



**February 2, 2026**

**To:** Regional Transportation Planning Committee

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

**Subject:** 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Financial Plan

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority is responsible for the biennial preparation of the Federal Transportation Improvement Program for Orange County. This document is required under state and federal laws and includes the financial information for regionally significant transportation improvement projects in Orange County. A summary of the 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program, with a total value of approximately \$2.098 billion, related actions, and a supporting resolution are submitted for the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors' approval.

### **Recommendations**

- A. Authorize the submittal of the Federal Transportation Improvement Program project list and financial plan for the fiscal year 2026-27 through fiscal year 2031-32 to the Southern California Association of Governments.
- B. Authorize staff to process all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program to facilitate the programming of projects.
- C. Adopt Resolution No. 2026-004 of the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors.

### **Background**

The Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP), which is developed and maintained by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) for Orange County and administered by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) for counties in the SCAG region, is a required programming document that includes select projects to help implement the Regional Transportation Plan.

The FTIP is comprised of projects of regional significance and projects which are approved to receive state or federal funding. Regionally significant projects are those that would have significant impacts on regional travel and air quality. Federal and state laws require that the FTIP be updated at least every two years and be financially constrained to reasonably anticipated revenues. Federal law also requires that the FTIP include a financial plan that demonstrates how the proposed improvements will be funded and implemented.

In addition to administering the FTIP, SCAG also conducts a required regional air quality assessment for the FTIP. Any project that is likely to receive federal funding for implementation must be included in the FTIP or added through an amendment process to demonstrate that it has been evaluated for air quality purposes.

### ***Discussion***

The 2027 FTIP contains approximately 60 projects in Orange County that are programmed against \$2.098 billion in reasonably anticipated federal, state, and local funding sources and are scheduled to begin some phase of work between the fiscal year (FY) 2026-27 and FY 2031-32. The 2027 FTIP also contains several projects that are carried over with prior funding from the previous FTIP.

OCTA is required to certify through a resolution that the projects programmed within the first four years of the FTIP (FY 2026-27 through FY 2029-30) are of high priority and will be implemented in accordance with each project's respective schedule.

FTIP guidelines further require that the project phases programmed within the first four years must be fully funded, with an emphasis on projects programmed in the first two years for implementation. This is reflected in the recommended 2027 FTIP with the majority of the funding programmed in the first four years.

A summary of the recommended 2027 FTIP by project type and primary source of funding is as follows:

#### **2027 FTIP breakdown by mode:**

- Transit: \$1,157.7 million (55 percent)
- State Highways: \$596.4 million (28 percent)
- Local Streets and Roads: \$344.3 million (16 percent)

#### **2027 FTIP breakdown by fund type:**

- Federal: \$857.5 million (41 percent)
- State: \$716.7 million (34 percent)
- Local: \$524.2 million (25 percent)

Programmed Total by FY

| Programmed (\$000s) | FY26/27    | FY27/28    | FY28/29    | FY29/30    | FY30/31   | FY31/32 | Total       |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| Federal             | \$ 363,089 | \$ 223,417 | \$ 114,738 | \$ 109,461 | \$ 46,753 | \$ -    | \$ 857,458  |
| State               | \$ 377,900 | \$ 190,478 | \$ 26,768  | \$ 105,672 | \$ 15,912 | \$ -    | \$ 716,730  |
| Local               | \$ 237,526 | \$ 51,533  | \$ 27,632  | \$ 177,079 | \$ 30,457 | \$ -    | \$ 524,227  |
| Total               | \$ 978,515 | \$ 465,428 | \$ 169,138 | \$ 392,212 | \$ 93,122 | \$ -    | \$2,098,415 |

A key component of the FTIP is programming and monitoring of Transportation Control Measure (TCM) projects. Projects are designated as TCMs if they reduce emissions and air pollutants from transportation sources by reducing vehicle use through implementing transit projects, carpool lanes, or active transportation type projects. These are very important to the FTIP and the SCAG region. If a committed TCM is not implemented, federal agencies may find the region out of conformity, which would prevent the region from receiving federal approvals or federal funding. TCMs that are in the first two years of the FTIP are considered committed and must be operational by the completion date provided in the FTIP. If they do not proceed as planned, in order to maintain conformity, OCTA is responsible for providing a substitute project that provides the same general air quality and functional transportation benefit.

Minor changes or amendments to the FTIP may be necessary after the preparation of this report. It is recommended that the Board of Directors (Board) authorize staff to submit the recommended 2027 FTIP to SCAG, as well as any project changes that may be required to allow the most up-to-date project information to be included in the 2027 FTIP. Any significant changes will be presented to the Board.

With Board approval, the certifying resolution (Attachment A), financial plan summary (Attachment B), and FTIP project submittals (Attachment C) will be submitted to SCAG for review. Attachment C only lists projects with funding in the six years of the 2027 FTIP. SCAG will model the program, determine air quality benefits, and present the 2027 FTIP to the public, regional transportation commissions, transportation committees, and SCAG's Regional Council for review and comment by July 2026. Following the public comment period, SCAG's regional council will consider the recommended 2027 FTIP, which, if approved, will be forwarded to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the Federal Highway Administration / Federal Transit Administration for final review and approval. The final 2027 FTIP is anticipated to be fully approved in December 2026.

Consistent with OCTA's guidance for administering the FTIP, provided in Attachment D, all agencies with projects programmed in the FTIP, except for Caltrans, are required to provide a resolution from their governing board confirming that the projects or project components are fully funded in accordance

with FTIP guidelines. With respect to OCTA, the recommended 2027 FTIP primarily includes projects that have previously been approved for funding through prior Board actions.

The Capital Funding Program (Attachment E), which summarizes funding for OCTA's capital projects, is also provided. Most of the projects in the Capital Funding Program are, or were, included in the recommended 2027 FTIP.

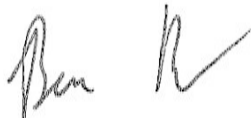
### ***Summary***

OCTA developed the recommended 2027 FTIP and associated financial plan, which includes projects that are estimated to use \$2.098 billion. Staff has worked with local agencies and consulted Board-approved plans and previous funding actions to develop the recommended 2027 FTIP. With Board approval, the recommended 2027 FTIP and associated funding plan will be submitted to SCAG.

### ***Attachments***

- A. Resolution No. 2026-004 of the Board of Directors of the Orange County Transportation Authority, Fiscal Year 2026-27 to Fiscal Year 2031-32, Federal Transportation Improvement Program
- B. Federal Transportation Improvement Program and Financial Plan Summary, Fiscal Year 2026-27 Through Fiscal Year 2031-32
- C. 2027 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Project List
- D. Orange County Transportation Authority Guidance for Administering the Federal Transportation Improvement Program
- E. Capital Funding Program Report

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