

Active Transportation Program Biannual Update



Overview

OC Connect

E-bike Safety Study

Upcoming Projects

Ongoing Active Transportation Efforts

E-bike = Electric Bicycle

OC Connect - Overview

Project Overview

- 1.5 miles in Garden Grove
- 2.4 miles in Santa Ana
- \$3 million (PA/ED)
- End date: early 2025

Environmental Phase

- NEPA: Categorical Exclusion with Technical Studies
- CEQA: Statutory Exemption (SB 922 [Chapter 987, Statutes of 2022])

CEQA = California Environmental Quality Act
NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act



OC Connect – Outreach and Engagement



Collected **287** survey responses



Promoted the survey and Project website on **social media** **10** Facebook posts, **3** Instagram posts, **3** X (Twitter) posts with **6,132** impressions



Received **106** comments on the **public** input map



Distributed **3,620** fact sheets to local organizations and businesses



Hosted **2** Project Development Team **Meetings**, **1** Virtual and **1** in-person **Community Workshop**



Developed and distributed **toolkits**, providing easy-to-share communication resources to **51** local organizations



Engaged **1,280** community members at **5** community **pop-ups/events** in Garden Grove and Santa Ana



Reached **285** community members through **digital noticing**



Featured a **webpage** viewed more than **1,300** times



Shared **materials** in **English, Spanish, and Vietnamese**



Collaborated with **2** paid **Community-Based Organizations Partners**

OC Connect

Where we are

- Draft 35 percent design plans
- Technical studies review
- Outreach phase II

What's next

- Finalize 35 percent design plans
- Outreach phase II
- Environmental documents

Future Phase of Project Development

Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (PS&E)

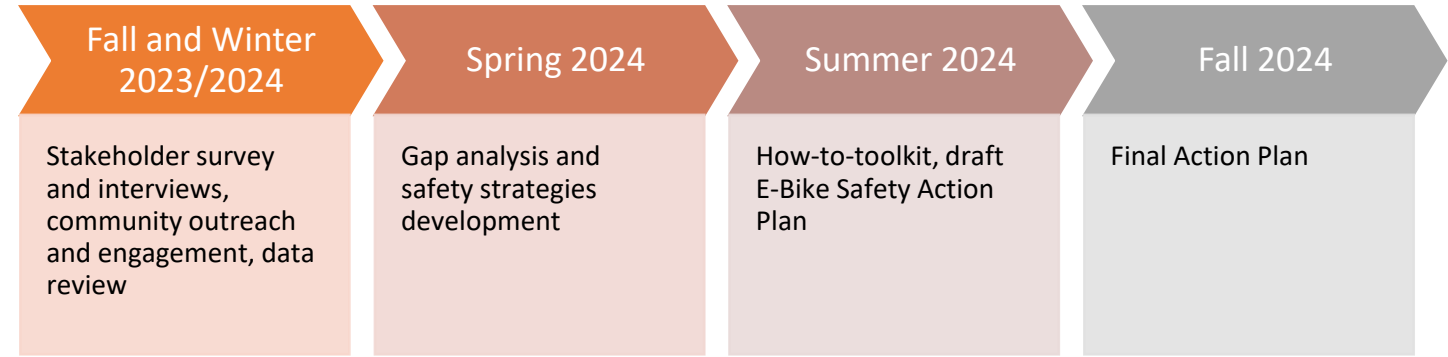
- \$3,900,000 State Transportation Improvement Program funds
- \$1,000,000 Environmental Protection Agency cleanup grant funds
- \$750,000 Earmark from Congressman Correa for bridge design
- \$350,000 Department of Toxic Substances Control grant



Rendering of future trail connection across the Santa Ana River

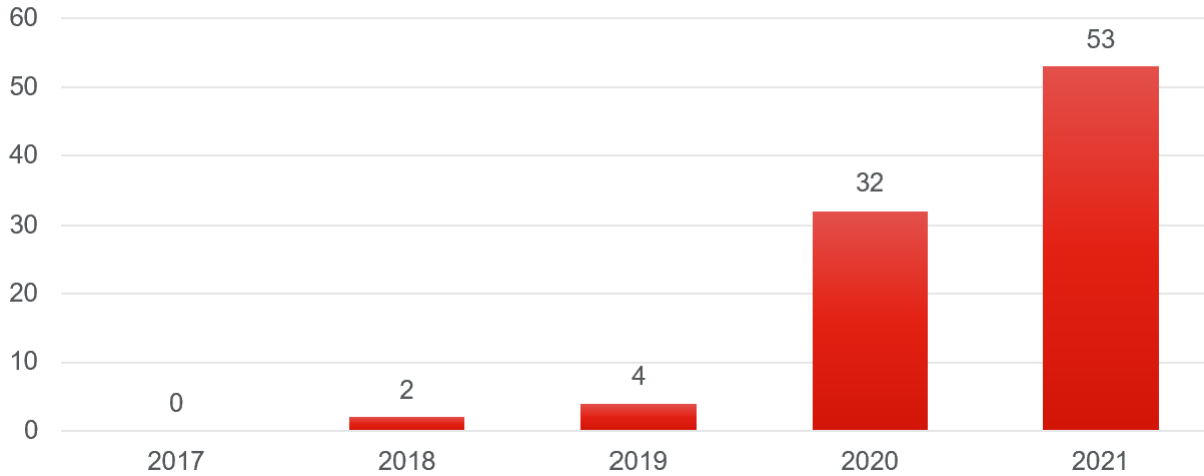
E-bike Safety Study

- **Analyze gaps** in existing e-bike safety resources and strategies
- **Engage the community** and provide e-bike safety education
- **Provide recommendations** to facilitate the use of e-bikes as a safe and reliable form of transportation in Orange County



What We're Discovering: Local Trends

Crashes Resulted in Towed E-bikes



Orange County Crashes Resulted in Towed E-bikes by CHP 2017-2021

CHP = California Highway Patrol

Year	Growth in E-bike Trauma Patients	Age Groups		
		Growth in patients 17 and under	Growth in patients 18-54	Growth in patients 55 and above
2020-21	211%	450%	154%	177%
2021-22	104%	134%	121%	28%

Year Over Year Growth in E-bike Trauma Patients by Age Groups (Providence Mission Hospital)

What We're Discovering: Interviews

Schools

- Additional resources
- Parent participation
- In need of relatable role models

Cities/enforcement

- Education resources
- Consistent, connected infrastructure
- Better data

Retailers

- Generational shift in attitude towards bicycles
- Open to innovation

Hospitals

- Data/reporting standardization
- Point of sale education

What's Being Done: Education

Types

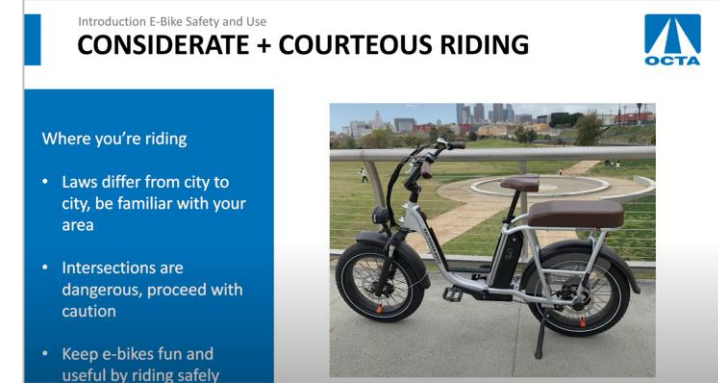
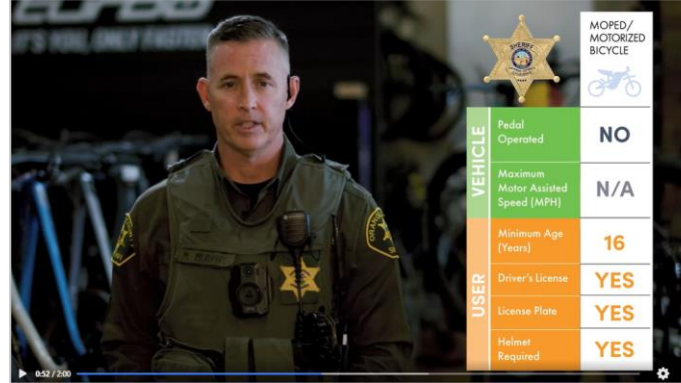
- In person
- Virtual

Locations

- Schools
- General public
- Online

Focus

- Safety
- E-bike basics
- Bike handling skills
- Rules of the road
- Being courteous



What Should Be Done: Strategy Development

Data Collection and Evaluation

- Consistency and completeness
- Collision
- Counts

Educational Resources and Programming

- Drivers
- Riders – specifically youth
- Manner of delivery

Partnership and Collaboration

- Retailers

Upcoming Active Transportation Projects

Newly Funded OCTA Projects

Next Safe Travels Education Program (STEP) - \$2.1 million

Bicycle Counts - \$400,000

Bikeway Connectivity Study - \$500,000

Active Transportation Education/Encouragement - \$400,000

Other Active Transportation Initiatives

Safe Routes to School Program

Bicycle counts

ATP Cycle 7 application support

Bicycle network update

Bike Month activities

E-bike videos

Next Steps

- Return to the Board of Directors with updates on active transportation efforts including:
 - Garden Grove – Santa Ana Rails to Trails, e-bike Safety Study, grant awards
 - Partnering with stakeholders
- Seek funding opportunities to support active transportation activities
 - Continue working with local agencies and community groups to advance active transportation measures for all Orange County residents