenges;
- Draft OCTA Staff Comments; and
- Next Steps.

A motion was made by Director Muller, seconded by Committee Vice Chair Delgleize, and declared passed by those present, to direct staff to prepare and submit comments on the draft 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy, and the associated program environmental impact report prior to the January 24, 2020, comment deadline.



13. Options for Future Lane Corridors in Orange County

Kurt Brotcke, Director, Strategic Planning, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item as follows:

- Intercounty Travel Demand;
- Freeway Development;
- Federal Performance Standards;
- California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 12 Plans;
- Regional Perspective;
- Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP);
- Express Lanes Network Study Goals;
- Concept A: Caltrans District 12's 15-Year Plan;
- Concept B: Express Lanes Extensions;
- Concept C: Direct Connectors;
- Concept D: Intercounty Connections;
- Concept E: Core Facilities; and
- Next Steps.

A discussion ensued as follows:

- Director Muller requested the 2040 Orange County out-bound commuter data.
- OCTA's LRTP and Caltrans conceptual plan has a future single high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes on State Route 73 (SR-73) from Bison Avenue to Interstate 405 (I-405). Long-term, the HOV lanes would be converted to high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes.
- Director Bartlett requested any jurisdictions agreements on SR-73 between I-405 and Bison Avenue.
- Conversion to HOV 3+ occupancy lanes will take time for commuters to adjust. Also, during the commuter conversion period, it may cause an empty lanes syndrome, and the HOV lanes may be underutilized.
- Director Muller suggested testing the HOV 3+ occupancy lanes market.
- OCTA can review Director Muller's suggestion and bring forward to the RP&H Committee and Board of Directors' meeting.
- Approximately 75 percent of the federal 45+ miles per hour (mph) regulations for HOV lanes in Orange County (OC) do not meet the standard.
- At this point, OCTA does not have specific information as to how many zero emission vehicles travel in OC HOV lanes and is a statewide issue.



13. (Continued)

- The penalty for not meeting the HOV lanes 45+ mph federal standard is the withholding of federal funds.
- If zero emissions vehicles were allowed in the HOV lanes statewide, the 45+ mph federal standard issue to either review HOV 3+ occupancy lanes or HOT lanes would not exist.
- The state policy allows for electric vehicles in the HOV lanes.

A motion was made by Director Muller, seconded by Director Bartlett, and declared passed by those present, to direct staff to return in spring 2020 with draft recommendations on a preferred approach to implementation of express lanes.

Committee Vice Chair Delgleize and Director Pulido were not present to vote on this item.

Discussion Items

14. California Department of Transportation Proposed High-Occupancy Toll Lanes in North Orange County

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), provided opening comments and introduced Lan Zhou, Deputy Director of Planning & Local Assistance, Caltrans District 12, and Ryan Chamberlain, District Director, Caltrans District 12.

Ms. Zhou provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item as follows:

- Caltrans Managed Lanes Updates;
- Orange County (OC) HOV Lane Degradation (2013);
- OC HOV Lane Degradation (2017);
- Express Lanes (2018);
- Express Lane Benefits;
- Compliance and Study;
- Express Lane Implementation Priority;
- Interstate 5 (I-5) Degradation Status North of SR-55 (2017);
- I-5 Express Lanes Project Limits;
- I-5 HOV/Express Lane Alternatives;
- Partners and Outreach; and
- I-5 Project Studies.



14. (Continued)

A discussion ensued as follows:

- Director Muller requested that the Caltrans include an analysis of HOV 3+ occupancy lanes, as part of its I-5 HOV/express lanes alternatives analysis.
- Director Chamberlain stated that HOV 3+ occupancy lanes need to provide carpooling/rideshare incentives, and Caltrans is open to reviewing the HOV 3+ occupancy.
- Caltrans' two public hearings provided feedback about the study background, user fee concept by choice, and received no major resistance. In general, the business community supports express lanes.
- If commuters use HOT lanes, the general-purpose lanes will not be as congested.
- Based on the peak periods five-year degradation definition of the I-5 north corridor HOV lanes, degradation was expected by Caltrans.
- Caltrans completed some HOV lanes counts of electric and low emission vehicles.
- Caltrans believes if electric and low emission vehicles did not use the HOV lanes, the HOV lanes would still not operate, as intended, with an appropriate incentive for people to carpool/rideshare and travel at greater speeds with reliability than the general-purpose lanes.
- Caltrans stated that HOV facilities would improve if the state policy was changed for electric and low emission vehicles to not use the HOV lanes.
- Director Chaffee requested the percentage of electric vehicles in the OC HOV lanes.
- In 2017, the legislature made a change, effective January 1, 2018, to eliminate older electric vehicles from using the HOV lanes.
- Director Bartlett requested that Caltrans work with Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) in order for HOV lanes commuters to have a seamless transition between Orange and Los Angeles counties (e.g., 2+ HOV or 3+ HOV occupancy).
- Caltrans District 12 has coordinated with Caltrans District 7 about Caltrans District 12's express lanes study, and Caltrans District 7 is working in conjunction with LA Metro.
- OCTA is not in full agreement with District 12. A level of understanding about Caltrans District 12's proposed HOT lanes and Measure M2 funded projects policy issue needs consideration by OCTA's Board of Directors.



14. (Continued)

- OCTA asked Caltrans District 12 for closer engagement of the Project Approval and Environmental Document phase of the express lanes study, include an analysis of the HOV 3+ occupancy in its study, and going forward, consider the policy aspects of Measure M2.
- In 2006, Measure M2 was approved by the voters and policy implications need to be balanced along with technical aspects of the proposed Caltrans express lanes study.
- Director Chamberlain stated long-term there will be more low emissions vehicles and included in the California Air Resources Board scoping plan, which is driving many of the climate change directions and policies.

A motion was made by Director Muller, seconded by Director Delgleize, and declared passed by those present, to request the California Department of Transportation to include a high-occupancy vehicle 3+ occupancy alternative as part of its Interstate 5 (State Route 55 to the Los Angeles County line) high-occupancy vehicle/express lanes environmental document.

Director Pulido was not present to vote on this item.

15. Update on State Route 55 Improvement Project from Interstate 405 to Interstate 5

Ross Lew, Program Manager, Capital Programs, and Chris Boucly, Section Manager III, External Affairs, co-presented a PowerPoint presentation for this item as follows:

- Project Limits and Background;
- Project Improvements;
- Project Update;
- Project Schedule;
- Next Steps; and
- Public Outreach.

No action was taken on this discussion item.



16. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, reported on the following:

Women Transportation Seminar – Orange County (WTS-OC) Awards Gala -

- This Thursday evening, the WTS-OC will host its annual awards and scholarships gala in Anaheim.
- Chairman Shaw, Director Delgleize, and Mr. Johnson, CEO, will be attending.
- OCTA is nominated for two awards this year:
 - Project of the Year (Orange Parking Structure)
 - Employer of the Year
- The Committee Members were invited to the event.

Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive -

- On Friday, December 13th, OCTA, is partnering with ABC7 and Southern California firefighters for the 27th Annual Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive. The event will take place at a new location this year - in Irvine at the Great Park.
- Staff will be in attendance, from 4:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Committee Members were invited to stop by and drop off a toy for kids in need or to see some of the activities.

Final RP&H Committee -

- This is the final RP&H committee meeting of the year and the Committee Members were thanked for their leadership and guidance to staff throughout the year
- Everyone was wished a safe and happy holiday season.

17. Committee Members' Reports

Committee Chairman M. Murphy wished everyone the happiest of holiday seasons.

18. Closed Session

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.



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19. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **10:30 a.m. on Monday, January 6, 2020**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room - Conference Room 07, Orange, California.

ATTEST

Mark A. Murphy
Committee Chairman

Laurena Weinert
Clerk of the Board