

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 24, 2020

From: MITCH WEISS, Executive Director

Reference Number: 4.18, Action

Prepared By: Teresa Favila
Associate Deputy Director

Published Date: June 12, 2020

Subject: Amendment to the 2018 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program,
Resolution SCCP-P-1920-07, Amending Resolution SCCP-P-1819-03

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the California Transportation Commission (Commission) approve the amendment to the 2018 Solutions for Congested Corridors (Congested Corridors) Program of Projects to:

1. Remove the following projects and respective funding from the program:
 - Main Street Class II Bikeway Project in the City of Tustin - \$255,000
 - Red Hill Class II Bikeway Project in the City of Tustin - \$383,000
 - Newport Avenue Class II Bikeway Project in the City of Tustin - \$485,000
 - Santa Ana-Santa Fe Channel Class 1 Bikeway Project in the City of Tustin - \$1,021,000
 - Warner Avenue Class II Bikeway Project in the City of Santa Ana - \$1,443,000
2. Add the following projects and respective funding into the program:
 - Santa Clara Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements in the City of Santa Ana - \$3,243,000
 - Route 53/553 (Bravo! Main Street) – Bus Stop Improvements Project - \$344,000

Issue:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) requests a Program Amendment to remove five active transportation projects and add the Santa Clara Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project in the City of Santa Ana and the Bus Stop Improvements Project in the Route 53/553 corridor.

The City of Tustin chose to no longer proceed with the construction of the four active transportation projects in the city. The area and roadways in the City of Tustin have been

undergoing development for several years, which caused construction fatigue amongst members of the community.

In addition, the projects run through Orange County Flood Control District right-of-way. The City of Tustin has yet to study the ultimate capacity of the flood channels future width and may require the removal of the bikeway.

For the Warner Avenue Project in the City of Santa Ana, the project is located in the vicinity of the Cities of Santa Ana and Tustin. The City of Tustin recently constructed improvements in the Warner Avenue project area, this project would require the City of Santa Ana to remove a median in the newly constructed pavement to make capacity for the bike lanes, then replace the pavement along Warner to its original condition. This resulted in a significant cost increase that the City of Santa Ana is unable to absorb.

OCTA and the City of Santa requests approval of the Santa Clara Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project. The project will construct new sidewalk, a new intersection pedestrian crossing, bulb outs, corner radius reduction, raised medians, and a bikeway facility on the East Santa Clara Avenue between Lincoln Avenue and Pasadena Street (approximately 1.3 miles) for a total of \$3,243,000 of Congested Corridors Funds. The benefits of the proposed project include:

- provides access and connections to schools, parks, commercial centers, and residential areas;
- provides connection to Orange County Bus Routes 59 and 71;
- reduces conflict points by connecting to existing overcrossing of State Route 55;
- provides enhanced safety for both cyclists and pedestrian with safety benefits of \$900,000 over 20 years;
- incentivize mode shift from short local vehicle trips and reducing CO2 emissions by 3.9 tons per year;
- provides a benefit cost ratio of 1.0; and
- provides health benefits of \$2.5 million over 20 years.

OCTA also proposes the Route 53/553 Bus Stop Improvements to compliment the new bus route the Bravo! Main Street Rapid Bus will run. The project proposes to install real-time display & Bravo! signage at up to 23 bus stops and up to three new shelters along the Bravo! Main Street Rapid Bus and OC Bus Route 53/553 Corridor for a total of \$344,000. The corridor is one of OCTA's most popular routes with over 2.1 million boardings annually. The benefits of the proposed project include:

- provides real time information on next bus arriving at bus stops improving service to riders;
- identifies bus stop as a Bravo! Main stop and advertise the service;
- provides additional protection and comfort for passengers waiting at up to three stops;

- incentivizes mode shift from short local vehicle trips and reduces CO2 emissions by 13 tons per year;
- provides a benefit cost ratio of 1.1; and
- the route connects to the Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center which provides service to Metrolink and Amtrak Pacific Surfliner, John Wayne International Airport and many other OC bus routes.

Background:

On May 16, 2018, the Commission approved the 2018 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program. OCTA was awarded \$19,918,000 to nine projects that included: Bravo! Main Street Rapid Bus, three traffic light synchronization projects, and five active transportation projects. The projects include the purchase of five zero emission hydrogen buses for a new bus route, 35.8 miles of traffic light synchronization and 4.55 miles of active transportation. The benefits for the new bus route will save 282,669 annual person hours of delay and eliminate 735 tons of emissions per year. The traffic light synchronization projects will save 1,152,531 annual person-hours and eliminate 6,476 tons of emissions per year.

This program amendment will maintain all the components of the traffic light synchronization. The purchase of the five buses will be zero emission battery electric buses instead of the hydrogen buses. The major benefits of the person hours of delay and the elimination of emissions will remain. The new projects compliment the new route that will be established with the Bravo! Main Street Rapid Bus Project.

Resolution SCCP-P-1920-07, Amending Resolution SCCP-P-1819-03

Be it Resolved, that the Commission does hereby adopt the Amendment to the 2018 Solutions for Congested Corridors Program as follows:

Delete the following projects:

- Warner Avenue Class II Bikeway Project
- Main Street Class II Bikeway Project
- Red Hill Class II Bikeway Project
- Newport Avenue Class II Bikeway Project
- Santa Ana-Santa Fe Channel Class 1 Bikeway Project

Add the following projects:

- Santa Clara Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements
- Route 53/553 (Bravo! Main Street) – Bus Stop Improvements Project

Attachments:

- Attachment A: OCTA Request Letter



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Darrell E. Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

May 18, 2020

Mr. Mitchell Weiss
Executive Director
California Transportation Commission
Mail Station 52, Room 2231
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Orange County Transportation Authority Solutions for Congested Corridor Program Amendment Request

Dear Mr. Weiss:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is respectfully requesting that the California Transportation Commission (CTC) approve a project amendment to replace five projects from OCTA's Orange County Central County Improvement Project (OCCCIP) funded under the SB 1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) Solutions for Congested Corridors Program (SCCP) and direct the programmed funding to two Orange County projects at the June 24-25, 2020 CTC meeting.

In May 2018, the CTC adopted the SCCP Program of Projects that included \$19.918 million in SCCP funds for OCCCIP including:

- Traffic signal synchronization on MacArthur Blvd/Talbert Avenue, Warner Avenue, and Edinger Avenue (\$12.000 million)
- Purchase five hydrogen-electric buses for Bravo! rapid bus service (\$4.331 million)
- Four active transportation projects in the City of Tustin (Tustin) and one in the City of Santa Ana (Santa Ana [\$3.587 million])

The five active transportation projects include:

- Tustin – Santa Ana – Santa Fe Flood Control Channel Class I Bikeway (\$1.021 million)
- Tustin – Newport Avenue Class II Bikeway (\$0.485 million)
- Tustin – Red Hill Avenue Class II Bikeway (\$0.383 million)
- Tustin – Main Street Bikeway Improvements (\$0.255 million)
- Santa Ana – Warner Avenue Class II Bikeway Project (\$1.443 million)

Mr. Mitchell Weiss
May 18, 2020
Page 2

The City of Tustin has informed OCTA that they will no longer be moving forward with the subject projects at this time due to community concerns and have requested that they be deleted from the SCCP Program of Projects. Santa Ana has requested to reprogram the funds from the Warner Avenue Class II Bikeway to another high-priority active transportation project. Recent roadway improvements made by Tustin in the Warner Avenue project area would need to be removed to increase roadway capacity for the bikeway, resulting in increased costs that make it infeasible for Santa Ana to deliver the project.

OCTA is proposing two new projects to which the funding can be programmed:

- Santa Clara Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements (\$3.243 million)
- Routes 53/553 (Bravo! Main Street) – Bus Stop Improvements (\$0.344 million)

The new projects will enhance the existing investment that CTC is making within the Orange County central corridor. Please find attached supporting documentation related to this request.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Adriann Cardoso, Capital Programming Manager, at (714) 560-5915 or acardoso@octa.net. Thank you for your consideration of OCTA's request.

Sincerely,



Darrell E. Johnson
Chief Executive Officer

DEJ:da
Attachments

c: Teresa Favila, CTC
Sharon Bertozzi, Caltrans Local Assistance
Tifini Tran, Caltrans Local Assistance
Zednek Kekula, City of Santa Ana