

Meeting of June 10, 2024

OCTA Continues Delivering on Measure M Promises

The OCTA board received a quarterly progress report on Measure M projects and programs.

Highlights for the period between January and March 2024 include:

- The I-5 South County Improvements Project between SR-73 and El Toro Road is anticipated to be completed by early 2025. The project is being built in three segments and all three segments are approximately 90% complete.
- The OCTA board selected a consultant for the Countywide Signal Synchronization Baseline Project. This project will include retiming approximately 2,500 traffic signals along major streets to improve traffic flow throughout Orange County.
- More than \$25 million was disbursed to cities and the county through the Measure M Local Fair Share program, which provides flexible funding to local jurisdictions to keep up with the rising cost of repairing streets and roads. To date, this program has provided more than \$711 million.
- Work is continuing on the Coastal Rail Resiliency Study, which is looking at potential solutions to address immediate threats to rail service in south Orange County.
- Construction is continuing on the OC Streetcar, which is now approximately 90% complete.
- The board made available \$18.5 million in competitive funding for projects aimed at improving water quality in Orange County. The Measure M-funded Environmental Cleanup Program has allocated more than \$60 million to date, resulting in an estimated 69.5 million gallons of trash being captured from streets before it enters the ocean and other waterways.

Board Takes Next Step Toward Safer Routes to Schools

The OCTA board approved Alta Planning + Design, Inc. as the firm to deliver Safe Routes to School programming throughout Orange County.

The Next Safe Travels Education Program, known as Next STEP, uses education programming and infrastructure to improve safety and encourage students to walk and bike to school.

In 2019, OCTA and the Orange County Health Care Agency began work on an initial STEP campaign, which delivered a wide range of walking and bicycling education and encouragement activities to 25 schools serving disadvantaged communities.

The Next STEP project will build on the success of the initial campaign to provide programming at 25 elementary schools within Orange County. Activities may include assemblies, walk/bike to school days, and training directed at both students and parents. Roadway safety audits will also be conducted to identify potential improvements to enhance safety for students.