




***March 2, 2020***

**To:** Regional Planning and Highways Committee

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

**Subject:** Grant Award Acceptance for Development of the Disaster Mitigation Plan

### ***Overview***

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services awarded the Orange County Transportation Authority \$93,750 in competitive Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding. The grant award will support the development of the Orange County Transportation Authority's first Local Hazard Mitigation Plan within the OC Bus service area and the Los Angeles - San Diego -San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor within Orange County.

### ***Recommendation***

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer, or designee, to accept California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award.

### ***Background***

On behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) makes grants available to local and state public agencies for programs to help plan for and mitigate impacts that can pose risks, threats and vulnerabilities to California's people, property, economy, and environment. These threats include earthquakes, floods, significant wildfires, prolonged drought impacts, public health emergencies, cybersecurity attacks, and agricultural, as well as threats to homeland security.

On May 13, 2019, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) approved the Resolution 2019-09, which authorized the Chief Executive Officer to submit federal and state disaster assistance, negotiate, and execute agreements and documents through Cal OES on behalf of OCTA.

In the fall 2018, FEMA declared a major disaster following the California Wildfires which made available approximately \$660 million in Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding statewide. In response to this opportunity, OCTA submitted a Notice of Intent in March 2019, followed with a formal application in July 2019, requesting \$93,750 for the development of a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP).

### ***Discussion***

On December 8, 2019, Cal OES awarded OCTA the full grant request of \$93,750 to develop the LHMP. The grant requires an OCTA in-kind match contribution of \$31,250, for a total of \$125,000. The LHMP is required to be complete by September 2022.

The LHMP will help develop OCTA's first Hazard Mitigation Plan, which will form a framework for decision making to reduce risks to lives, property, and impacts to the economy from future hazards. The LHMP will identify projects and mitigation strategies that will reduce hazards and OCTA facilities. Examples of mitigations may include structural retrofits, floodwalls and retaining walls, equipment purchases, sediment and erosion control, conservation easements, and wetland restoration and preservation.

OCTA will consult with stakeholders and emergency partners, including the Cal OES, County Emergency Management, Army Corps of Engineers, Orange County Fire Authority, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Orange County Sheriffs, and Orange County Emergency Operations Center.

The LHMP will be developed according to FEMA Stafford Act standards. Once complete, OCTA will be eligible to receive future FEMA funding to mitigate risks and address threats and vulnerabilities within the OC Bus service area and the Los Angeles - San Diego - San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor within Orange County.

### ***Summary***

The Cal OES awarded OCTA \$93,750 to develop a LHMP, which will form the foundation for OCTA's long-term strategy to reduce disaster losses for the OC Bus service area and the LOSSAN Rail Corridor. Board authorization is requested to receive the grant and provide an in-kind match contribution of \$31,250.

***Attachment***

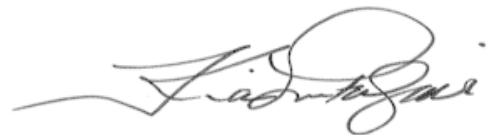
None.

**Prepared by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Haith Farinas". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized.

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**Approved by:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kia Mortazavi". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized.

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