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Start of Construction

SR-22 / I-405 Segment
Summer 2010

I-405 / I-605 Segment
Fall 2010

Project Funding

\$400 million (in 2006 dollars and includes funding for environmental, design and construction phases)

FEDERAL FUNDS

\$150 million from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program and **\$50 million** from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

STATE FUNDS

\$200 million from the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA)

West County Connectors: SR-22/I-405 Segment To Enter Construction This Summer; I-405/I-605 Segment This Fall

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is undergoing the selection process to hire a contractor for the construction of the SR-22/I-405 segment of the West County Connectors Project (WCC), which is expected to begin this summer. The project area is from Valley View Street to just east of Seal Beach Boulevard. Caltrans is expected to award the construction contract in May.

In April, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) received state funding for the I-405/I-605 segment, which begins at Seal Beach Boulevard. Caltrans is expected to award the construction contract for this segment in August and construction is scheduled to begin this fall.

"We are looking forward to seeing this vital transportation project get under way to bring relief to drivers in Orange County and provide much-needed jobs for the construction sector," said OCTA Chairman Jerry Amante, who is also mayor of Tustin. "Creating employment opportunities through infrastructure projects like the West County Connectors is a critical component in rebuilding our economy."

Low Bids to Benefit Taxpayers

As part of the construction contractor selection process, Caltrans opened bids for construction of the SR-22/I-405 segment on April 15 and learned that the apparent lowest bid for the project was \$65.8 million which is 39 percent below the original engineer's estimate. Eleven bids were submitted with seven of the bids less than \$70 million. The low bids represent a significant savings for OCTA and Orange County taxpayers. The contract will be awarded in May once Caltrans completes its bid analysis.

Community Members Welcome to Attend May and June Open Houses

OCTA will hold several more open houses throughout the communities in late May and June to share the latest project updates and detour information. These open houses will be located in:

- Garden Grove
- Westminster
- Seal Beach
- Leisure World
- Rossmoor
- Long Beach

OCTA will provide dates, times and specific locations as the information becomes available.

WCC Project Will Improve Freeway Connections

Now that OCTA has completed the final design phase of the WCC, Caltrans will oversee the construction of the project. The project is designed to link carpool lanes on the I-405 with those on the Garden Grove Freeway (SR-22) and San Gabriel River Freeway (I-605), creating a continuous connection of HOV lanes among the three freeways.

The WCC project will:

- Construct direct carpool connectors at the SR-22/I-405 and I-405/I-605
- Add a second carpool lane in each direction on I-405 between SR-22 and the I-605
- Eliminate weaving across general purpose lanes to and from carpool lanes
- Reconstruct Valley View St. and Seal Beach Blvd. and on-and-off-ramps
- Construct soundwalls and retaining walls in various locations
- Add landscaping and enhance aesthetic elements

The WCC Project is organized into two segments just east of the Seal Beach Boulevard Bridge. With the construction contract for the east segment planned to be awarded in May, construction is anticipated to start this summer. Motorists will initially begin to see crews removing vegetation and some razing as well as the staging of construction equipment in preparation for breaking ground on the project.



Niall Barrett
OCTA Project Manager



Christina Byrne
Community Outreach Manager

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Project Specific Closures

OCTA will keep the community informed well in advance of any closures and will always provide safe detours for all motorists.

[7th Street Detour Map](#)

[Other Proposed Detours](#)

Stimulus Funds Help Deliver Projects

The infrastructure-focused federal economic stimulus dollars will benefit hundreds of transportation projects statewide. One of the projects receiving funds from the American Recovery Act is OCTA's West County Connectors project with \$50 million of the total \$400 million project cost.



OCTA and its partners are working hard to secure Orange County's fair share of federal stimulus funds to help deliver traffic solutions -- freeway widenings, transit improvements and local transportation enhancements -- for the community. Orange County is ready to work immediately to build much-needed infrastructure projects that will deliver congestion relief and preserve or create thousands of jobs to help turn around Southern California's struggling economy.

Speakers Bureau Comes to Your Community

OCTA is dedicated to providing up to date and timely information to the communities and businesses throughout the project corridor. Any civic or community organizations interested in learning more about the project or receiving periodic updates can contact Christina Byrne, Community Outreach Manager, at (714) 560-5717 or cbyrne@octa.net to schedule a presentation.

So Much To Do, So Little Time

Orange County is a wonderful place to be, but commuters don't have to live here to enjoy the hundreds of entertainment and beautiful destinations throughout the county. From Donald Duck to the Anaheim Ducks, from the beaches to the ballpark, there is something for everyone.



The West County Connectors project gets underway this summer and may add some time to everyone's travel schedules. We encourage everyone to please check the project website for construction updates before enjoying what Orange County has to offer.

Once construction begins, events taking place will still be doing business as usual. Here are just a few community celebrations you might enjoy.

Cypress
Cinco de Mayo Celebration
Senior Center
Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Garden Grove
52nd Annual Strawberry Festival
Each year it attracts over 250,000 visitors each year
Friday, May 28 - Monday, May 31, 2010
at the Village Green

Los Alamitos
4th of July Firework Show
Joint Air Force Training Base
Sunday, July 4, 2010

Rossmoor
Movies at the Park
Movies start at dusk at Rush Park
June 18, July 16, Aug. 20, 2010

Get Connected!

Stay plugged in to the WCC project!
Various detours and delays are expected, so
make sure you know before you go!

- For project information and detour routes visit: www.octa.net/westcounty
- Become a fan of the project on: [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Orange-CA/West-County-Connectors-Freeway-Project)
www.facebook.com/pages/Orange-CA/West-County-Connectors-Freeway-Project
- Follow the project on: [twitter](https://www.twitter.com/WCCprojectinfo) www.twitter.com/WCCprojectinfo
- Call the Transportation Helpline: 1-800-724-0353
- Contact the Community Outreach Manager, Christina Byrne:

For more information, contact Christina Byrne at
cbyrne@octa.net or (714) 560-5717 • www.octa.net/westcounty

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