



CITY OF COSTA MESA

CALIFORNIA 92628-1200

P.O. Box 1200

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

March 13, 2025

Rose Casey, PE
Executive Director, Planning
Orange County Transportation Authority
550 South Main Street
Orange, CA 92868

**Subject: Master Plan of Arterial Highways – Concurrence with the Garfield-Gisler
Santa Ana River Crossing Technical Review**

Dear Ms. Casey:

In response to the transmittal dated March 4, 2025, the City of Costa Mesa (City) acknowledges receipt of the Garfield-Gisler Santa Ana River Crossing Technical Review (Technical Review), as prepared by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and peer reviewed by Iteris Inc, and which includes the 2006 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Amendment 1 to the MOU signed in 2020.

The Technical Review assesses whether network improvements near the planned Garfield-Gisler bridge—including the implemented Smart Street and Bridge Widening Strategy A (Strategy A) improvements from the MOU—can maintain or enhance the performance forecasted in the 2006 Garfield-Gisler Circulation Feasibility Study. Therefore, the 2006 results, which used the Orange County Transportation Analysis Model (OCTAM) 3.2, were compared with results from the latest model, OCTAM 5.1. Key differences in the model versions include updated demographic forecasts, addition of the 405 Express Lanes, and use of more advanced modeling software.

Based on the Technical Review and coordination with the MOU parties, the City finds that:

1. The methodology used by OCTA was appropriate for this analysis, and the findings and conclusions of the Technical Review are sufficient and do not indicate a need for further analysis.
2. All parties have fulfilled their obligations as specified in the MOU, as amended in 2020, and all necessary Strategy A improvements have been successfully implemented/fulfilled to ensure acceptable traffic operations.
3. The City fully supports amending the Master Plan of Arterial Highways to remove the Garfield-Gisler bridge with no need for any mitigation measures.

If you require any additional information or clarification, please feel free to contact me at (714) 754-5343 or by e-mail at raja.sethuraman@costamesaca.gov.

Sincerely,

Raja Sethuraman
Public Works Director