



**September 2, 2021**

**To:** Regional Planning and Highways Committee

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

**Subject:** Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the State Route 55 Improvement Project Between Interstate 5 and State Route 91

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Transportation to define roles, responsibilities, and funding obligations for the preparation of plans, specifications, and estimates, and advertisement and award of the construction contract for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 5 and State Route 91.

### **Recommendation**

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3642 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the California Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$500,000, to provide oversight of the plans, specifications, and estimates, and to advertise and award the construction contract for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 5 and State Route 91.

### **Discussion**

The State Route 55 (SR-55) Improvement Project between Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 91 (SR-91) (Project) is part of Project F in the Measure M2 (M2) freeway program and is included in the updated Next 10 Delivery Plan, adopted by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) in April 2021. The Project is scheduled to move into the design phase using previously approved M2 and federal funding.

The Project will add a general purpose lane in each direction between I-5 and State Route 22 and provide operational improvements on southbound (SB) ramps at Katella Avenue and Lincoln Avenue. An additional lane will be added

to the SB SR-55 Katella Avenue off- and on-ramps and the existing SB SR-55 Lincoln Avenue off-ramp relocated 1,300 feet to the south, next to the existing SB SR-55 Lincoln Avenue hook on-ramp. The final environmental document was signed on March 30, 2020, and the build alternative was identified as the preferred alternative by the project development team.

OCTA proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to define the roles and responsibilities of both agencies. OCTA is the implementing agency for the plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E), and Caltrans will provide oversight and independent quality assurance of the PS&E production to ensure the Project meets Federal Highway Administration and Caltrans standards. Caltrans' oversight of the PS&E will be at no cost to OCTA.

Caltrans will be responsible for the advertisement and award of the construction contract. As part of the PS&E phase, OCTA will reimburse Caltrans, in the amount of \$500,000, for the direct support costs associated with the final contract document packaging, advertisement, and award of the Project's construction contract. The construction phase roles, responsibilities, and funding will be the subject of a separate future cooperative agreement.

Staff will return to the Board with a separate item to seek approval to release a request for proposals to procure a consultant for PS&E services for the Project.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

Funding for the Project is included in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget, Capital Programs Division, Account No. 0017-7519-FF102-0X0, and will be funded with a combination of federal and local funds.

#### **Summary**

Staff requests Board of Directors' approval for the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3642 with the California Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$500,000, to provide oversight of the plans, specifications, and estimates, and to advertise and award the construction contract for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 5 and State Route 91.

***Attachment***

None.

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