



AGENDA

Technical Steering Committee

2021 Committee Members

*Rudy Emami, Chair
Shaun Pelletier, Vice Chair
Marwan Youssef, District 1
Raja Sethuraman, District 2
Jamie Lai, District 3
Luis Estevez, District 4
Tom Wheeler, District 5
Mark Chagnon, At-Large
Nardy Khan, At-Large*

*Orange County Transportation Authority
550 South Main Street
Orange, California
February 10, 2021 1:30 PM*

Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the Measure M2 Local Programs section, telephone (714) 560-5372, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

Agenda descriptions are intended to give members of the public a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. The posting of the recommended actions does not indicate what action will be taken. The Committee may take any action which it deems to be appropriate on the agenda item and is not limited in any way by the notice of the recommended action.

All documents relative to the items referenced in this agenda are available for public inspection at www.octa.net.

Guidance for Public Access to the Technical Steering Committee (TSC) Meeting

On March 12, 2020 and March 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom enacted Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 authorizing a local legislative body to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and make public meetings accessible telephonically or electronically to all members of the public to promote social distancing due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In accordance with Executive Order N2920, and in order to ensure the safety of Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) staff and for the purposes of limiting the risk of COVID19, in person public participation at public meetings of the OCTA will not be allowed during the time period covered by the above referenced Executive Orders.

Instead, members of the public can listen to AUDIO live streaming of the TSC meeting by clicking the below link:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/goOCTA>

Public comments may be submitted for the upcoming TSC meeting by emailing them to cmorales@octa.net



If you wish to comment on a specific agenda item please identify the item number in your email. General public comments will be addressed during the general public comment item on the agenda and read into the record. In order to ensure that staff has the ability to provide comments to the TSC Members in a timely manner, please submit your public comments **by 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 10, 2021.**

Call to Order

Self-Introductions

1. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the Technical Steering Committee regular meeting minutes of June 10, 2020.

Regular Items

2. Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs – 2021 Call for Project Technical Consideration – Joe Alcock

Overview

Orange County Transportation Authority staff has been reviewing 2021 Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs call for projects applications. While engaged in this process, an issue relating to current traffic count requirements has emerged and technical consideration options are presented for Technical Steering Committee input and direction.

Recommendation

Provide direction to staff on the technical consideration options presented in this report.

Discussion Items

3. Correspondence

OCTA Board Items of Interest - Please see Attachment A.
Announcements by Email – Please see Attachment B.

4. Committee Comments

5. Local Assistance

6. Staff Comments



AGENDA

Technical Steering Committee

7. Items for Future Agendas
8. Public Comments
9. Adjournment

The Technical Steering Committee is scheduled to convene on the second Wednesday of each month, at 1:30 p.m., at OCTA Headquarters



June 10, 2020 Minutes



Minutes

Technical Steering Committee

Item #1

Voting Representative Present:

Tom Wheeler, Chair	City of Lake Forest
Rudy Emami, Vice Chair	City of Anaheim
Marwan Youssef, District 1	City of Westminster
Raja Sethuraman, District 2	City of Costa Mesa
Doug Stack, District 3	City of Tustin
Luis Esteves, District 4	City of Placentia
Matthew Sinacori, At-Large	City of Dana Point
Nardy Kahn, At-Large	County of Orange

Orange County Transportation Authority
550 S. Main Street
Orange, CA

June 10, 2020 1:30 PM

Voting Representatives Absent:

Tom Bonigut, District 5	City of San Clemente
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Guest Present:

Oliver Luu	Caltrans
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Staff Present:

Kia Mortazavi
Kurt Brotcke
Adriann Cardoso
Joe Alcock
Alicia Yang
Amy Tran
Cynthia Morales



The meeting was called to order by Mr. Wheeler at 1:30 p.m. and self-introductions were made.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Stack motioned to approve the minutes.

Mr. Youssef seconded the motion.

The Minutes were approved with no further discussion.

REGULAR ITEMS

2. 2020 Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs (CTFP) Guidelines Update – Joseph Alcock

Mr. Alcock presented proposed revisions to the Measure M (M2) Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs (CTFP) Guidelines for the 2021 O and P call for projects (call).

Mr. Alcock stated that for Project O, staff was recommending clarifications which included more accurately depicting the project development process, updating the sustainability scoring criteria, clarifying grading language, and revising the call amount from \$32 million to \$22 million, due to economic impacts associated with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Mr. Alcock then introduced Ms. Yang to the TSC and she presented staff's rationale for proposed changes to the Project P CTFP call guidelines.

Ms. Yang noted that staff's intent in making the recommended changes was to focus in on the program's original intent, which was to fund regional traffic signal synchronization projects, which could be completed in a relatively short period of time. Ms. Yang then stated that OCTA was not recommending the elimination of any previously eligible capital improvements. She also noted that the proposed changes were made to clarify sections, consolidate text throughout the chapter, and place more of an emphasis on comprehensive and tangible improvements designed to enhance the operations of regional corridors.



Minutes

Technical Steering Committee

Item #1

Ms. Khan then inquired if for Project O, if there had been any consideration of making grading outside of a roadway's footprint eligible for M2 reimbursement.

Mr. Alcock replied that grading outside of the roadway right-of-way, if it is directly required to complete the Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH) improvement and is not a developer obligation, would likely be eligible, but would need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Ms. Khan noted that in some cases, projects require grading to go outside of the MPAH footprint. She stated the County had had a couple of these types of the projects in the past and they resulted in M2 reimbursement challenges. She also noted that she anticipated issues like this to come up again in the future for some of the County's projects.

Mr. Wheeler stated that he recalled that the City of Lake Forest had once experienced a similar issue and noted that the issue, as he understood was reviewed on a case-by-case basis by OCTA.

Mr. Mortazavi asked for further clarification on the County's question.

Ms. Khan stated that her question was related to the eligibility of potentially grading outside of a roadway's footprint, if it is required to complete an MPAH project.

Next Mr. Sinacori inquired if there would be flexibility with respect to traffic data collection requirements, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Alcock stated that this is something OCTA could look into. However, he noted that it would be difficult to recommend a policy change given that both the extent and length of COVID-19 impacts is unknown.

Mr. Sinacori suggested that they could collect data and apply factors to traffic volumes based upon historic trends but noted that the City was open to other suggestions.

Mr. Alcock stated that this is an emerging issue, which OCTA would need to track and would need to address with the Technical Steering Committee (TSC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) in the future, if the impacts of COVID-19 become more pronounced.

Next, Mr. Wheeler asked why the offset intersection definition was changed in the guidelines, and asked if the change meant that funds applied toward them would come from the \$75,000 max.



Mr. Alcock stated the offset signal definition change was done with regard to Project P only and was intended to incentivize signal timing benefits versus more capital-intensive improvements.

Ms. Yang added that in terms of intersection counts that they did not apply to the max and clarified that \$75,000 was for signals along the corridor. She then noted that for offset signals, they are included if there is enough budget in the cap to include them, as they are typically affected by timing done in the corridor.

There was no further discussion.

A motion was made by Ms. Khan, seconded by Mr. Youssef, and was approved with no further discussion.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Measure M (M2) Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Update Discussion – Kurt Brotcke

Mr. Brotcke stated that staff was currently in the process of working with its Board of Directors (Board) to amend the Measure M (M2) Ordinance. He stated that the staff recommendation would be to modify M2 MOE benchmark requirements for fiscal year 2019-20 and fiscal year 2020-21, in order to address anticipated near-term negative growth in general fund revenues due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He further stated that as part of this process, OCTA would be required to notify local agencies, issue public notification, and also conduct a public hearing prior to the adoption of the proposed amendment.

Mr. Wheeler inquired if there had been any opposition to the proposal.

Mr. Brotcke replied in the negative.

Mr. Emami asked if OCTA was aware of any adjustments to dates or requirements for MOE under Senate Bill 1 (SB1).

Mr. Brotcke stated that he was not, but acknowledged that the California State Association of Counties and other agencies were asking similar questions.

Mr. Sethuraman stated the City of Costa Mesa's SB1 MOE requirement is lower than its M2 MOE benchmark requirement and noted that the City was hoping they could use their state SB1 MOE benchmark to satisfy the M2 requirement. Mr. Sethuraman also asked if there was a way local agencies could make up MOE expenditures in subsequent fiscal years.



Mr. Stack inquired if the proportionality option being evaluated by OCTA in fiscal year 2020-2021, was derived from the percent of general fund revenue reduction that is anticipated due to the pandemic.

Mr. Brotcke stated that as part of the Board staff report, there was a table available which showed each agencies' MOE percentage as a proportion of their 2018-2019 general fund revenues. Mr. Brotcke also noted that these proportions were based upon fiscal year 2020-2021 MOE benchmarks.

Ms. Cardoso added that OCTA did an MOE benchmark adjustment in April which was already applied. As such, she noted that the most appropriate proportional calculation involved taking the existing MOE benchmark and comparing it to 2018-2019 general fund revenues.

There was no further discussion.

4. Correspondence

- OCTA Board Items of Interest – See Agenda
- Announcements Sent by Email – See Agenda

5. Committee Comments

6. Local Assistance

Mr. Luu reminded local agencies to submit allocation and time extension requests for the August 2020 CTC meeting by June 15, 2020. He also announced that on June 11th, at 2:00-3:30pm there would be a free online webinar training for Local Roadway Safety Plans hosted by the Federal Highway Administration.

7. Staff Comments

Mr. Alcock stated M2 Eligibility submittals were due on June 30th. He also announced that the Project X Tier I Call for Projects would close on June 25th, 2020.

8. Items for Future Agendas – None

9. Public Comments – None

10. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.



**Comprehensive
Transportation Funding
Programs – 2021 Call for
Projects Technical
Consideration**



February 10, 2021

To: Technical Steering Committee

From: Orange County Transportation Authority Staff

Subject: Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs – 2021 Call for Projects Technical Consideration

Overview

Orange County Transportation Authority staff has been reviewing 2021 Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs call for projects applications. While engaged in this process, an issue relating to current traffic count requirements has emerged and technical consideration options are presented for Technical Steering Committee input and direction.

Recommendation

Provide direction to staff on the technical consideration options presented in this report.

Background

In August, 2020, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) authorized the 2021 Measure M2 Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs (CTFP) – Regional Capacity Program (Project O) and Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program (Project P) call for projects (Call). The Board made available \$22 million in M2 funds to support the Project O call and \$8 million to support the Project P call.

Applications were due to OCTA this past fall and since that time staff has been working with local agencies to review and ensure compliance with CTFP Guidelines requirements, which were approved by the OCTA Technical Steering Committee (TSC), Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and OCTA Board of Directors (Boards) last summer.

During this process, staff has found that some applications, which submitted traffic count information consistent with Project O current traffic count requirements have been unable to document sufficient congestion to qualify for

M2 funding consideration, on what were previously known and documented congested facilities.

In working with local agencies to understand this issue, it has become clear that this trend is the result of local agencies having taken traffic counts during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, rather than the emergence of long-term congestion reduction on these facilities. Therefore, given this finding, staff is offering the following options (provided below) for TSC discussion and guidance/recommendation.

Discussion

Technical Consideration Options

Option 1: No change. Impacted applications would be determined to be ineligible to compete in the call, if current traffic counts do not document a vehicle to capacity (V/C) ratio of .71 or worse, even if the traffic counts were conducted during the pandemic.

Option 2: Allow local agencies to use traffic counts outside of the CTFP Guidelines “current” traffic count requirement, through a specified time period, so counts are still generally current, possibly up to six years.

Option 3: Allow local agencies to propose a rationale for providing different traffic count figures, which takes into account recent changes in conditions.

It should be noted that with respect to Options 2 and 3, this flexibility, if approved, will likely alter final Project O scoring. Further, it is recommended that this flexibility only be granted to local agencies which can clearly document that the facility/ies being applied for had a V/C of .71 or worse at a previous point in time (based upon a previous traffic analysis), and that currently documented low traffic volumes are the result of the COVID-19 pandemic. If these conditions cannot be satisfied, then this flexibility, if approved, would not be provided.

Next Steps

If the TSC selects a preferred technical consideration option to address this issue, that option will then be advanced to the TAC for further review and consideration. If the TAC also approves, then the recommended option will be used by staff to complete final application scoring and programming recommendations. The funding award recommendations are anticipated to be presented to the TSC and TAC in March and to the OCTA Regional Planning & Highways Committee and Board of Directors for final approval in May.

Summary

Three technical consideration options to address an issue which emerged, relating to current traffic count requirements in the Project O Program are presented for TSC review, consideration, and direction.



Correspondence



Item 3, Attachment A: OCTA Board Items of Interest

- **Monday, June 22, 2020**
 - Item #16:* Measure M2 Eligibility Review Recommendation for Fiscal Year 2018-19 Expenditure Reports
 - Item #17:* Measure M2 Quarterly Progress Report for the Period of January 2020 Through March 2020
- **Monday, June 22, 2020**
 - Item #1:* Public Hearing to Amend the Measure M2 Orange County Local Transportation Authority Ordinance No. 3
- **Monday, July 13, 2020**
 - Item #8:* Southern California Edison Charge-Ready Transport Program and Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust for California
 - Item #14:* Measure M2 Community-Base Transit Circulators Program Project V Ridership Report
 - Item #16:* Capital Programming Update
- **Monday, August 10, 2020**
 - Item #5:* Grant Acceptance for the Orange County Bike Connectors Gap Closure Feasibility Study
 - Item #10:* Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs Semi-Annual Review – March 2020
 - Item #11:* Measure M2 Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs – 2021 Annual Call for Projects
- **Monday, August 24, 2020**
 - Item # 11:* SB1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) State of Good Repair Program Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2020-21 Funds
- **Monday, September 14, 2020**
 - Item #9:* Active Transportation Program Regional Project Selection Process – Orange County Project Prioritization Methodology
 - Item #15:* Measure M2 Quarterly Progress Report for the Period of April 2020 Through June 2020
 - Item #16:* Measure M2 Project W Safe Transit Stops – 2020 Programming Recommendations
- **Monday, October 12, 2020**
 - Item #15:* Measure M2 Senior Mobility Program Temporary Guideline Exceptions
 - Item #16:* 2020 Project X – Environmental Cleanup Program Tier 1 Call for Projects – Programming Recommendations
- **Monday, November 9, 2020**
 - Item #16:* Measure M2 Next 10 Delivery Plan: Market Conditions Key Indicators Analysis and Forecast



Agenda

Technical Steering Committee

Item #3

- **Monday, December 14, 2020**
 - Item #10:* Active Transportation Program Local Project Prioritization
 - Item #21:* Comprehensive Transportation Funding Programs Semi-Annual Review – September 2020
 - Item #22:* 2021 Technical Steering Committee Membership
 - Item #23:* Measure M2 Annual Eligibility Review
 - Item #27:* Measure M2 Next 10 Delivery Plan: Context and Options
- **Monday, January 11, 2021**
 - Item #8:* Orange County Transportation Authority State and Federal Grant Programs – Update and Recommendations
 - Item #12:* Measure M2 Quarterly Progress Report for the Period of July 2020 Through September 2020
 - Item #14:* State Route 55 Improvement Project from Interstate 5 Funding Plan Update and SB1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) Grant Acceptance
- **Monday, January 25, 2021**
 - Item #16:* Measure M2 Community-Base Transit Circulators Program Project V Ridership Report and Proposed Program Revisions



Item 3, Attachment B: Announcements by Email

- Project X Tier I Call for Projects Application Deadline Extended to June 25, 2020, *sent 4/21/2020*
- SB1 Program Schedule Updates - As of April 29th, 2020, *sent 4/30/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments re. MAP-21 Performance Measures Virtual Workshop, *5/4/2020*
- May 13, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 5/7/2020*
- Message sent on behalf of Caltrans Local Assistance- Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Cycle 10 Call, *sent 5/7/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments, *sent 5/12/2020*
- May 27, 2020 Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 5/26/2020*
- June 10, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Agenda, *sent 6/5/2020*
- 6/10/20 TSC Meeting Following Ups, *sent 6/10/2020*
- FY 2020-21 M2 eligibility submittal packages due on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, *sent 6/16/2020*
- Environmental Cleanup Program Tier 1 Call for Projects-Applications Due 6/25/20, *sent 6/18/2020*
- June 24, 2020 Technical Advisory Committee Agenda, *sent 6/19/2020*
- July 8, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 7/2/2020*
- July 22 OCTA Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 7/14/2020*
- August 12, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 8/5/2020*
- September 2020 CTFP Semi-Annual Review, *sent 8/10/2020*
- 2021 Call for Projects for the M2 Regional Capacity Program (RCP) and Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program (RTSSP) is Now Open, *sent 8/13/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD)-Re Surplus Land Act, *sent 8/14/2020*
- August 26, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 8/24/2020*
- September 9, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 9/2/2020*



Agenda

Technical Steering Committee

Item #3

- REMINDER: September 2020 CTFP Semi-Annual Review, *sent 9/4/2020*
- 2021 Federal Transportation Improvement Program Schedule and Workshop, *sent 9/14/2020*
- September 23, 2020 OCTA Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 9/16/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of OCTA's Transit Planning Section-Transit Supportive Design Guidelines Survey, *sent 9/28/2020*
- Reminder: 2021 Call for Projects for the M2 Regional Capacity Program (RCP) and Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program (RTSSP) closes on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 5:00pm, *sent 10/7/2020*
- October 14, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 10/8/2020*
- Reminder: 2021 Call for Projects for the M2 Regional Capacity Program (RCP) and Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program (RTSSP) closes on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 5:00pm, *sent 10/15/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) - FY 2021-22 Draft Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application Guide 30 Day Public Comment, *sent 10/15/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) – FY 2021-22 Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application Guide Public Workshops, *sent 10/21/2020*
- Message Sent on Behalf of OCTA's Transit Planning Section, *sent 10/22/2020*
- October 28, 2020 Technical Advisory Committee Agenda, *sent 10/22/2020*
- November 11, 2020 Technical Steering Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice & Caltrans Materials from previous 10/28/20 TAC Meeting, *sent 11/6/2020*
- November 25, 2020 OCTA Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 11/20/2020*
- November 25, 2020 OCTA Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 12/4/2020*
- December 23, 2020 OCTA Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 12/18/2020*
- Message sent on Behalf of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) re. FY 21/22 Call for Applications & Planning Grant Workshop, *sent 12/24/2020*
- January 13, 2021 OCTA Technical Steering Committee Cancellation Notice, *sent 1/6/2021*
- January 27, 2021 OCTA Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation Notice, *sent 1/21/2021*