



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

## Meeting of April 23, 2012

### Board Approves Millions for Orange County Streets and Signals

Orange County streets will see an influx of nearly \$45 million for dozens of improvement projects through voter-approved Measure M2.

The board approved the following:

- More than \$35 million for streets and roads, resulting in an average road capacity improvement of 28 percent and the creation of nearly 1,200 new jobs.
- Approximately \$9.7 million for the synchronization of more than 500 signals along approximately 140 miles of roadway.

Unanimously approved, the funds will go toward street improvements in Huntington Beach, Westminster, Newport Beach, Tustin, Santa Ana and for La Pata Avenue in unincorporated Orange County.

Signal synchronization projects being funded are in Irvine, Santa Ana, Anaheim, Laguna Hills, Rancho Santa Margarita, Buena Park, Costa Mesa, San Clemente, La Habra, Fullerton, Mission Viejo and Newport Beach.

Combined with the local agency matching funds, the total investment will result in more than \$145 million in roadway improvements.

Through Measure M2, the competitive Comprehensive Transportation Funding Program will facilitate 31 projects throughout the county. Applications were reviewed for eligibility, consistency and adherence to guidelines and program objectives. There were 64 applications received from 23 different agencies.

### Board Discusses I-405 Improvement Project Alternatives

Three alternatives are currently being explored to improve the San Diego Freeway (I-405) Improvement Project between the Costa Mesa area and the San Gabriel River Freeway (I-605). A draft environmental report for the project is expected to be released this summer.



Each alternative adds at least one general purpose lane in each direction and can be constructed generally within the existing freeway right of way:

- Alternative 1: adds one general purpose lane in each direction at an estimated cost of \$1.3 billion

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- Alternative 2: adds two general purpose lanes in each direction at an estimated cost of \$1.4 billion
- Alternative 3: adds one general purpose lane in each direction and one express lane, which is combined with the existing carpool lane to form a two lane each direction express facility at an estimated cost of \$1.7 billion

Under the third alternative, carpoolers with a minimum of three passengers would have free access to the express facility during most hours and single occupant vehicles would pay a toll similar to the 91 Express Lanes.

There is \$600 million available for the project through Measure M2. The board received an overview of three methods to finance the project if the express lanes concept is selected as the locally preferred project alternative. Each assures a design-build project delivery method. Financing methods include:

- Option One – Self Finance, where OCTA would sell toll revenue bonds to pay for costs. This option would ensure that revenue generated would be controlled by OCTA.
- Option Two – Availability Payments, where OCTA pays a private developer “performance based” availability payments to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the project.
- Option Three – Public-Private-Partnership Concession, where OCTA pays a private developer to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the express lanes. All revenues would go to the private developer.

Prior to the board selecting a project alternative or financing option, the EIR will be available for public review.

## Board Honors Employees of the Month



David Deloye was named coach operator of the month after achieving 19 years of safe driving. Deloye has demonstrated his devotion to OCTA by serving as a Behind the Wheel instructor and an advocate of the Coach Operator Teamwork committee. His outstanding attendance record and dedication to his job have earned him recognition for the month of April.



Sanford Smith was named maintenance employee of the month for his exceptional mechanical work. Smith has the technical ability to take on any challenge presented to him, while still maintaining a positive attitude. Smith’s dedication to his duties and desire to excel has named him an exceptional employee.