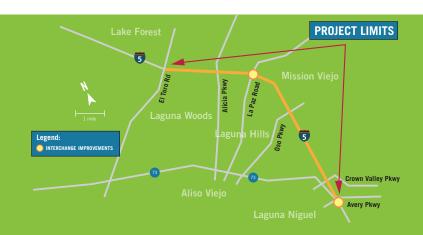
SOUTH COUNTY

I-5 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT SR-73 TO EL TORO ROAD



MILES 6.5

IMPACTED CITIES

Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, Laguna Niguel, Mission Viejo, Lake Forest, San Juan Capistrano

AT A GLANCE

PROJECT COST: Approximately \$481 million

FUNDING: Federal and Measure M

SCHEDULE: Environmental: 2011-2014

Design: 2014-2017 Construction: 2018-2022

Construction: 2018-2022

COMMUNITY Fernando Chavarria
OUTREACH: OCTA Manager of

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Fact Sheet Updated 6/24/14

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

The purpose of the San Diego Freeway (I-5) Widening Project from San Joaquin Hills Toll Road (SR-73) to El Toro Road is to widen the freeway, improve operations and improve travel in southern Orange County. The project is taking place under the direction of Caltrans and in cooperation with OCTA.

Project Purpose:

- Increase capacity and operations between Avery Parkway and El Toro Road
- Provide extension of the carpool network between Alicia Parkway and El Toro Road to improve operations
- Improve merging / diverging from freeway ramps and improve ramp intersections where needed
- Improve existing auxiliary lanes and add auxiliary lanes where needed to improve weaving operations

Proposed Improvements:

- Add one general purpose lane in each direction
- Construct new and re-establish existing auxiliary lanes
- Extend the second carpool lane in both directions from El Toro Road to Alicia Parkway
- Modify on- and off-ramps
- Reconstruct the Avery Parkway and La Paz Road interchanges

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Initial Study and Environmental Assessment (IS/EA) with a Mitigated Negative Declaration/Finding of No Significance (FONSI) was conducted and officially adopted by Caltrans in May 2014.

As part of this process, Caltrans approved the selection of Build Alternative 2, which proposes construction of a new general purpose lane in both directions from about SR-73 to El Toro Road. Build Alternative 2 also proposes the extension of the second carpool lane from Alicia Parkway to El Toro Road, as well as the conversion of the carpool network within the project limits to continuous access. Additionally the Avery Parkway and La Paz Road interchanges will be reconstructed.

With the environmental review process completed, Caltrans, OCTA and Local cities are now scheduled to start the final design and right-of-way process in late 2014, which is expected to take approximately three years to complete. Throughout the project development process (i.e. from concept to completion), Caltrans and OCTA will continue working with the cities of San Juan Capistrano, Mission Viejo, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, as well as other agencies and stakeholders to deliver the proposed project.

LOCAL FUNDING

This project is funded by Measure M, a half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in Orange County. With the renewal of Measure M in 2006, voters agreed to a continue investing local tax dollars in transportation improvements for 30 years. Additionally, the M2020 Plan for Measure M2 included this project and recommended it be advanced on a fast-track schedule.