




**February 5, 2024**

**To:** Regional Transportation Planning Committee  
**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer   
**Subject:** Amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority administers the Master Plan of Arterial Highways for Orange County, including the review and approval of amendments requested by local agencies. The City of Anaheim has requested an amendment to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways that is recommended for conditional approval. A status report on the previous Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments that are conditionally approved is also provided.

### **Recommendations**

- A. Conditionally approve the proposed amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways for the facilities listed below within the City of Anaheim:
1. Reclassify Disney Way, from a major (six-lane, divided) arterial to a primary (four-lane divided) arterial, between Harbor Boulevard and Anaheim Boulevard.
  2. Remove Gene Autry Way, an unconstructed major (six-lane, divided) arterial, between Harbor Boulevard and Haster Street.
  3. Remove Clementine Street, an unconstructed secondary (four-lane, undivided) arterial, between Katella Avenue and Orangetown Avenue.

Final approval of the proposed amendment is contingent upon the Orange County Transportation Authority receiving documentation that the City of Anaheim has amended its general plan and has complied with the California Environmental Quality Act requirements.

Should the proposed Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment not be reflected within an approved general plan within three years, the conditional approval will expire, and it must be returned to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors for reconsideration and action in order to proceed.

Should the proposed Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment be modified for any reason after receiving conditional approval, the modified Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment will be returned to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors for reconsideration and action.

- B. Direct the Executive Director of Planning, or his designee, to file a Notice of Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act for the Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments.
- C. Receive and file a status report on the active Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendments.

### ***Background***

The Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH) coordinates roadway system planning across Orange County jurisdictions. The MPAH was first adopted by the County of Orange in 1956 and in 1995, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) assumed administration responsibilities.

OCTA is responsible for maintaining the integrity and continuity of the MPAH system as it evolves by reviewing changes proposed by local jurisdictions for potential transportation-related concerns and facilitating interagency collaboration to avoid unintended impacts in neighboring jurisdictions. Details on a requested amendment by the City of Anaheim (City) are presented below, along with a status report of MPAH amendments that are in process.

### ***Discussion***

The City is proposing changes to the MPAH network in the Anaheim Resort area to support planning efforts related to the DisneylandForward project. The requested changes to the roadway system will allow the City to better manage plans to expand the theme parks, retail, hotels, and parking in the area.

Consistent with the MPAH amendment process described in OCTA's Guidance for Administration of the MPAH, the City has submitted a letter (Attachment A) requesting the following amendments to the MPAH:

- Reclassify Disney Way from a major (six-lane, divided) arterial to a primary (four-lane divided) arterial between Harbor Boulevard and Anaheim Boulevard;
- Remove Gene Autry Way, an unconstructed major (six-lane, divided) arterial, between Harbor Boulevard and Haster Street; and
- Remove Clementine Street, an unconstructed secondary (four-lane, undivided) arterial, between Katella Avenue and Orangewood Avenue.

The proposed MPAH amendments are illustrated in Attachment B.

Staff reviewed the traffic analysis provided by the City and met with the City to discuss OCTA's assessment. Following the review and consultation, staff concurs with the City's traffic analysis, indicating that forecasted changes to traffic volumes due to the proposed changes can be accommodated at an acceptable level of service. Therefore, the requested amendments do not result in any significant adverse impacts to the MPAH system within the City or in any partner agency jurisdictions. As such, the MPAH amendment request is recommended for approval. Additional details on the proposed changes are provided below.

#### **Reclassification – Disney Way**

The City has requested the reclassification of Disney Way, between Harbor Boulevard and Anaheim Boulevard on the MPAH, from a major (six-lane, divided) arterial to a primary (four-lane divided) arterial. This segment is currently built as a major arterial. The proposed reconfiguration is intended to support future land-use changes in the Anaheim Resort area. This includes using a portion of the existing Disney Way right-of-way to accommodate proposed new development.

The MPAH buildout network was modeled to forecast 2045 traffic conditions. The model indicates that this segment of Disney Way will have unimpeded traffic flow (9,000 to 15,000 daily vehicles) with the proposed amendment. These traffic volumes are well within the acceptable level of service for primary arterials, which typically can accommodate up to 30,000 average daily traffic. As such, the proposed reclassification does not result in any significant adverse impacts to the MPAH system.

#### **Deletion – Unbuilt portions of Gene Autry Way and Clementine Street**

The City also requested the deletion of a segment of Gene Autry Way, between Harbor Boulevard and Haster Street, as well as a segment of Clementine Street, between Katella Avenue and Orangewood Avenue. While these segments of Gene Autry Way and Clementine Street are planned as a major arterial and a secondary (four-lane, undivided) arterial, respectively, they are both currently unbuilt. Based on the existing and forecasted traffic conditions, removing these facilities from the MPAH does not result in any significant adverse impacts to the MPAH roadways in the vicinity.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

Amendments to the MPAH are exempt from CEQA review. With direction from the Board of Directors (Board), staff will file a Notice of Exemption from CEQA for the proposed MPAH amendment.

**MPAH Amendment Status Update**

There are currently 13 active amendments proposed for the MPAH that are conditionally approved by the Board. These amendments are detailed in Attachment C. Many of the active amendments are awaiting local action to amend their respective general plans. Others are either under review, in the cooperative study process, pending resolution of issues with other agencies, or are awaiting refinement of development plans.

**Summary**

The City of Anaheim has requested amendments to the MPAH. Based on an analysis of the requested changes, the MPAH Guidance has been satisfied, and staff recommends Board approval. Additionally, a summary of active MPAH amendments is provided as information for the Board.

**Attachments**

- A. Letter from Rudy Emami, P.E., Director of Public Works, City of Anaheim, to Kurt Brotcke, Orange County Transportation Authority, dated July 27, 2023, re: City of Anaheim Master Plan of Arterial Highways Amendment Request - DisneylandForward
- B. Anaheim MPAH Amendment Map
- C. Status Report on Pending Master Plan of Arterial Highways Amendments

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