



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

Meeting of Nov. 8, 2013

Board Delays Voting for I-405 Improvement Project Alternative

The board voted unanimously today to hold off on making a decision regarding toll lanes on the San Diego Freeway (I-405) until its meeting scheduled for Dec. 9.



The board asked that additional information be provided and meetings be held with local, state and federal officials regarding tolling policies. In addition, board members want to ensure that OCTA would control the local toll policy and keep any excess toll revenue for improvements to transportation along the I-405 corridor.

Board members also stressed the need to continue reaching out to the cities along I-405 to ensure they are a part of the decision-making process. The board asked that a list of local projects that could be funded with any excess toll revenue be developed.

The board also asked that options to improve the existing carpool lanes as they exist today be explored.

The I-405 project is currently in the environmental phase and three alternatives are being studied to improve traffic in the area between SR-73 in Costa Mesa and I-605 at the county line in Seal Beach.

The current option the board has recommended be built would add one general-purpose lane in each direction at a cost of \$1.25 billion. The other alternatives being studied include:

- A no-build alternative
- Adding two general-purpose lanes each direction at a cost of \$1.35 billion
- Adding one general-purpose lane in each direction, and adding a high-occupancy toll lane that would combine with the existing carpool lane to create a two-lane express lanes facility at a cost of \$1.47 billion.

Any alternative built will include at least one free lane in each direction as funded through Measure M, the county's half-cent sales tax for transportation.

The board asked that additional information be provided and meetings be held with local, state and federal officials regarding tolling policies. Board members also stressed the need to continue reaching out to the cities along I-405 to ensure they are a part of the decision-making process.

For more information, visit www.octa.net/405improvement.

Freeway and Street Projects Moving Forward

The board was presented with information regarding the progress of the Capital Action Plan for the first quarter of fiscal year 2013-14. Project delivery is moving ahead and 36 planned projects are expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

The following are key milestones achieved during the first quarter:

- The Raymond Avenue railroad grade separation project reached the stage where construction can begin



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- The I-5 widening project to add carpool lanes from Pacific Coast Highway to San Juan Creek Road achieved its milestones and construction bids are set to be accepted this fall
- The milestones for the Lakeview Avenue railroad grade separation project, planned for the second quarter, were achieved in the first quarter; construction bids are set to open this fall
- While final design was not completed for the I-5 widening project to add carpool lanes from Avenida Pico to Avenida Vista Hermosa during the first quarter, that design is expected to be completed this fall.

The Capital Programs Division is responsible for delivery of highway, rail and railroad grade separation projects and facility improvements from the environmental phase through completion of construction. OCTA staff will continue to monitor projects to make sure they are completed on time and within budget.

Chief Executive Officer Highlights Progress on Strategic Initiatives

CEO Darrell Johnson provided an update on his strategic initiatives for the year which support OCTA's goals of mobility, public service, fiscal sustainability, stewardship and organizational excellence.

Some highlights of the initiatives accomplished from July through September include:

- OCTA was selected to serve as the managing agency for the rail service along the LOSSAN corridor
- The draft for District 1 and 2 Bikeways Strategy was released for review in an effort to improve bikeways and their connectivity to each other
- More than \$39 million was allocated in Proposition 1B Transportation Improvement Funds for the Lakeview Avenue grade separation project
- The board approved \$2.8 million to fund 19 projects through the M2 Environmental Cleanup Program



Johnson's strategic initiatives focused on creating services to meet community needs, ensuring sustainability of transit systems and advancing the delivery of Measure M2 projects.