



Orange County Transportation Authority . 550 South Main Street . P.O. Box 14184 . Orange, California 92863-1584 . 714-560-OCTA (6282)

Meeting of May 23, 2014

Board Gets Updates on M1 and M2



The board received a quarterly update on the use of sales tax revenue collected through the original Measure M (M1) and the renewed Measure M (M2), the county's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

This quarter the update reported that the Measure M Programs continue to responsibly administer the contract to the voters for a broad range of transportation and environmental improvements, while operating within ordinance requirements.

While the collection of sales tax revenue through M1 concluded on March 31, 2011, a fund balance remains to complete programs and projects promised to voters in that measure and an update on the progress was provided.

The following M2 project highlights were reported:

- Significant freeway construction progress continues to be made, with construction bids from contractors coming in near or below engineers' estimates.
- Two projects broke ground: I-5 between San Juan Creek Road and Pacific Coast Highway and SR-91 between SR-55 and the Tustin Avenue interchange.
- On SR-57, the new general purpose lane between Orangethorpe Avenue and Yorba Linda Boulevard opened to traffic.
- Two milestones were reached for the O.C. Bridges Program: The Placentia Avenue grade separation opened to traffic and the Lakeview Avenue grade separation was advertised for construction.
- \$35 million in funding for 17 streets and roads projects were recommended for Board approval.

A progress report is available online at <http://www.octa.net/Measure-M/Then-and-Now/Resource-Library/>.

Santa Ana/Garden Grove Fixed-Guideway Project Moves Ahead

The board was presented with information regarding the progress of the Santa Ana/Garden Grove Fixed-Guideway Project and voted to direct staff to develop a proposed project implementation plan for the fixed-guideway project should OCTA serve as the lead agency.

As part of the vote, staff was also directed to develop a proposed financial plan to fund building the system and operating and maintaining it, maximizing the use of state and federal funds leveraged by Measure M revenues.

The Santa Ana/Garden Grove project is one of two guideway projects proposed for funding under Measure M's Project S-transit extensions to Metrolink. The other is in Anaheim.

The Santa Ana/Garden Grove project is expected to finish the environmental phase in fall 2014, while Anaheim's environmental phase is proposed for environmental clearance in late 2015.

Staff will return to the board within the next quarter with the proposed implementation plan and financial plan.



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All Seven O.C. Bridges Projects Under Construction



The board received an update on the O.C. Bridges program, which has reached an important milestone with all seven grade-separation projects in various stages of construction.

The undercrossing at Placentia Avenue was the first to open, with a completion ceremony held in March.

The \$630 million project, intended to separate car and pedestrian traffic from the busy BNSF rail line that runs through Fullerton, Anaheim and Placentia, also celebrated the start of construction on grade separations at Raymond Avenue, State College Boulevard and Lakeview Avenue.

Kraemer Boulevard has been closed to traffic since construction got under way there in early 2012. The contractor is putting finishing touches on the project, which is expected to reopen to traffic in early July. A completion celebration is planned for July 8.

Grade separations at Tustin Avenue/Rose Drive and at Orangethorpe Avenue are on track to open in late 2015 and in early 2016, respectively.

For updates on the O.C. Bridges program, visit www.octa.net/ocbridges.