



August 28, 2025

To: Regional Transportation Planning Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Draft 2025 Orange County Congestion Management Program Report Release for Public Review

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darrell Johnson", is written over the "To:" and "From:" lines of the header.

Overview

The Orange County Transportation Authority, as the designated Congestion Management Agency, is required by state statute to report on the Orange County Congestion Management Program every two years. Accordingly, a draft 2025 Orange County Congestion Management Program Report has been prepared for public review and will be posted and circulated to local agencies upon direction by the Board of Directors.

Recommendations

- A. Direct staff to release the draft 2025 Orange County Congestion Management Program Report for public review.
- B. Set November 10, 2025, as a public hearing date for adoption of the final 2025 Orange County Congestion Management Program Report.

Background

In 1990, Proposition 111 required urbanized areas to designate a Congestion Management Agency (CMA) and establish a Congestion Management Program (CMP) to continue receiving state gasoline tax funds. As Orange County's designated CMA, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is responsible for monitoring and preparing biennial reports on the Orange County CMP.

Specific CMP elements are also linked to the Measure M2 eligibility process for Orange County cities and the County of Orange. The purpose of the CMP is to coordinate land-use and transportation decisions, and to assess how traffic congestion is being managed.

The draft 2025 Orange County CMP Report (Attachment A) is a composite of data submittals, including CMP traffic counts and capital improvement programs. It was developed over the past year in accordance with state legislation and in coordination with local jurisdictions.

Discussion

To assist Orange County cities, OCTA funds and administers the collection of traffic count data at over 100 intersections within the Orange County CMP highway system. The count data was used to calculate intersection capacity utilization (ICU) ratings, which represent the percentage of capacity used at each intersection during morning and evening peak hours, when demand is highest. Based on ICU ratings, level of service (LOS) grades are assigned to each intersection. Local jurisdictions have reviewed and concurred with all intersection performance data.

LOS Grade	ICU Rating
A	< .60
B	.60 - .70
C	.70 - .80
D	.80 - .90
E	.90 - 1.00
F	> 1.00

CMP intersections are generally expected to maintain an LOS grade of E or better. In most cases, if an intersection receives an LOS grade of F, it is considered deficient, and a deficiency plan may need to be developed by the responsible jurisdiction. A deficiency plan must identify the cause of congestion, the improvements needed to solve the problem, and the cost and timing of the proposed improvements.

No deficiency plans are required based on the findings in the draft 2025 Orange County CMP Report. Rather, conditions have generally improved over the baseline year data (1991 in most cases). For example, 13 intersections operated at LOS F in the baseline year, and they are now operating at LOS C or better. Overall, the 2025 data showed improvements over the baseline year data of 19 percent for the morning average ICU rating, and nearly 20 percent for the evening average ICU rating.

The draft 2025 Orange County CMP Report also preliminarily finds that all local jurisdictions are in compliance with the CMP requirements. This is based on the performance data and submittals provided by local jurisdictions pertaining to capital improvement programs, coordination of land use and transportation, and other legislatively required CMP elements.

Next Steps

Upon direction from the OCTA Board of Directors (Board), the draft 2025 Orange County CMP Report will be released for a three-week public review period. Comments received will be reviewed and incorporated as appropriate into the final 2025 Orange County CMP Report.

The final 2025 Orange County CMP Report will be brought to the Board for adoption at a noticed public hearing, as required by state law. Upon adoption by the Board, the final 2025 Orange County CMP Report will be submitted to the Southern California Association of Governments for a required consistency finding with their approved Regional Transportation Plan.

Summary

A draft 2025 CMP Report has been prepared in accordance with state legislation and developed in cooperation with local jurisdictions and public agencies. With Board direction, staff will circulate the draft 2025 Orange County CMP Report for a three-week public review period and return with a final report for adoption at a public hearing.

Attachment

- A. Draft 2025 Orange County Congestion Management Program Report

Prepared by:



Angel Garfio
Transportation Analyst
(714) 560-5822

Approved by:



Rose Casey
Executive Director, Planning
(714) 560-5729