



April 7, 2025

To: Regional Transportation Planning Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Transportation for the State Route 91 Improvement Project Between La Palma Avenue and State Route 55

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority proposes to enter into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Transportation for construction capital and construction management support services for the State Route 91 Improvement Project between La Palma Avenue and State Route 55.

Recommendation

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-5-3985 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the California Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$269,504,000, comprised of a construction capital share of \$230,314,000 and a construction management services share of \$39,190,000 for the State Route 91 Improvement Project between La Palma Avenue and State Route 55.

Discussion

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in partnership with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), is implementing the State Route 91 (SR-91) Improvement Project between State Route 57 (SR-57) and State Route 55 (SR-55) (Project). Measure M2 Project I was advanced as part of the updated Next 10 Delivery Plan approved by the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) in November 2024.

The Project will add general purpose lanes in the eastbound (EB) direction between SR-57 and SR-55 and provide westbound (WB) operational improvements between Lakeview Avenue and SR-55 and between La Palma Avenue and Acacia Street. In addition, the Project will reconstruct La Palma Avenue overcrossing and three interchanges at Lakeview Avenue,

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Tustin Avenue and Glassell Street/Kraemer Boulevard, EB widening over the Santa Ana River and WB widening at State College Boulevard and add a new Orangethorpe bypass ramp. The Project is being developed as three separate design and construction projects to enhance the participation and competitive bidding of consultants and contractors, with the following project limits:

- Segment 1 extends from SR-55 to Lakeview Avenue
- Segment 2 extends from La Palma Avenue to SR-55
- Segment 3 extends from Acacia Street to La Palma Avenue

Segment 2 will provide a general purpose lane in the EB direction between La Palma Avenue and SR-55, bridge widening over the Santa Ana River, and reconstruction of the Glassell Street/Kraemer Boulevard and Tustin Avenue bridges over SR-91.

On June 15, 2019, the Board authorized Cooperative Agreement No. C-9-1274 with Caltrans to provide oversight of the plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E), and to advertise and award the construction contract for Segment 2. On May 13, 2024, the Board authorized Cooperative Agreement No. C-4-2213 with Caltrans for the right-of-way phase for Segment 2.

A cooperative agreement for the construction phase for Segment 2 is now needed to define the specific roles and funding responsibilities, including construction capital and construction management (CM) support services.

Bid documents for Segment 2 are being prepared for advertisement of the construction contract in fall 2025. The total construction capital funding required for Segment 2 is \$230,314,000, and the construction support funding required is \$39,190,000. The total construction cost of \$269,504,000 will be funded by a combination of \$4,000,000 in federal Community Project Funding/ Congressionally Directed Spending (CPFCDs), \$6,641,000 in state SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) Local Partnership Program – Formula (SB 1 LPP-F), and \$258,863,000 in 91 Express Lanes (EL) net excess revenue.

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A table depicting the proposed funding plan for the construction cooperative agreement with Caltrans is provided below.

Funding Programs	Proposed Funding
CPFCDs	\$4,000,000
SB 1 LPP-F	\$6,641,000
91 EL Excess Revenue	\$258,863,000
Total:	\$269,504,000

*OCTA is also continuing to pursue federal competitive program and other external grants and funding that would be used in place of 91 EL surplus revenues.

As the implementing agency for construction of the Project, Caltrans will be responsible for advertisement, award, approval, and administration of the construction contract. Under the proposed cooperative agreement, Caltrans and OCTA have agreed to share in the CM support services for the Project. Caltrans, as the construction phase implementing agency, will provide a resident engineer, structures representative, field surveying, and other field personnel, along with construction administrative support and environmental monitoring. OCTA will retain a consultant firm to augment Caltrans' field staff with electrical, structural and roadway inspection, office engineering, materials testing, and claims support services. OCTA's consultant will also provide a field office to house construction staff on the Project. Through separate contracts, OCTA will lead the public outreach and freeway service patrol efforts.

Fiscal Impact

The Project will be included in the proposed OCTA Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Budget and subsequent FY budgets, Capital Programs Division, account nos. 0017-9084-FI105-1OR and 0017-9085-FI105-1OR, and will be funded with a combination of federal and local funds.

Summary

Staff requests Board approval for the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-5-3985 with Caltrans, in the amount of \$269,504,000, comprised of a construction capital share of \$230,314,000 and a construction management services share of \$39,190,000 for Segment 2 of the Project.

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Attachment

None.

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