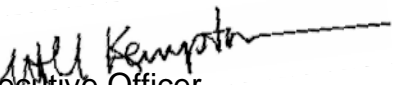




April 19, 2010

To: Highways Committee

From: Will Kempton, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: 2010 Long-Range Transportation Plan Goals and Objectives

Overview

The 2010 Long-Range Transportation Plan is the Orange County Transportation Authority's vision of how people, goods, and services will use the transportation system for work, commerce, school, and recreational travel. Goals and objectives have been developed that address travel needs and challenges associated with providing a balanced transportation system that meets the future needs of the residents, workers, and visitors. These goals and objectives will provide guidance for developing the 2010 Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Recommendation

Receive information for discussion and possible action.

Background

The Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is updated every four years to coincide with the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) input into the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The last OCTA plan was updated in July 2006 and provided input into SCAG's 2008 RTP. The 2006 LRTP goals included: 1) improve mobility; 2) protect our transportation resources; and 3) enhance the quality of life.

OCTA is now preparing the 2010 LRTP as input into the 2011 Orange County Sustainable Communities Strategy and SCAG's 2012 RTP. Considering events that have occurred since the 2006 LRTP was adopted, such as the passage of Measure M2, major transit service adjustments, and state-imposed greenhouse gas reduction planning requirements, it is necessary to revisit the LRTP goals and objectives.

Discussion

Goals and objectives have been prepared for the 2010 LRTP that incorporate input from the Citizens Advisory Committee and address foreseeable challenges. These challenges include, but are not limited to: increasing demand on existing transportation infrastructure, diminishing resources, and expanding environmental regulation. The proposed goals and objectives are designed to provide a path for overcoming the challenges mentioned above. By following this path, the 2010 LRTP will strive to provide a balanced transportation system that is versatile, well performing, properly maintained, and minimizes environmental impacts.

Goal 1: Expand Transportation System Choices

Providing convenient travel to and from jobs, homes, goods, services, and other activities is the definitive goal of the Orange County transportation system. Improving access to the transportation system across and between travel modes is essential to the lifestyle and economy of Orange County residents, workers, and visitors. Providing access to an integrated multimodal transportation system ensures that people are able to travel wherever and whenever to meet a variety of different travel purposes. The objectives below are intended to enhance the versatility and accessibility of the future transportation system.

Objectives

- Expand travel options across modes including transit, driving, bicycling, walking, and ridesharing opportunities
- Improve connectivity to/from employment and regional destinations
- Ensure multimodal integration throughout the transportation system

Enhancing the versatility of the transportation system will provide the array of travel options necessary to meet the needs of the traveling public. Versatility within the system also provides opportunities for reducing reliance on a single mode such as driving, which benefits the environment, contributes toward meeting the goals of SB 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes 2008), and helps to reduce congestion. However, with a growing population and the need to meet travel demand, other goals must be considered in order to provide a complete system. Goal 2 below addresses these issues.

Goal 2: Improve Transportation System Performance

It is important to provide residents, workers, and visitors with a well performing transportation system. More efficient movement of people and goods provides

economic, environmental, and social benefits for Orange County residents and workers. The objectives below are intended to improve transportation system performance and make better use of existing infrastructure.

Objectives

- Improve travel speeds
- Improve travel time
- Increase person throughput
- Improve roadway and transit level of service

Goal 3: Ensure Sustainability

Sustainability of transportation, environmental, and fiscal resources has become a significant issue in Orange County, especially since the passage of SB 375. The protection and maintenance of Orange County's transportation network into the future should focus on ensuring systems can be maintained for future generations. The objectives below are intended to protect Orange County's transportation resources.

Objectives

- Ensure timely maintenance of transportation infrastructure investments
- Consider all costs and environmental impacts when making transportation investment decisions
- Develop innovative funding and project delivery strategies to reduce taxpayer costs

With all three goals and objectives in place, the 2010 LRTP will have the guidance needed to plan for a complete transportation system for Orange County. Furthermore, these goals and objectives will result in a 2010 LRTP that will provide valuable input into the 2011 Orange County Sustainable Communities Strategy as well as the 2012 RTP.

Next Steps

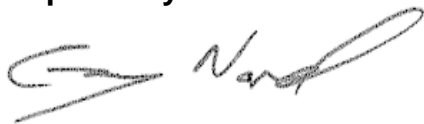
The goals and objectives will be incorporated into the 2010 LRTP upon direction from the Board of Directors (Board). Detailed measures linked to these goals and objectives will subsequently be identified and included in the draft 2010 LRTP, which is scheduled for Board review in summer 2010. These goals, as well as the Measure M2 Plan, will be used to develop the 2010 LRTP for Orange County.

Summary

Goals and objectives have been developed for the 2010 LRTP. The goals focus on improving access, integration, and performance of all modes of transportation, while also protecting Orange County's transportation resources. The 2010 LRTP project alternatives that are being developed will be analyzed based on how well the project alternatives meet the objectives of each goal.

Attachment

None.

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