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September 1, 2020

Mr. Mitch Weiss, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
1120 N Street, MS-52
P.O. Box 942873
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Garden Grove – Santa Ana Rails-to-Trails Gap Closure Project
Active Transportation Program Cycle 5 – Large Infrastructure Application

Dear Mr. Weiss:

On behalf of the Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) administered by the Orange County Public Works, I would like to offer this letter of support for the Active Transportation Program (ATP) application “Garden Grove – Santa Ana Rails-to-Trails Gap Closure” submitted by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).


The project will close a four-mile gap of a Class I bicycle and pedestrian active transportation trail on the OCTA-owned former Pacific Electric right-of-way and the County-owned Wintersburg Channel. OCTA will prepare the Project Approval & Environmental Document (PA&ED) to evaluate key constraints and opportunities; and the Cities of Garden Grove and Santa Ana will resume the subsequent phases of the project through construction. The project will provide a local and regional bikeway facility connecting directly to the Santa Ana River Trail which reaches all the way to the beaches in Orange County and to inland cities of San Bernardino.

We understand the project will likely require an OCFCD easement and approval and we are eager to collaborate with OCTA and the Cities on this project opportunity in the following ways:

- If required, enter into a co-operative agreement with OCTA and/or the Cities for use and maintenance of the trail as well as the issuance of an easement or license.
- Engage in review of technical studies and reports as well as design and construction documents. Issuing the appropriate encroachment permits as required.

We look forward to seeing this transformative project advance and the benefits that it will provide. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important project. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (714) 647-3906 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Nardy Khan, P.E.
Deputy Director
OC Infrastructure Programs