

Los Patrones Parkway Non-Tolled Extension: Preliminary Engineering Underway

The proposed non-tolled Los Patrones Parkway extension was added to the County's general plan, San Clemente's general plan, and OCTA's MPAH in early 2021. The MPAH and the general plans show the non-tolled Los Patrones Parkway extension will be built as a four-lane, divided arterial between Cow Camp Road and Avenida La Pata. In May 2021, the The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board awarded funding to the County for preliminary engineering of the new facility through the competitive Measure M2 Regional Capacity Program. Specific alignments and cost details will be developed in the preliminary engineering phase that is anticipated to be complete in 2023. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2027 and to be complete in 2031.

Ortega Highway Widening: Final Design Starting

This project will widen a 1.1-mile section of Ortega Highway between Calle Entradero in the City of San Juan Capistrano (San Juan Capistrano) and Reata Road (near the boundary between San Juan Capistrano and unincorporated county line) from one lane in each direction to two lanes in each direction. The project is environmentally cleared under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). In May 2020, the Board awarded funding to San Juan Capistrano for the plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E) phase. In June 2021, San Juan Capistrano, Caltrans, OCTA, and the County executed agreements to fund and initiate the PS&E phase that will be led by Caltrans. Excluding prior work, the project cost is estimated at \$67.6 million for final design, right-of-way (ROW), and construction. OCTA is working with San Juan Capistrano, Caltrans, and the County to secure full funding for the project. Design and ROW acquisition is scheduled to be complete by 2025, with construction anticipated to be complete by 2028, assuming full project funding is secured.

I-5 Widening from San Diego County Line Area to Avenida Pico: Environmental Clearance Starting

This I-5 Improvement Project, from the San Diego County Line area to Avenida Pico, proposes to add one HOV lane in each direction, re-establish existing auxiliary lanes, modify ramps at select locations, and widen bridge structures, where applicable. This 3.5-mile project will extend the HOV improvements that were completed as part of Project C in the M2 Freeway Program, and complete most of the remaining HOV lane network in Orange County.

OCTA is now developing a project report and environmental document, which are anticipated to be completed by 2024. As outlined in the OCTA/Caltrans cooperative agreement approved by the Board on June 8, 2020, OCTA is leading the environmental work, and Caltrans will have final approval authority under NEPA and CEQA. OCTA will also lead the stakeholder involvement process with various agencies including local cities, SANDAG, and other stakeholders. Detailed cost estimates and schedules will be worked out in the preliminary engineering phase, which is part of the environmental process.