WELCOME

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING/OPEN HOUSE

JULY 25, 2018
The California Department of Transportation District 12 (Caltrans D12) Implementing Agency, in corporation with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Sponsor, are proposing to: modify Interstate 5 (I-5)/ El Toro Road Interchange. The project limits extend from I-5 Post Mile (PM) 17.8 to PM 19.7 in the north–south direction, and includes El Toro Road from Rockfield Boulevard to Paseo de Valencia in the east-west direction. There are five alternatives, including the No Build Alternative, which are being considered.

PROJECT STATUS

The project is currently in the environmental study and preliminary engineering process, which began in mid-2017 and is expected to be completed in late 2019.

Measure M information can be viewed at: www.octa.net/pdf/investmentplan.pdf
STATION 1: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAM

LEAD AGENCY AND FACILITY OWNER

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA); Ensures compliance with CEQA and NEPA, and approves the final environmental document and build alternative.
www.dot.ca.gov

PROJECT SPONSOR

ORANGE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
Funds and manages the PA/ED process, consistent with OC Go (formerly known as Measure M)
www.octa.net

NEIGHBORING CITIES

CITY OF LAKE FOREST
Provides input and feedback during the PA/ED phase.
www.lakeforestca.gov/

CITY OF LAGUNA WOODS
Provides input and feedback during the PA/ED Phase
www.cityoflagunawoods.org/

CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS
Provides input and feedback during the PA/ED Phase
www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us
The proposed project is in the early stages of the Project Approval/Environmental Document (PA/ED) phase, commonly referred to as the environmental study phase. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the proposed project is undergoing environmental analysis to:

- Determine what effect, if any, the proposed project would have on the environment;
- Develop measures to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate these effects; and
- Identify potential travel benefits of the proposed project within the study limits.

The results will be incorporated into the project’s Draft Environmental Document (DED), called an Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

### PURPOSE OF PUBLIC MEETING

**INFORM**
the public of the I-5/El Toro Road Interchange Improvement Project

**PROVIDE**
a forum for public discussion

**LISTEN**
to public concerns

**RECAP**
the existing and future project need

**HIGHLIGHT**
significance of the I-5/El Toro Road Interchange locally and regionally

**SUMMARIZE**
the environmental study process

**OUTLINE**
the project schedule

**INVITE**
the public to stay connected with the project
THE I-5 IS A VITAL PART OF ORANGE COUNTY’S TRANSPORTATION NETWORK

- Enhances quality of life by connecting residents and visitors, major local and regional commercial, entertainment, educational, and employment centers
- Provides essential access as an inter-regional link between Orange County, Los Angeles County and San Diego County
- Fuels the economy as a key component of regional and national goods movement

THE NEED

- Heavy peak-hour congestion and delays due to the high volumes and chokepoints
- Geometric deficiencies related to inadequate signal operations or queueing distances
- Major delays due to traffic queueing at on- and off-ramps and local streets

THE PURPOSE

Improve existing and future mobility on the I-5/El Toro Road Interchange by:
- Improving traffic flow and traffic signal optimization
- Reduce traffic congestion at and through adjacent local street intersections
- Reduce back-up at freeway ramps
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST

Approximately $65 - $95 million (current dollars), depending on the alternative.

ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

ENVIRONMENTAL  MID-2017 – LATE 2019

NOTE: At this time, there is no estimated schedule for Final Design/Right of Way or Construction.

FUNDING SOURCES

OCGO
OCTA
Caltrans

Local Tax Dollars at Work
Current condition of interchange
Estimated cost: $65 million
Estimated cost: $95 million
Estimated cost: $65 million
*Cost is being developed and will be available/packaged in Spring 2019.
State and federal laws mandate environmental study under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), respectively.

**Potential Effects to the Following Environmental Factors Are Evaluated**: *Not an exhaustive list of all areas of study*

**Physical Environment**
- Air Quality
- Geology & Soils
- Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology & Floodplains
- Noise
- Paleontology
- Water Quality & Stormwater Runoff

**Biological Environment**
- Animal Species
- Invasive Species
- Natural Communities
- Plant Species
- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Wetlands & Other Waters

**Human Environment**
- Community Impacts
- Cultural Resources
- Farmlands/Timberland
- Population Growth
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Traffic
- Utilities/Services Systems
- Visuals Aesthetics
**INITIATE PROJECT**

OCTA and Caltrans District 12 partnered to initiate the development of the proposed project.

**WE ARE HERE**

**NOTICING AND PUBLIC INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE**

A public information open house will be held in July 2018 for members of the community to discuss project details with project representatives.

**TECHNICAL STUDIES & DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT PREPARATION**

Technical experts will conduct preliminary design and technical studies for the Draft Environmental Document (DED) through late-2019.

**CIRCULATION & PUBLIC HEARING**

The technical studies will be compiled into the Draft ED, available for public review and comment during a circulation period. During circulation, a public open house will be held with informational exhibits on display and project representatives available to respond to questions.

**IDENTIFY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

The project partners will recommend a preferred alternative based on the result of technical studies and public comment. Caltrans is responsible for the ultimate approval of the preferred alternative and Final Environmental Document.

**PROJECT APPROVAL**

The Draft ED will be revised to include identification and support of the preferred alternative and to document public review, including comments received during the circulation period. The Final ED is anticipated to result in a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significant Impact (MND/FONSI), under CEQA and NEPA respectively.
STATION 4: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

CIRCULATION

The DED will be available for public review for 30 days.

OPEN HOUSE

During circulation, a public open house will be held for members of the public to learn about the project, view the draft environmental document and environmental studies, meet the project development team, and share comments.

“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.”

-California Department of Transportation
STATION 5: STAY CONNECTED

FERNANDO CHAVARRIA
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fchavarria@octa.net

LEARN MORE ONLINE
OCTA.NET/ELTORIZEROINTERCHANGE

NIAIL BARRETT
PROJECT MANAGER
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nbarrett@octa.net

CALL THE PROJECT TEAM
(714)-560-5777

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE EMAIL ALERTS
OCTA.NET/ELTORIZEROINTERCHANGE
STATION 6: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PLEASE SHARE YOUR COMMENTS WITH US

Submit a comment card at this public informational meeting

VOLUNTARY SURVEY

By taking this survey, you are helping OCTA 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.

- Participation is voluntary and anonymous.
- Includes a short series of multiple choice questions.
- Takes less than a minute to complete.

IN THE FUTURE

- Circulation of the draft Environmental Document (ED) and official comment period will begin when the environmental analysis is completed.
- This is estimated for Summer of 2019.
- The public will be notified when this period has commenced.
- Comments will be responded to as part of the final ED, available for public review once it’s approved.