



MINUTES

Regional Planning and Highways Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present via Teleconference

Mark A. Murphy, Chairman
Barbara Delgleize, Vice Chair
Lisa A. Bartlett
Doug Chaffee
Patrick Harper
Gene Hernandez
Joe Muller
Vicente Sarmiento

Staff Present

Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Allison Cheshire, Interim Deputy Clerk of the Board
Gina Ramirez, Deputy Clerk of the Board

Via Teleconference:

Darrel E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Cassie Trapesonian, Assistant General Counsel

Committee Members Absent

None

Call to Order

The June 7, 2021 regular meeting of the Regional Planning and Highways Committee was called to order by Committee Chairman Murphy at 10:31 a.m.

Roll Call

The Interim Deputy Clerk of the Board conducted an attendance Roll Call and announced a Regional Planning and Highways Committee quorum.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Harper led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

Special Calendar

There are no Special Calendar matters.

Consent Calendar (Items 2 through 8)

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Sarmiento, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to approve the minutes of the Regional Planning and Highways Committee meeting of May 3, 2021.

Vice Chair Delgleize was not present to vote on this item.



3. Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program Update

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Sarmiento, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to receive and file as an information item.

Vice Chair Delgleize was not present to vote on this item.

4. Consultant Selection for the Freeway Chokepoint Improvement Study

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Sarmiento, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to:

- A. Approve the selection of Kittelson and Associates, Inc., as the firm to provide consulting services to conduct the Freeway Chokepoint Improvement Study.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-1-3346 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Kittelson and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$297,337, to provide consulting services to conduct the Freeway Chokepoint Improvement Study.

Vice Chair Delgleize was not present to vote on this item.

5. Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs Semi-Annual Review - March 2021

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Sarmiento, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0 to:

- A. Approve requested adjustments to Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs projects, Local Fair Share, and Senior Mobility Program funds.
- B. Due to the impacts of the coronavirus, approve an exception to the Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs Guidelines for Environmental Cleanup Program Tier I projects in order for project award delays to be granted.

Vice Chair Delgleize was not present to vote on this item.



6. Measure M2 Eligibility Review Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2019-20 Expenditure Reports

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Sarmiento, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0 to approve all 35 Orange County local jurisdictions eligible to continue receiving Measure M2 net revenues.

Vice Chair Delgleize was not present to vote on this item.

7. Programming Recommendations for Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 and Mid-Cycle State Transportation Improvement Program

Director Bartlett pulled this item to thank staff for working on getting funds allocated for the chokepoint location in South County.

A motion was made by Director Bartlett, seconded by Director Chaffee, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 8-0, to:

- A. Approve the 2021 mid-cycle State Transportation Improvement Program submittal to program Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 for the following:
 - \$800,000 for the State Route 74 Ortega Highway Improvement Project, and
 - \$588,506 for planning, programming, and monitoring.
- B. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments to the State Transportation Improvement Program and the Federal Transportation Improvement Program, as well as execute any necessary agreements to facilitate the recommendations above.

8. Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program Update

Director Bartlett pulled this item and commented that this program is an important improvement to the corridor and contributes to air quality enhancements and throughput improvements. Director Bartlett asked if staff had applied for any South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) grants for the program.

Kia Mortazavi, Executive Director of Planning, responded that staff had applied for AQMD grants in the past and will seek additional funding as appropriate.

A motion was made by Director Bartlett, seconded by Director Chaffee, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 8-0, to receive and file as an information item.



Regular Calendar

9. Draft 2021 State Route 91 Implementation Plan

Alison Army, Transportation Analyst Principal, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item.

Director Muller inquired about the schedule of projects and asked if the projects were on schedule.

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), commented that the Interstate 15/State Route 91 (SR-91) project is on schedule and reported that the State Route 241 (SR-241)/SR-91 connector will not be held up if the State Route 71/SR-91 interchange improvement project does not stay on schedule.

Director Harper asked if the conceptual projects would be presented after all the other projects are completed.

Ms. Army responded that the plan focus is on current projects and that as projects become more viable, they would move forward.

Director Bartlett commented that it is important for agencies to coordinate efforts that could adversely affect revenue and congestion.

Following the discussion, no action was taken on this receive and file as an information item.

10. Active Transportation Program Biannual Update

Peter Sotherland, Transportation Analyst, Principal, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item.

Director Delgleize inquired about a countywide bike plan that would include the North County cities.

Mr. Sotherland commented that staff is actively seeking funding for the OC Loop, which would circle the north portion of the county.

Director Harper inquired about the number of cyclists using bikeways.

Mr. Sotherland responded that there are approximately 1,000 users daily.

Director Sarmiento inquired about details on the data collected



10. (Continued)

Mr. Sotherland, stated that the data is granular based on when trips are taking place and safety data is typically done through a separate effort.

Following the discussion, no action was taken on this receive and file as an information item.

11. Transportation Control Measures - Substitute Program of Projects

Kurt Brotcke, Director of Strategic Planning, reported the following:

- During the last year, some projects ran into schedule delays and requirements were not met.
- Substitution allows a shift in designation of those delayed projects to another set of projects.
- The following projects ran into delays:
 - Hazard Avenue Bikeway
 - Purchase of 15 Expansion Paratransit Vans
 - Placentia Metrolink Station
 - Three Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) Capital Projects
 - Three transportation control measures (TCM) projects have been deferred by TCA
- OCTA is proposing three signal synchronization projects to replace the projects previously designated as TCMs to include:
 - Portola Parkway
 - 1st Street/Bolsa Chica Street
 - Alton Parkway
- OCTA will work with TCA on shorter term improvement projects and identify a sub-set of projects.

Director Bartlett commented that by moving forward on the signal synchronization projects, OCTA is saving TCA \$11 billion.

A motion was made by Director Bartlett, seconded by Director Harper, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 8-0, to:

- A. Direct staff to work with the Southern California Association of Governments to replace the previously planned projects in the Federal Transportation Improvement Program with the substitute program of projects included in this report.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer, or his designee, to negotiate and execute a cooperative agreement with the Transportation Corridor Agencies for improvements on existing toll facilities.



Discussion Items

12. **Update on Interstate 5 Improvement Project from San Diego County Line to Avenida Pico**

Josue Vaglienty, Project Manager Senior, and Fernando Chavarria, Principal Community Relations Specialist, provided a PowerPoint presentation.

A discussion ensued among the Committee Members and staff regarding the following:

- Pre-meetings held with the Coastal Commission and no issues are anticipated with corridor improvements.
- Environmental process and incorporating Senate Bill 374 guidelines.
- Discussions with San Diego Associations of Governments (SANDAG) regarding improvements to the North San Diego County portion of Interstate 5.
- SANDAG's draft Regional Transportation Plan.
- Potential chokepoint in future at county line.

Following the discussion, no action was taken on this information item.

13. **Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget Workshop Follow-up**

Anthony Baruch, Section Manager III of Financial Planning and Analysis, provided a verbal report on the follow-up questions, issues, or concerns that may have arisen since the budget workshop conducted with the Board of Directors on May 10, 2021 and referenced the handout that was provided to the Committee Members in advance of today's Committee meeting.

Following the discussion, no action was taken on this information item.

14. **Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, reported the following:

South Orange County Multimodal Transportation Study (SOCMTS)

- OCTA continues to advance the SOCMTS, which will identify several mobility strategies for long-term improvements to local streets, transit, freeways, and bikeways in south Orange County.
- To get public feedback, staff will promote an online survey and host a series of meetings this month.



14. (Continued)

- On June 15 at 9:00 a.m., OCTA is hosting an elected official roundtable via Zoom.
- On June 17, OCTA is hosting a telephone town hall from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- On June 23 at 9:00 a.m., staff is hosting a stakeholder roundtable via Zoom.
- Staff is also launching a virtual meeting room today that will stay open through July 12 for people to learn more about the study and provide their feedback.
- For more information, please visit octa.net/southocstudy.

15. Committee Members' Reports

Director Muller stated that the Dana Point trolley was running again and acknowledged OCTA for assisting with the service.

16. Closed Session

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 1, 2021**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

ATTEST

Mark A. Murphy
Committee Chairman

Allison Cheshire
Interim Deputy Clerk of the Board