

Orange County Transportation Authority

2024 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

Fact Sheet¹

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is proposing to use \$222.326 million in STIP funds to support nine high priority projects in Orange County during the five-year 2024 STIP program period, from fiscal years (FY) 2024-25 through 2028-29. The STIP funded projects will also be supported with state, federal, and OCTA Measure M2 funds to make significant improvements to the Southern California regional transportation system. OCTA is proposing the projects below for the 2024 STIP. These projects will improve freight and economic viability by enhancing throughput, modernize OC Bus through improved ridership information, improve safety for all users, invest in regional bicycle and pedestrian connectivity in disadvantaged communities, and support efficient rail transit operations to promote mode shift.

Project Name	Total STIP Funds
New Projects	
OC Loop Segment A - Rails to Trails (construction phase)	\$38.2 million
Orange County Maintenance Facility, Phase 1 (construction phase)	\$20.0 million
OC Connect Santa Ana – Garden Grove Rail to Trails (Plans Specifications and Estimates phase)	\$3.9 million
Existing Projects	
Interstate 5 (I-5) Improvements from Interstate 405 to Yale Avenue, Segment 1 (construction phase)	\$95.3 million
State Route 74 Gap closure and multimodal improvements (construction phase)	\$24.6 million
State Route 57 Truck Climbing Lane Phase II - Lambert Road to Orange County Line	\$24.5 million
Planning, Programming and Monitoring (PPM)	\$7.3 million
I-5 Improvements from State Route 73 to El Toro Road (replacement planting and landscaping)	\$6.0 million
Digital Bus Stop Signs (acquisition, installation, and testing)	\$2.5 million

Benefits

OCTA's requested STIP projects are expected to generate significant economic and quality of life benefits to the community by improving safety, health, air quality, travel time and congestion. Annual estimated benefits from all Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) projects include: \$144.7 million in economic benefits from travel time savings and vehicle operating cost savings; \$7.8 million from travel time reliability and journey quality benefits; \$6.8 million is safety benefits from reduced accidents; \$3.2 million in emission cost savings from reduced vehicle

¹ The fact sheet (one- or two-page) will be posted on the Commission's website and must comply with state and federal web accessibility laws and standards.

emissions including 62 tons of carbon dioxide annually; and \$2.6 million in health benefits attributed to walking and bicycling. Both rails-to-trails projects are located within Senate Bill 535 Disadvantaged Communities, and the freeway projects will improve the mobility of all motorists including disadvantaged and low-income communities by reducing congestion and accidents on these vital regional and interregional roads.

Goals and Objectives

OCTA's proposed STIP projects help support the goals and objectives of the Connect SoCal Regional Transportation Plan / Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). The projects will help reduce vehicle miles travelled, person hours of delay, greenhouse gas emission, and truck delay through improved freight access; improving safety, security, and resilience; promote investment effectiveness; and increase walking and biking mode share. OCTA's proposed RTIP also aligns with the OCTA Long-Range Transportation Plan and the Orange County's Bike + Ped Plan.

Additionally, the new projects that are proposed in OCTA's STIP align with State goals and priorities including the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI), Caltrans Race and Equity Action Plan, California Transportation Plan 2050, California Integrated Travel Project (Cal ITP), California State Rail Plan, California Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan, and California Freight Mobility Plan (CFMP). The OC Loop and OC Connect projects will construct multi-use off-street facilities as a countermeasure that is effective in reducing roadway fatalities and severe injuries, while also providing access to the regional bikeway network for diverse and disadvantaged communities into Los Angeles and Riverside Counties. The Digital Bus Stop Signs project expands OCTA's existing transit modernization effort and will support access as part of Orange County's transit network by allowing transit riders to have access to real time scheduling and wayfinding information, consistent with Cal ITP priorities. The projects also include multi-STIP cycle carryover projects that are vital to the region and provide safety improvements which reduce fatalities and severe injuries for all users. Two of the highways are identified as part of the Primary Highway Freight System (PHFS) and support access to the complete network of the PHFS in the Southern California Association of Governments region which on average carries over 16,000 trucks per day. These projects support 193,108 regional daily truck trips through Orange County and will improve freight throughput and strengthen the California economy. Lastly, the Orange County Maintenance Facility will improve Metrolink rail transit operations by storing locomotives and rail cars locally, reducing operating costs and supporting increased services. Overall, the projects improve mobility for the region by providing opportunities to increase mode shift, support disadvantaged and low-income communities, improve safety for all modes, while reducing vehicle miles traveled, and preserving California's economic competitiveness.

Additional information on OCTA's STIP-RTIP proposal can be found at the OCTA STIP Website:

<https://www.octa.net/programs-projects/programs/funding-programs/state-funding/state-transportation-improvement-program/>