## WELCOME

## PUBLICHEARING (Open House Format)





Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2019 6-8 p.m.







# STATION 1 INTRODUCTION









## PROJECT DESCRIPTION



OCTA and Caltrans propose to enhance State Route 55 (SR-55) between Interstate 5 (I-5) and State Route 91 (SR-91) by improving mobility and reducing congestion, increasing freeway capacity and improving traffic operations.

The proposed project is in the Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) phase, which is commonly known as the environmental study phase.

One Build Alternative and a No Build Alternative were studied.











## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAM



#### LEAD AGENCY

Lead agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); oversees compliance with CEQA and NEPA and provides ultimate approval of environmental documents and Preferred Alternative. dot.ca.gov



#### PROJECT SPONSOR

Responsible agency under CEQA; funds and manages the Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) phase consistent with OC Go (also known as Measure M), Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements. octa.net

#### TEAM MEMBERS







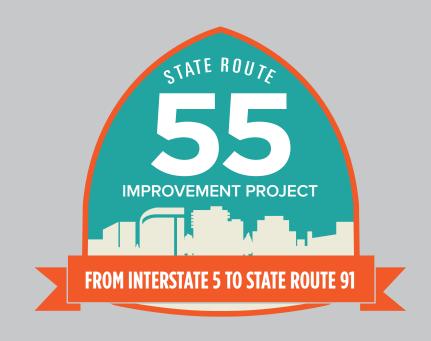


anaheim.net

tustinca.org

cityoforange.org

santa-ana.org









## PURPOSE OF TODAY'S HEARING



#### **EXPLAIN**

the project study, proposed alternatives and address related questions



#### HIGHLIGHT

project's purpose and need



#### **SUMMARIZE**

environmental process and study findings



#### **PROVIDE**

an opportunity for the public to comment on the Draft Environmental Document (DED)



#### INVITE

the public to stay connected with the project and sign up for future updates









## YOUR ROLE IN THIS HEARING



#### **Submit Comments**

Comments received during the public review period, and responses to those comments, will be included in the Final Environmental Document.

"Public participation is an essential part of the CEQA and NEPA process and reflects a belief that community members can make important contributions to environmental protections and notions of balanced decision making through wide public involvement."

-Caltrans



#### **Public Review Period**

The Draft Environmental Document (DED) is available for public review and comment from Sept. 30 to Oct. 30, 2019.









# STATION 2 ABOUT THE PROJECT









### PROJECT AREA

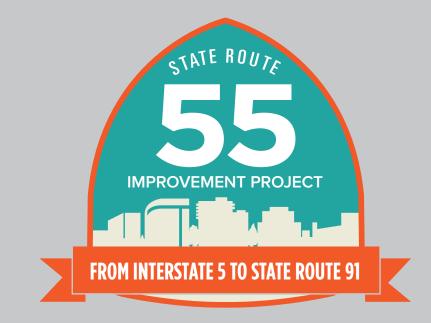


## SR-55 IS ESSENTIAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

- Connects inland region to residential, commercial and retail areas in Orange County.
- A primary travel route to John Wayne Airport, and to beaches and tourist attractions in Orange County.
- Part of local and regional transportation network.

#### IN THE PROJECT AREA

- Caltrans Park-and-Ride Facility
- Caltrans Park-and-Ride Facility
- Caltrans Park-and-Ride Facility
- Orange Unified School District
- Orange County Global Medical Center
- Orange Public Library
- Super Sports Golf & Recreation Center
- Pairhaven Memorial Park
- 1 The Village at Orange
- Tustkatella Shopping Center
- 3 Old Towne Orange
- (4) Centre on Seventeenth
- **Enderle Center**
- 6 Old Town Tustin









## PURPOSE AND NEED



#### The Purpose

The purpose of the project is to:

- Improve mobility and reduce congestion
- Increase freeway capacity
- Improve traffic operations



#### The Need

Traffic operations on SR-55 are impacted due to:

- Limited lane capacity on SR-55 during AM and PM peak periods
- · Inadequate freeway operations resulting from weaving, merging and diverging within the project limits along the SR-55 corridor









## COST AND FUNDING

Total Estimated Cost is approximately \$200 million for the build alternative.

#### **Project Funding**



The project is part of OC Go (also known as Measure M), Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

The project was identified by the OCTA Board of Directors to be funded with OC Go funds through the environmental process to make it shelf-ready for future phases.

The Board will determine funding priorities for future phases. Funding sources could include OC Go funds, State funds and Federal funds.









## STATION 3

- PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

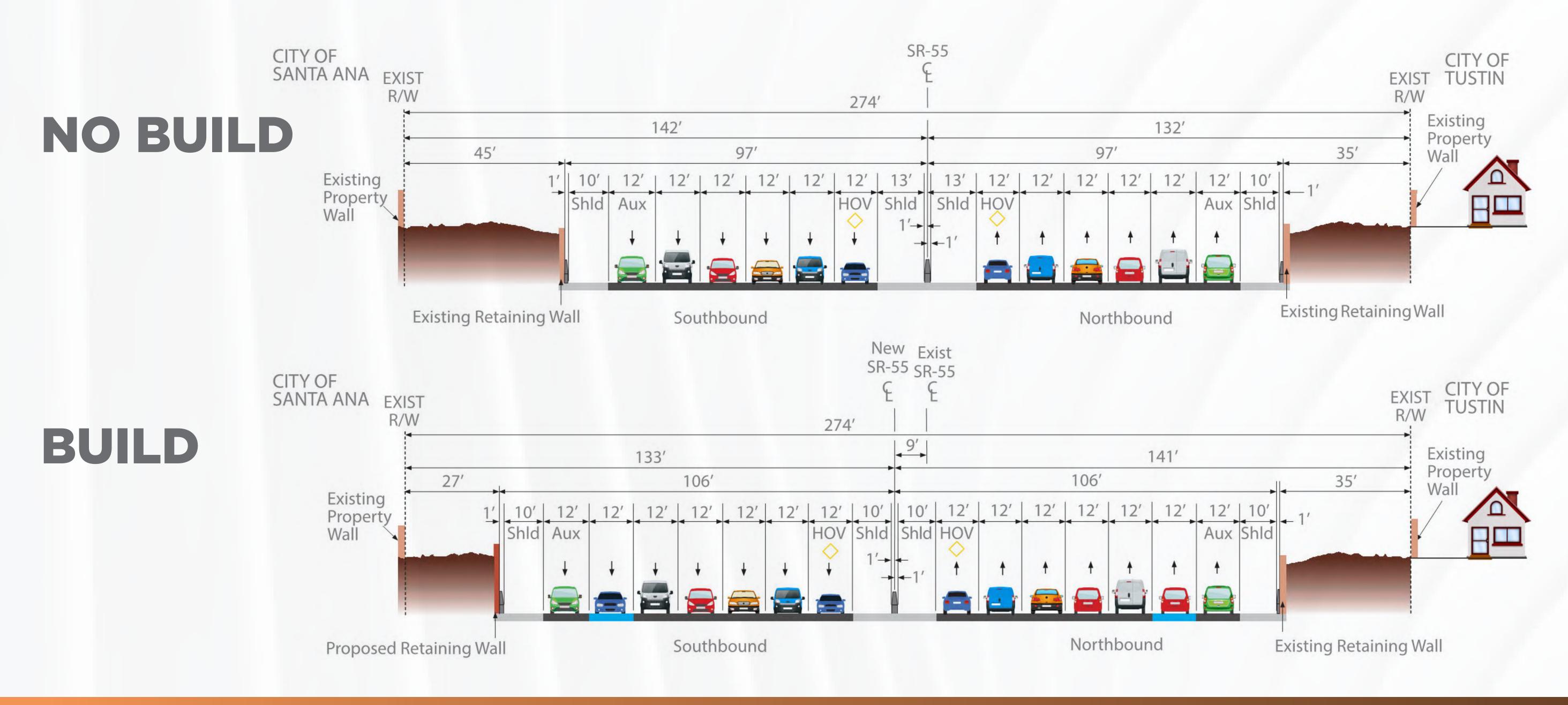








## EXISTING (NO BUILD) AND BUILD ALTERNATIVE TYPICAL SECTION BETWEEN 4TH STREET AND 17TH STREET







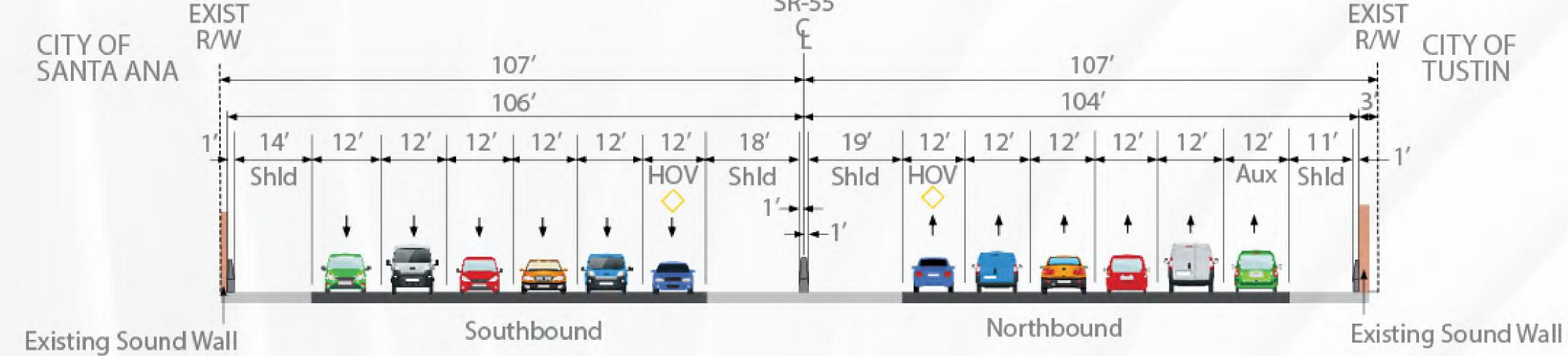




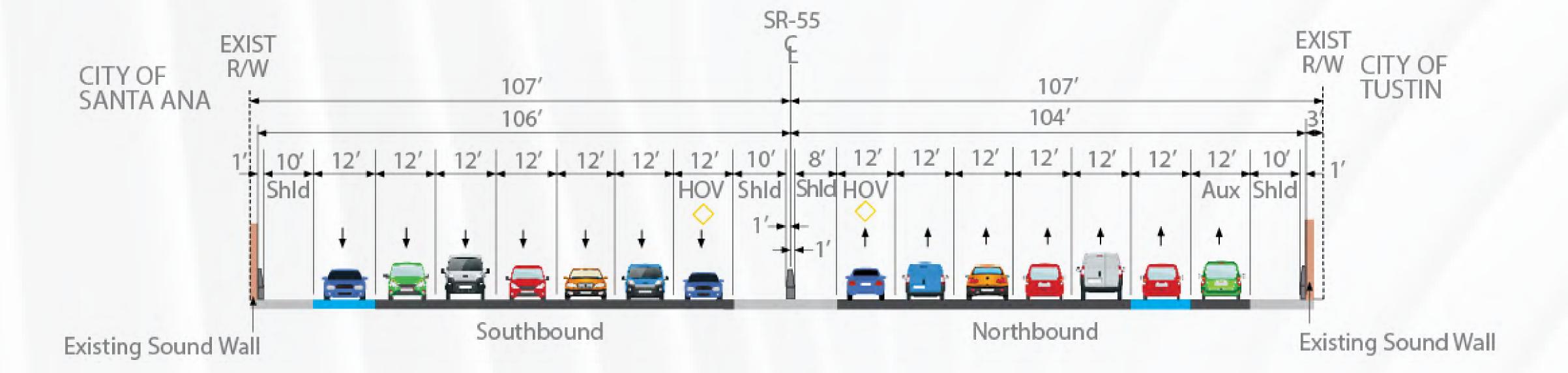
## EXISTING (NO BUILD) AND BUILD ALTERNATIVE TYPICAL SECTION NORTH OF 17TH STREET

## EXIST SR-55

#### NO BUILD









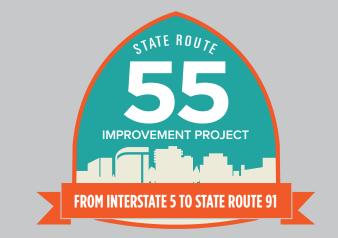






#### PROJECTS BY OTHERS











### SR-55 (I-5 TO SR-91) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT













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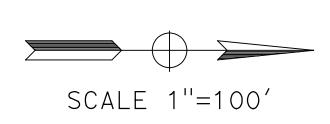
## SR-55 (1-5 TO SR-91) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

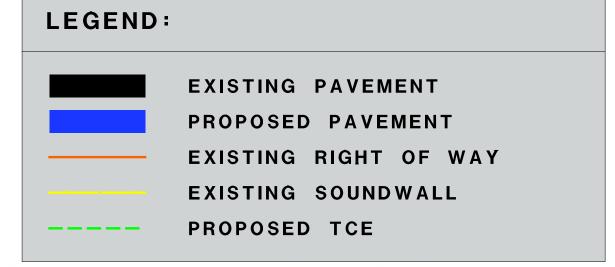














# STATION 4 STUDY RESULTS









## THE ENVIRONMENTAL

REVIEW PROCESS
PURPOSE OF CEQA AND NEPA



#### INFORM

governmental decision-makers and the public about potential significant environmental effects of proposed projects.



#### IDENTIFY

ways that environmental effects can be avoided or significantly reduced.



#### PREVENT

significant, avoidable environmental effects by requiring changes in the project through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures when the governmental agency finds the changes to be feasible.



#### DISCLOSE

reasons why an agency approved a project.



#### PROMOTE

and encourage public participation.







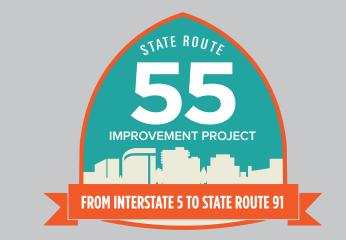


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## SOUNDVALL EVALUATION PROCESS

#### REASONABILITY REASONABILITY REASONABILITY **FEASIBILITY FEASIBILITY** Would the Do the benefitting Is the soundwall SOUNDWALL Would the Does the future soundwall reduce property owners within the cost noise level soundwall reduce ELIGIBLE FOR noise at one or and/or residents allowance? noise impacts by approach or more benefitting FURTHER accept the exceed the Noise 5 decibels? properties to the proposed CONSIDERATION\* Abatement Caltrans design soundwall? Criteria? \*\* goal of at least 7 decibels? SOUNDWALL NOT ELIGIBLE

- \* Reasonableness of each eligible soundwall is further evaluated during the final design phase, when more detailed cost estimates are available. See Chapter 2 of the Draft Environmental Document or speak with project staff for more information.
- \*\* To define CEQA traffic noise impact, predicted design-year traffic noise levels are compared to the existing conditions. Per the Noise Study Report, noise levels would not result in a substantial increase.









## AREAS OF STUDY

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT







Water Quality & Stormwater Runoff



Geology/Soils/ Seismic / Topography



Paleontology



Hazardous Waste Materials



Air Quality



Noise





Wetlands & Other Waters



Plant Species



Animal Species



Invasive Species

## HUMAN ENVIRONMENT



Land Use



Growth



Community **Impacts** 



Utilities / **Emergency Services** 



Traffic & Transportation / Pedestrian & Bicycle Facilities



Visual / Aesthetics



Cultural Resources









## MILESTONES AND NEXT STEPS



#### 2017-2019 | TECHNICAL STUDIES

Technical experts conducted preliminary design and technical studies for the environmental document.



#### 2018 | PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

A public information meeting was held on June 7, 2018, to inform the public about the project.



### 2019 | CIRCULATE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (DED)

All technical studies are compiled in a DED, which is available for public review from Sept. 30 to Oct. 30, 2019.



#### **TODAY'S PUBLIC HEARING**

During the DED public review period, today's hearing is for community members to get information, discuss the project with team members and provide documented feedback.



#### 2019 IDENTIFY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The project partners will recommend a Preferred Alternative (Build or No Build).



#### 2020 | FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (FED)

The DED will be revised to include, the Preferred Alternative, comments received during the public review period and responses to the comments.



#### **NEXT STEPS**

The completion of the FED is a key milestone because it will make the project shelf-ready to receive funding from external sources. OCTA is always looking for opportunities to speed up construction projects by utilizing State and Federal funding.









# STATION 5 - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION









### GET INVOLVED



#### COMMENT DEADLINE: Oct. 30, 2019

- Written comments submitted during the public review period will be considered in finalizing the environmental document.
- Comments will be recorded and responded to within the Final Environmental Document, anticipated to be released in early 2020.

#### **SUBMIT**

Complete your comment card today and leave it in the comment box.

#### SPEAK

Offer your comments verbally today to the court reporter.

#### **EMAIL**

Send your comments prior to the deadline via email to D12SR55NorthProject@dot.ca.gov.

#### MAIL

Forward your comments prior to the deadline via mail to, Charles Baker, Caltrans District 12, Division of Environmental Analysis, 1750 E. 4th Street, Suite 100, Santa Ana, CA 92705. Must be postmarked by Oct. 30, 2019.









## DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT AVAILABLE AT



#### **ORANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

407 East Chapman Ave., Orange

#### Hours

Monday - Wednesday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Thursday - Saturday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Closed Sundays

#### CHARLES P. TAFT BRANCH LIBRARY

740 E. Taft Ave., Orange

#### Hours

Monday - Wednesday 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. Thursday - Saturday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Closed Sundays

#### **TUSTIN BRANCH LIBRARY**

345 E. Main St., Tustin

#### Hours

Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Friday – Sunday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

#### SANTA ANA PUBLIC LIBRARY

26 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana

#### Hours

Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Sunday 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

To request an electronic version of the Draft Environmental Document, email D12SR55NorthProject@dot.ca.gov









### TITLE VI SURVEY

- This survey is voluntary and anonymous
- Contains a short series of multiple choice questions
- Takes less than a minute to complete



#### VOLUNTARY AND ANONYMOUS SURVEY

- Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance.
- Under Title VI, this survey is designed to provide us with socioeconomic information to ensure that our projects do not disproportionally impact certain communities more than others.
- By taking this survey, you are helping OCTA and Caltrans identify potential discriminatory impacts early, which will minimize and reduce negative impacts to minority and low-income populations, as well as delays to project delivery.









## STAY CONNECTED



Learn more online octa.net/SR55north



Sign up to receive Project Alerts SR55info@octa.net



Follow the Project on Social Media

- f facebook.com/SR55project
- in Instagram.com/SR55improvement
- twitter.com/SR55project



Call the Project Helpline

800-724-0353

OCTA Project Team

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Christina Pirruccello
Community Relations
Specialist, Associate

Calina North
Community Relations
Specialist, Principal









# STATION 6 YOUR COMMENTS







