



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

Meeting of Oct. 28, 2013

Signal Synchronization Projects are Given the Green



Commuters will see a positive difference on streets throughout Orange County as signal synchronization projects continue to be completed through voter-approved Measure M. OCTA and local agencies have successfully implemented traffic signal synchronization timing on 18 corridors. Currently 51 projects are planned or under way with a total cost of \$38 million.

The synchronization of traffic signals will continue to result in significant improvements to traffic flow by reducing total travel times and stops per mile and increasing average speeds.

OCTA is currently accepting applications for the next round of project funding. The current effort will provide another \$12 million to synchronize signals throughout Orange County. An award recommendation is expected to be presented to the board in spring 2014.

State Funding Adds \$804 million to OCTA Projects Since 2006

During the past seven years, OCTA has been awarded approximately \$804 million from the state's Proposition 1B, which was passed by voters in 2006 to provide nearly \$20 billion in funding for transportation improvements.

Funding has been utilized for projects ranging from the West County Connectors to the OC Bridges grade separation program to transit security and traffic light synchronization projects. Prop. 1B funding has been instrumental in moving transportation projects in Orange County forward and has helped to offset a decline in Measure M sales tax revenues.

As the Prop. 1B funding program nears its end, OCTA anticipates there may be savings from the OC Bridges construction program that could be put toward other improvements along the rail corridor. The board voted to ask the California Transportation Commission, which allocates the funding, to approve \$2.5 million to add a third railroad track in Placentia. This project will improve the movement of goods through the area and facilitate the planned Metrolink Station in Placentia.

Update Under Way to OCTA Strategic Plan

The board was updated on a review and update that's under way of OCTA's strategic plan, which provides an outline of the goals, programs and projects OCTA anticipates accomplishing from the 2014 to 2019.

The first strategic plan was adopted in 2011 and was instrumental in defining OCTA's values, vision, mission, goals and objectives. The update intends to build on the first plan's foundation by incorporating OCTA, regional and state plans to create a balanced transportation program.

The benefits of the plan include:

- Centralizes information as it relates to projects, programs and budgets
- Describes the programs and projects
- Enhances transparency and accountability
- Contributes to the development of the Chair and CEO Initiatives, CEO Action Plan and contributes to budget development



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- Establishes performance measures

In the future OCTA hopes to refine performance measures and create an online interactive strategic plan which will be updated quarterly.

Board Receives Update on Measure M2 Sales Tax Forecast



An updated long-range sales tax forecast shows Measure M is expected to generate \$15.5 billion in sales tax revenue through 2041.

The forecasts are blended from each of three universities: Chapman University, Cal State University Fullerton and UCLA. The three forecasts are updated annually and allow OCTA to plan for the delivery of the Measure M sales tax program, which voters approved in 2006.



The sales tax program is currently expected to generate approximately \$8.8 billion less than originally projected in 2005.