



November 3, 2025

To: Executive Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: First Quarter Fiscal Year 2025-26 Capital Action Plan and Performance Metrics

Overview

Staff has prepared the quarterly progress report on capital project delivery for the period of July 2025 through September 2025 for review by the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors. This report highlights the Capital Action Plan for project delivery, which is used as a performance metric to assess delivery progress on highway, transit, and rail projects, as well as a snapshot of the planned Capital Action Plan project delivery milestones in fiscal year 2025-26.

Recommendation

Receive and file as an information item.

Background

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) delivers highway, transit, rail, and facility projects from the beginning of the environmental approval phase through construction completion. Project delivery milestones are planned carefully with consideration of project scope, cost, schedule, and assessment of risks. The milestones reflected in the Capital Action Plan (CAP) are OCTA's planned and budgeted major project delivery commitments.

This report provides the first quarter progress report on the CAP performance metrics for fiscal year (FY) 2025-26.

Discussion

OCTA's objective is to deliver projects on schedule and within the approved project budget. Key project cost and schedule commitments are captured in the CAP, which is regularly updated with project status and any new

projects (Attachment A). The CAP is categorized into three key project groupings of freeway, railroad grade separation, and transit projects. Project delivery schedule milestones are used as performance indicators of progress in meeting commitments. The CAP performance metrics report provides a FY snapshot of the milestones targeted for delivery in the FY and provides transparency and performance measurement of capital project delivery.

The CAP project costs represent the total cost across all phases of project delivery, including support costs, right-of-way (ROW), and construction capital costs. Baseline costs, if established, are shown in comparison to either the actual or forecast cost. Baseline costs may be shown as to-be-determined (TBD) if project scoping studies and estimates have not been developed or approved and may be updated as delivery progresses and milestones achieved. Projects identified in the Orange County local transportation sales tax Measure M2 (M2) are identified with the corresponding M2 project logo. The CAP status update is also included in the M2 Quarterly Progress Report.

The CAP summarizes the very complex capital project critical path delivery schedules into eight key milestones.

Begin Environmental	The date work on the environmental clearance, project report, or preliminary engineering phase begins.
Complete Environmental	The date environmental clearance and project approval is achieved.
Begin Design	The date final design work begins, or the date when a design-build contract begins.
Complete Design	The date final design work is 100 percent complete and approved.
Construction Ready	The date contract bid documents are ready for advertisement, including certification of ROW, all agreements executed, and contract constraints cleared.
Advertise for Construction	The date a construction contract is advertised for construction bids.
Award Contract	The date the construction contract is awarded.

Construction Complete

The date all construction work is complete and the project is open to public use. This does not include the plant establishment period if included in the construction contract.

These delivery milestones reflect progression across the project delivery phases shown below.



Project schedules reflect planned baseline milestone dates in comparison to forecast or actual milestone dates. Milestone dates may be shown as TBD if project scoping or approval documents have not been finalized and approved, or if the delivery schedule has not been negotiated with a partnering agency or the consultant preparing or working on the specific phase of a project. Planned milestone dates can be revised to reflect new dates from approved baseline schedule changes. Baseline schedule changes are typically made when transitioning to a new project delivery phase, or when significant change is identified during a phase of project delivery. Project schedules are reviewed monthly, and milestone achievements and updated forecast dates are included to reflect project delivery status.

The following CAP milestones were completed in the first quarter of FY 2025-26:

- The advertise construction milestone for the Interstate 5 (I-5) Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Yale Avenue was achieved when the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) advertised the construction contract on August 18, 2025. Bids are planned to be opened on November 18, 2025.
- The advertise construction milestone for the I-5 Improvement Project between Yale Avenue and State Route 55 (SR-55) was achieved when Caltrans advertised for construction bids on August 11, 2025. Bids are planned to be opened on October 21, 2025.
- The advertise construction for the northbound State Route 57 (SR-57) Improvement Project between Orangewood Avenue and Katella Avenue was achieved, and the award contract milestone planned for the second quarter was achieved early. Caltrans awarded the contract to Ortiz Enterprises Inc. on September 25, 2025.

- The complete construction milestone for Segment 1 of the I-5 Improvement Project between State Route 73 (SR-73) and Oso Parkway was achieved. All lanes are open for public use and project closeout activities are underway. This is the southerly segment of three segments of the I-5 Improvement Project between SR-73 and El Toro Road.
- The complete construction milestone for Segment 3 of the I-5 Improvement Project between Alicia Parkway and El Toro Road was achieved. All lanes are open for public use and project closeout activities are underway. This is the northerly segment of three segments of the I-5 Improvement Project between SR-73 and El Toro Road.

The following CAP milestones missed the planned delivery through the fourth quarter of FY 2024-25:

- The award contract milestone for the SR-91 Improvements from Acacia Street to La Palma Avenue (Segment 3) was missed due to a longer than expected timeline for the post bid review and award process stemmed by changes in the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise requirements. However, the contract has since been awarded on October 18, 2025, and will be reported as achieved in the second quarter FY report.

Recap of FY 2025-26 Performance Metrics

The performance metrics snapshot provided at the beginning of FY 2025-26 reflected 19 planned major project delivery milestones to be accomplished throughout the FY (Attachment B). Five of the six milestones planned through the first quarter of FY 2025-26 were delivered, and one milestone planned in the second quarter was delivered early.

First Quarter CAP Milestone and Cost Variance Updates

I-5, Avenida Pico to San Diego County Line

The forecast complete environmental milestone was revised to December 2026 (still within the second quarter) to allow time for finalization and signing of the final environmental document.

I-5 El Toro Road Interchange Improvement

The forecast environmental milestone was accelerated from April 2027 to December 2026 to reflect the current Caltrans environmental document preparation schedule.

SR-57 Northbound Truck Lane from Lambert Road to Tonner Canyon

The forecast begin environmental milestone was accelerated to November 2025. Caltrans will be the lead agency for the environmental phase.

State Route 91 (SR-91), La Palma Avenue to SR-55 (Segment 2)

The forecast construction ready, advertise construction, award contract, and complete construction milestones were adjusted to match the updated ROW acquisition schedule.

SR-91, Acacia Street to La Palma Avenue (Segment 3)

The forecast award contract and construction completion were adjusted due to a longer than expected timeline for post-bid review and award process.

91 Eastbound Corridor Operations Project from State Route 241 (SR-241) to State Route 71 (SR-71)

The forecast complete environmental milestone was adjusted to March 2026 based on progress reported by Riverside County Transportation Commission.

SR-91 to SR-241 Express Connector

Remaining forecast milestones were adjusted out one month based on the Transportation Corridor Agency's reported progress on the complete design and construction ready milestones.

Coastal Rail Stabilization Priority Project Sand Nourishment

The forecast complete design and subsequent milestones were revised to reflect the updated schedule of activities.

OC Streetcar Project

The complete construction date was revised from March 2026 to July 2026 based on the schedule reported in the first quarter.

FY 2025-26 Cost and Performance Metrics Risks

Construction bid pricing in the region continues to reflect escalating labor, material, and equipment costs. OCTA hires the Orange County Business Council to prepare the Orange County Transportation Infrastructure Construction Cost Pressure Index twice annually. The September 2025 index update reflects a probable forecast range for infrastructure cost increases from two to six percent through 2028. There are continued concerns regarding workforce availability in construction and manufacturing markets, and there remains uncertainty around the impacts of tariffs and their potential duration. Staff will continue to assess unit price data from construction bids in the region and make needed adjustments to forecast costs.

Summary

Capital project delivery continues to progress and is reflected in the CAP. In FY 2025-26, 100 percent of the planned CAP milestones were delivered through the first quarter. Forecast schedules and costs have been updated for the FY 2025-26 performance metrics, which will be used as a general quarterly project delivery performance indicator. Staff will continue to manage project costs and schedules across all project phases to meet project delivery commitments and report quarterly.

Attachments

- A. Capital Action Plan, Status Through September 2025
- B. Capital Programs Division, Fiscal Year 2025-26 Performance Metrics Through September 2025

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