



**November 10, 2021**

**To:** Finance and Administration Committee

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

**Subject:** Fiscal Year 2021-22 First Quarter Grant Reimbursement Status Report

### **Overview**

The Quarterly Grant Reimbursement Status Report summarizes grant activities for the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors. This report focuses on activity for the first quarter of fiscal year 2021-22, covering July through September 2021.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.

### **Discussion**

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has secured grant funding from federal and state grant agencies to deliver programs, projects, and services to improve mobility in Orange County. The use of these funds is consistent with capital programming policies approved by the OCTA Board of Directors (Board). The Quarterly Grant Reimbursement Status Report summarizes current, pending close-out, and closed grant agreements.

#### **Awarded/Executed Grant Agreements:**

OCTA executed eight formula grants and two discretionary grants during the first quarter, which are summarized below.

#### **American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5307**

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure ARPA funds for FTA Section 5307. OCTA will receive \$164 million in FTA Section 5307 funds for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2021. These funds will be used to support operating costs for fixed-route services and are provided on a reimbursement basis.

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Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021 (CRRSAA) FTA Section 5307

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure CRRSAA funds for FTA Section 5307. OCTA will receive \$38.8 million in FTA Section 5307 funds for FFY 2021. These funds will be used to support operating costs for fixed-route service and are provided on a reimbursement basis.

FFY 2021 FTA Section 5307 Formula Grant Program

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure \$60.1 million in FTA Section 5307 formula funds allocated to OCTA for FFY 2021. These funds will be used to provide capital and operating assistance for fixed-route service to cover preventative maintenance expenses, capital cost of contracting, and non-fixed-route operating assistance.

ARPA FTA Section 5310

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure ARPA funds for FTA Section 5310. OCTA will receive \$391,311 in FTA Section 5310 funds for FFY 2021. These funds will be used to support operating costs for paratransit services.

CRRSAA FTA Section 5310

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure CRRSAA funds for FTA Section 5310. OCTA will receive \$391,305 in FTA Section 5310 funds for FFY 2021. These funds will be used to support operating costs for paratransit services.

FFY 2021 FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabled

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure \$2.3 million in FTA Section 5310 funds allocated to OCTA for FFY 2021. The funds will be used to support the capital costs of contracting for ACCESS services.

FFY 2021 FTA Section 5337 Formula Grant Program

OCTA executed an FTA grant agreement to secure \$3.3 million in FTA Section 5337 funds allocated to OCTA for FFY 2021. The funds will be used to support preventative maintenance expenses and the Fullerton Transportation Center Staircase Rehabilitation Project.

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)

OCTA received FHWA grant funding securing \$10.9 million in STBG funds allocated to OCTA. The funds will be used for the project specifications and environmental (PA/ED) phase for improvements on Interstate 5 from Yale Avenue to State Route 55.

FY 2020-21 Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP)

OCTA received \$6.3 million in LCTOP funds to support the College Pass Program at Orange Coast College, OCTA's "Welcome Back" Fare Reduction Program for Orange County Bus Riders, and to provide additional funding for the purchase of ten battery-electric buses, bus depot upgrades and the charging infrastructure.

FY 2021-22 SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) State of Good Repair (SGR)

The Board authorized OCTA to utilize FY 2021-22 SB1 SGR funds for the Transit Security and Operations Center (TSOC) Project. OCTA received \$6.4 million for the TSOC Project, which replaces OCTA's control center facility and will provide space and equipment for Central Communications (Dispatch, Field Operations, Security and Emergency Preparedness, Transit Police Services, and OCTA operations support personnel).

Current Grant Agreements:

OCTA's FTA formula grant agreements total 18 and FTA discretionary grant agreements total five.

The 18 FTA formula grant agreements have a total federal amount of \$667.7 million. This includes coronavirus (COVID-19) relief funds that will be used for operating costs for fixed-route and paratransit service and COVID-19 labor, materials, and supplies. A total of \$212.5 million has been reimbursed, leaving a balance of approximately \$455.2 million. The balance of these FTA formula grant agreements will primarily fund the OC Streetcar, fixed-route bus procurements, and rail rehabilitation projects.

The FTA discretionary grant agreements have a total federal amount of \$164.1 million. This includes the full funding grant agreement award of \$148.9 million. A total of \$95.2 million has been reimbursed, leaving a balance of \$68.9 million. The balance of these FTA discretionary grant agreements will primarily fund the OC Streetcar and slope stabilization improvements on the railroad right-of-way from the City of Laguna Niguel to the City of Lake Forest.

The total FTA formula and discretionary grant agreements amount to \$831.8 million. The total amount reimbursed through the first quarter under these grant agreements is \$307.7 million, leaving a balance of \$524.1 million. These grant agreements are summarized in Attachment A.

OCTA has 30 active state and FHWA formula grant agreements that total \$90.7 million. The total amount reimbursed through the first quarter under these other agreements is \$27.5 million, leaving a balance of \$63.2 million. These grant agreements are summarized in Attachment B.

In addition, OCTA has 11 active state discretionary grant agreements totaling approximately \$34.1 million. The total amount reimbursed through the first quarter under these other agreements is \$16.4 million, leaving a balance of \$17.7 million. These grant agreements are summarized in Attachment C.

This report activity is as of June 30, 2021, and any grants with a deadline between the quarter end and the date this report is published will be fully reimbursed and closed out. This activity will be reflected in next quarter's report. Additionally, for these grants, staff anticipates each of the remaining balances to be fully reimbursed prior to the grant agreement expiration date.

#### **Grant Agreements Pending Close-Out**

There are four grant agreements totaling \$7.4 million that are pending close-out in the first quarter of FY 2021-22. All invoices for these grant agreements have been submitted to their external funding agency for reimbursement. OCTA is pending approval of close-out documentation. These grant agreements are summarized in Attachment D.

#### **Closed Grant Agreements**

There are ten grant agreements totaling \$49.6 million that were closed out in the first quarter of FY 2021-22. These grant agreements are summarized in Attachment E.

#### ***Summary***

This report provides an update of the grant agreement-funded activities for the first quarter of FY 2021-22, July through September 2021. Staff recommends this report be received and filed as an information item.

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***Attachments***

- A. First Quarter Grant Reimbursement Status Report, July through September 2021, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Formula and Discretionary Grant Agreements
- B. First Quarter Grant Reimbursement Status Report, July through September 2021, State and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Formula Grant Agreements
- C. First Quarter Grant Reimbursement Status Report, July through September 2021, State Discretionary Grant Agreements
- D. First Quarter Grant Reimbursement Status Report, July through September 2021, Grant Agreements Pending Closeout
- E. First Quarter Grant Reimbursement Status Report, July through September 2021, Closed Grant Agreements

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