



CITY OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY

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April 10, 2025

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

Subject: **Retraction of Garfield-Gisler Bridge Letter**

Dear Ms. Casey:

Upon further evaluation, it has been determined that all provisions within the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) have not been completed. Therefore, the City of Fountain Valley (City) retracts the attached March 11, 2025, letter and cannot support amending the Master Plan of Arterial Highways to remove the Garfield-Gisler bridge.

The City firmly requests that Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) staff remove this item from next week's Board Meeting agenda (April 14, 2025) until the issues are discussed and resolved.

If you have questions concerning this letter, please contact me at (714) 593-4435 or scott.smith@fountainvally.gov.

Sincerely,

Scott Smith P.E., P.L.S., T.E.
Public Works Director

Attachment:

Letter dated March 11, 2025



March 11, 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 Fountain Valley (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. (Ted Huynh, P.E., Senior Manager), 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 concurs with Iteris' and OCTA's findings that:

1. The methodology used by OCTA was appropriate for this analysis, and the findings and conclusions of the Technical Review appear sufficient, indicating there is no need for further analysis.
2. All parties have reasonably 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 does not object to amending the Master Plan of Arterial Highways to remove the Garfield-Gisler bridge, denoting there is no need for respective mitigation measures.

If you require any additional information or clarification, please feel free to contact me at (714) 593-4435 or scott.smith@fountainvally.gov.

Sincerely,

Scott Smith P.E., P.L.S., T.E.
Public Works Director