



*BOARD COMMITTEE TRANSMITTAL*

***April 28, 2008***

**To:** Members of the Board of Directors  
**From:** <sup>WK</sup> Wendy Knowles, Clerk of the Board  
**Subject:** Renewed Measure M Progress Report

Transportation 2020 Committee Meeting of April 21, 2008

**Present:** Directors Amante, Brown, Buffa, Campbell, Cavecche, and Pringle  
**Absent:** Director Dixon

***Committee Vote***

This item was passed by all Committee Members present.

***Committee Recommendation***

Receive and file as an information item.



**April 21, 2008**

**To:** Transportation 2020 Committee  
**From:** Arthur T. Leahy, Chief Executive Officer  
**Subject:** Renewed Measure M Progress Report

### **Overview**

Staff has prepared a Renewed Measure M progress report for January 2008 through March 2008 for review by the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors. The report is also updated online each quarter and highlights progress on Renewed Measure M projects and programs.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.

### **Background**

Measure M Ordinance No. 3 requires quarterly status reports regarding the major projects detailed in the Renewed Measure M (M2) Transportation Investment Plan be filed with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board). All M2 progress reports are posted online.

### **Discussion**

Considering that voter safeguards have been a critical success factor for public acceptance of Measure M, the quarterly report is an opportunity to show progress in implementing the M2 Transportation Investment Plan. In order to be cost-effective and improve the accessibility of information to stakeholders and the public, all M2 progress reports will be web-based; however, hard copies can be mailed upon request. Additionally, a new and improved "sitelet" (web portal) is being considered to maximize the availability of easily accessed information to the public. The report reflects progress being made on Board-approved Early Action Plan (EAP) projects and programs. Each item features a brief paragraph that provides an overview of significant progress for the time period, with a web link to more information including staff reports and project descriptions (Attachment A).

Highlights of the M2 progress report include:

- Work with all 34 cities to achieve 100 percent participation in the Go Local program
- Progress on freeway improvements with over 45 miles of the freeway improvements anticipated to be underway in 2008
- A tax-exempt commercial paper program to provide as much as \$400 million to fund EAP projects
- Consultant selected to prepare a feasibility study for improvements to the Riverside Freeway (State Route 91)
- Inaugural meetings held for the Environmental Cleanup Allocation and Environmental Oversight Committees

To encourage public review of the quarterly report online, information will be placed in the existing "Transportation Update" advertisement that appears approximately every three weeks in the Orange County Business Journal, Orange County Register, Excelsior, The Korean Daily, The Chinese Daily News, and Nguoi Viet Daily News. Staff will also notify all Orange County cities and use other existing communication tools such as project newsletters and Board action updates to notify the public about the online availability of the progress report. Because the public sees both the original Measure M and M2 as one program, the original Measure M annual report also includes an update on the progress of M2.

### **Summary**

As required by Measure M Ordinance No. 3, a quarterly report is provided to update progress in implementing the M2 Transportation Investment Plan. To facilitate accessibility and transparency of information available to stakeholders and the public, the M2 progress report is presented on the OCTA website.

### **Attachment**

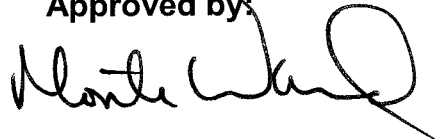
A. M2 Progress Report: January 2008 – March 2008

**Prepared by:**



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**Approved by:**



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Director, Special Projects  
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The projects underway in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2008 were:

**Project C** – Caltrans is preparing a Project Study Report to identify options to increase capacity of the Interstate 5 corridor between the San Diego county line and the Pacific Coast Highway interchange, through communities of San Clemente and Dana Point. This study will evaluate the benefits of extending the current HOV lanes, which presently end at the PCH interchange, all the way down to the county line.

**Project D** – The City of San Juan Capistrano is in the final stages of completing an environmental analysis of proposed improvements to the Interstate 5/Ortega Highway interchange. Currently, the Ortega interchange is one of the most congested local interchanges in Orange County. The City has identified five alternatives to improve traffic flow through the interchange. The City has released the draft environmental document for agency and community review before finalizing their options.

**Project F** – OCTA is preparing a feasibility study to look into options to improve State Route 55 between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5, passing through the communities of Santa Ana and Irvine. The study is look at the feasibility of lane additions within this corridor and possible improvements to the freeway interchanges to improve system performance.

**Project G** – OCTA has started final design for adding a new northbound lane on State Route 57 from Orangethorpe Avenue to Lambert Avenue through the communities of Fullerton and Brea. The first step in the design will be to identify any right of way needed to fit the new lane into the existing freeway. It is expected that most of the widening can be accommodated within the existing freeway right of way. In addition, the OCTA has just started an environmental analysis for adding a new northbound lane on State Route 57 between Katella Street and Lincoln Avenue in the Anaheim area. This study will identify any potential environmental impacts of the project and will propose mitigation measures to minimize any unavoidable impacts.

**Project H** – OCTA is advancing an environmental document to add a new westbound lane to State Route 91 between Interstate 5 and State Route 57 in Anaheim. This effort is looking at the environmental and design issues related to adding the new lane and will identify the best approach that has the least impact on existing properties along the freeway.

**Project I** – OCTA has just begun a feasibility study to look into options for improving the State Route 91/State Route 55 interchange and to add capacity along State Route 91 between State Route 57 and State Route 55. This feasibility study will evaluate previous studies done in the area and pick some of the best options to advance into conceptual design.

**Project J** – Three projects are being advanced along State Route 91 to relieve traffic congestion in the corridor connecting Orange County and Riverside County. Caltrans is advancing the final design of a new westbound lane between State Route 241 and State Route 71 in Riverside County. This project will extend the westbound auxiliary lane that currently terminates before Green River Road all the way to the State Route 71 interchange. Caltrans has also started an environmental analysis for adding one new lane each way along State Route 91 from State Route 55 to State Route 241. This project will add significant new capacity through the cities of Anaheim and Placentia. The third project is being advanced by the Riverside County Transportation Authority (RCTC) to add a lane in each direction between State Route 241 in Orange County to Interstate 15 in Corona. The RCTC is currently developing an environmental analysis of these proposed improvements.

**Project K** – OCTA is advancing the conceptual design for the addition of one new lane in each direction on Interstate 405 between State Route 55 and Interstate 605. These improvements will add capacity and improve the local interchanges along the corridor that serves the communities of Santa Ana, Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach, Westminster, Seal Beach, and Los Alamitos.

## **Moulton Parkway Smart Street Project Update**

The OCTA Board approved a request from the City of Laguna Niguel for \$3.8 million in additional funding to complete the final segment of the Moulton Parkway Smart Street Project. Included in the original Measure M, the goal of the Smart Street Program is to improve travel time and traffic flow by constructing high-capacity, high-volume corridors along Beach Blvd., Katella Ave., Imperial Hwy., and Moulton Pkwy. [Click here](#) for more information.

## **Orange Transportation Center Pedestrian Undercrossing**

Over \$100,000 in Commuter Urban Rail Endowment (CURE) funding was made available in order to make final revisions to the design of a pedestrian undercrossing planned for the Orange Transportation Center. Constructing a pedestrian

underpass will improve safety and provide easier access from the parking lot to the station platform and bus transfer facilities. With the design phase completed, construction on the project is scheduled to begin in April 2008. [Click here](#) for more information on the project.

## **Traffic Light Synchronization Projects**

OCTA has submitted a list of ten projects to compete for \$100 million in Proposition 1B funds which will be made available under the Traffic Light Synchronization Program. The purpose of the program is to provide funding to be used for traffic light synchronization and other technologies to improve the effective capacity of local streets and roads. If the list of projects is approved, it would result in an additional 158 miles of synchronized corridors within Orange County. [Click here](#) for more information.

## **Agreement for M2 Website Consultant**

Civic Resource Group was awarded a three year contract to develop and maintain a completely redesigned Renewed Measure M website. This new resource will provide members of the public with easy access to information on all Renewed Measure M projects, including interactive street-level maps, along with details on project scope, length, and cost. Visitors to the site will be able to participate in online surveys and can also sign up to receive personalized project updates on a regular basis. [Click here](#) for more information.

## **CTC Makes Recommendations on Proposition 1B Funding**

California Transportation Commission (CTC) staff has recommended that OCTA receive \$218 million for local goods movement projects, including:

- SR-91WB Lane Addition (From I-5 to SR-57)
- State College Blvd (Fullerton)
- Placentia Avenue Undercrossing (Placentia & Fullerton)
- Orangethorpe Avenue Overcrossing (Placentia & Anaheim)
- Kraemer Blvd. Undercrossing (Placentia)
- Lakeview Avenue Overcrossing (Placentia & Anaheim)
- Tustin Avenue/Rose Dr Overcrossing (Placentia & Anaheim)

The CTC is expected make a final decision in April on allocating the Proposition 1B bond money, which was approved by voters in 2006. OCTA will provide \$263 million in Renewed Measure M matching funds, bringing the total funding available for the projects to \$481 million. Construction on the projects is scheduled to begin in the next two to five years.

## **I-405 Policy Working Group Meeting**

The San Diego Freeway (I-405) Policy Working Group, which consists of elected officials representing the I-405 corridor between the Costa Mesa Freeway (SR-55) and the San Gabriel River Freeway (I-605), met in January to discuss the I-405 preliminary engineering effort. The group also reviewed design concepts for freeway interchanges and ramps. Preliminary engineering documents have been submitted to Caltrans for review and comments and once the review has been completed, the environmental phase will begin. Community and stakeholder outreach plans are also scheduled to begin in mid-2008.

## **Orange County Cities Participate in Go Local**

Since the inception of the Go Local program, Orange County cities have worked to develop concepts either individually or in partnership with adjacent cities. To date, the Board has approved Go Local concepts from all 34 cities, most recently including the Cities of Los Alamitos, Seal Beach, Westminster, Fountain Valley, Costa Mesa and Newport Beach. With the first of four steps of the program complete, cities will now compete for additional funding to further develop the top-ranked projects. There will be a total of \$25.4 million available for this phase of the program. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Go Local program.

## **SR-91 Feasibility Study**

The Renewed Measure M Early Action Plan calls for the preparation of a conceptual engineering study for the segment of the Riverside Freeway (SR-91) between the Costa Mesa Freeway (SR-55) and the Orange Freeway (SR-57). In February, the Board approved the selection of consulting firm RMC, Inc. to prepare a technical feasibility study for improvements to the SR-91. [Click here](#) to learn more about the project.

## **Freeway Program Update**

At the end of 2008, improvements to 45 miles of the county's freeway system will be underway. In addition to the projects outline by the Early Action Plan, the Board has approved a revised implementation plan for the San Diego Freeway (I-405) West County Connectors projects. Work is also underway on the Santa Ana Freeway (I-5) Gateway project and two other state funded projects on the I-5 in south Orange County. [Click here](#) for more information on the freeway program.

## **M2 Commercial Paper Program**

As part of the plan of finance approved by the Board in 2007, OCTA has obtained financing for Early Action Plan projects through a Tax-Exempt Commercial Paper program, which is secured by Renewed Measure M sales tax revenues. This program will provide OCTA with as much as \$400 million for highway project development, design, right-of-way, and construction. Approximately \$211.1 million will be used for freeway improvements and \$71.1 million will be used for transit projects. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Commercial Paper Program

## **Environmental Programs**

The Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee and the Environmental Oversight Committee both began meeting on a monthly basis starting in January 2008. The purpose of the Environmental Oversight Committee is to make recommendations to the Board of Directors on the allocation of environmental freeway mitigation funds and monitor the implementation of a master agreement between OCTA and state and federal resource agencies. The Environmental Cleanup Allocation Committee is designed to make recommendations to the Board of Directors on the allocation of funds for water quality improvements. [Click here](#) to learn more about each committee.

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## **Progress was made on the following projects which could be eligible for Renewed Measure M funding:**

### **SOCMIS Public Outreach Meetings**

The South Orange County Major Investment Study (SOCMIS) is designed to identify the transportation challenges and potential solutions for southern Orange County. A key component to the Study's success is the development of a Locally Preferred Strategy for which there is overall consensus. For the SOCMIS, OCTA has developed a program to provide proactive communication and engage stakeholders throughout the study process. A series of open houses have been held to gather stakeholder feedback and provide understandable technical information.

### **ARTIC Request for Expressions of Interest**

The City of Anaheim and OCTA recently received responses to the ARTIC Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) from 14 private firms representing a variety of industries and market sectors, including:

- Arup and Transmetrics
- Cherokee
- CIM Group
- Citigroup Global Markets, Inc.
- Forest City Development
- Hill International
- Hines
- IBI Group and AREP Group
- Lehman Brothers

- Newport Real Estate Services, Inc., and Focus Real Estate Group, LP
- Opus West Corporation
- Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.
- PB Americas, Inc. and Arlington Group
- WoodStone Capital Group LLC

The RFEI is intended to assist OCTA in determining the availability, magnitude, and timing of private funds, the public private partnership structure, and project delivery mechanisms. These responses were voluntary on the part of the development community and will be used to advance a formal procurement process to select a private partners to undertake ARTIC and the associated development. The City of Anaheim, together with OCTA, will be releasing a Request for Qualifications document later this spring.

## **U.S. Secretary of Transportation Tours ARTIC**

The U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Mary Peters, visited Orange County in February to tour various local projects including the Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center (ARTIC). The Secretary provided very positive comments about the project and noted she does not know of a better example of a multimodal, public-private partnership transportation project in the country. The Secretary commended Orange County for its efforts in establishing public-private partnerships to deliver traffic relief to residents quickly and without raising taxes. [Click here](#) to see a copy of the Secretary's speech.

## **Placentia Metrolink Station**

The OCTA Board approved a cooperative agreement with the City of Placentia for the design and construction of a new Metrolink station in the city. The Board also approved releasing a request for proposals seeking a design consultant to provide plans, specifications and estimates for the project. The station would be Orange County's 12th and consists of platforms, a parking structure, surface parking, pedestrian access and widening of the existing Melrose Street structure to accommodate new platforms. The proposed Placentia Metrolink Station is on the Metrolink 91 Line serving Riverside, Fullerton, Buena Park and downtown Los Angeles. This line has experienced the most dramatic ridership growth of all the passenger rail lines in Orange County over the past three years.