OC PublicWorks
Integrity, Accountability, Service, Trust
Shane L. Silsby, Director

ITEM #2

OC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REPORT

DATE:	October 23, 2019
TO:	Orange County Planning Commission
FROM:	OC Development Services/Planning
SUBJECT:	Initiation of General Plan Amendment T16-01 – Transportation Element
PROPOSAL:	Staff is requesting authorization to initiate an amendment to the County of Orange Circulation Plan, contained in the Transportation Element, to conform the Circulation Plan to the Orange County Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH), administered by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).
ZONING/ GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION:	N/A
LOCATION:	Unincorporated Areas of Orange County
APPLICANT:	OC Development Services
STAFF CONTACT:	Joanna Chang, Land Use Manager 714.667.8815 Joanna.Chang@ocpw.ocgov.com Cindy Salazar, Senior Planner 714.667.8870 Cindy.Salazar@ocpw.ocgov.com Jamie Reyes, Civil Engineer 714.647.3903 Jamie.Reyes@ocpw.ocgov.com

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

OC Development Services/Planning recommends the Planning Commission:

a. Receive staff report and public testimony.

b. Authorize staff to initiate General Plan Amendment T16-01 – Transportation Element to update the County of Orange Circulation Plan.

BACKGROUND:

The County of Orange Transportation Element contains the County's policies on the development of the transportation facilities necessary to accommodate the orderly growth of the County. The Transportation Element identifies goals, objectives, policies, and implementation programs that affect the transportation system and provide guidance for future planning efforts within the unincorporated area. The Transportation Element contains the Circulation Plan, Bikeways Plan, and Scenic Highways Plan. The proposed changes do not involve the Scenic Highway Plan. Implementation of these three plans is necessary to ensure a balanced transportation system.

The Circulation Plan (Attachment 1) depicts the arterial highways that make up the surface transportation system within the unincorporated area. The Circulation Plan identifies each facility as existing or proposed, and its arterial designation: Principal, Major, Primary, Secondary, or Commuter. It also depicts existing highways, freeways, toll roads, and arterial highways located within other local jurisdictions.

A goal identified in the Transportation Element is to "provide a Circulation Plan that is integrated with that of adjacent jurisdictions." To achieve this goal, the County's transportation system is designed to be compatible with adjacent jurisdictions and amended as necessary to remain consistent with the Orange County Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH) (Attachment 2), administered by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).

The MPAH depicts a Countywide roadway network intended to ensure coordinated transportation system development among local jurisdictions in Orange County. The MPAH describes an arterial highway system that effectively serves existing and adopted future land uses in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County.

OCTA as the administrator of the MPAH is responsible for maintaining its integrity and Countywide consistency. OCTA reviews the circulation plans of all local OC jurisdictions for consistency every two years, and works with any jurisdictions that need to make necessary amendments to bring their plan into compliance. Consistency with the MPAH is essential to the integrity of a functional regional highway network.

As part of the effort to maintain consistency for the Countywide roadway network, the County of Orange makes periodic updates to the County's Transportation Element. Updates to the Circulation Plan, which is a component with the Transportation Element, requires coordination with OCTA and other stakeholders. In particular, County is responsible for reviewing the roadways to determine the types of proposed changes that need to be updated to ensure conformance with MPAH. Upon County's notification to amend the General Plan to be consistent with MPAH, OCTA provided a conditional approval of these changes whereby all applicable agencies would need to amend its General Plan so that OCTA can update the MPAH accordingly.

Previously anticipated traffic demand for these roads has decreased due to the completion of the Eastern Transportation Corridor and the donation of approximately 33,500 acres of land for open space use only by The Irvine Company to the County in the Foothill/Trabuco and Silverado areas. The County does not have plans to develop the open space, therefore an increase in the average daily traffic is not anticipated. Due to the change in planned development in the canyon area, , OCPW/ Infrastructure Programs proposes, consistent with the MPAH, to reclassify Santiago Canyon Road east of State Route 241 northbound off-ramp to Live Oak Canyon Road from its current Primary Arterial designation to a Collector Arterial, delete the previously proposed Jeffrey Road

Extension between SR-241 and Santiago Canyon Road, and delete Black Star Canyon Road between Santiago Canyon Road and the Orange/Riverside County line.

PROPOSED PROJECT:

Staff is requesting authorization to update the County's Circulation Plan to complete the following revisions:

1. Reclassification of Santiago Canyon Road from its current Primary Arterial designation to a Collector Arterial.

   The County's Circulation Plan currently depicts Santiago Canyon Road, east of State Route 241 (SR-241) Northbound off-ramp to Live Oak Canyon Road as a Primary Arterial. Adoption of the proposed amendment to the Circulation Plan will reclassify Santiago Canyon from its current Primary Arterial designation to a Collector Arterial.

2. Deletion of the proposed Jeffrey Road Extension.

   The County's Circulation Plan currently depicts Jeffrey Road Extension as a conceptual proposed Primary Arterial designation, between SR-241 and Santiago Canyon Road. Adoption of the proposed amendment to the Circulation Plan will delete this conceptual proposed Primary Arterial.

3. Deletion of Black Star Canyon Road.

   The County's Circulation Plan currently depicts Black Star Canyon Road as conceptual proposed Secondary Arterial designation, between Santiago Canyon Road and the Orange / Riverside County line. Adoption of the proposed amendment to the Circulation Plan will delete this conceptual proposed Primary Arterial.

Pursuant to the OCTA Board's conditional approval action on May 8, 2017 (Attachment 3), the approval to (1) reclassify Santiago Canyon Road (2) delete Jeffrey Road Extension and (3) delete Black Star Canyon Road remains conditional until OCTA receives documentation that the County of Orange has amended its general plan and complies with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. Staff is expected to return to Planning Commission to recommend that the Board of Supervisors adopt the General Plan Amendment – Transportation Element amendments in the coming months.

CEQA COMPLIANCE:

This action is not a project within the meaning of CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 and is therefore not subject to CEQA, since it does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. The approval of this agenda item does not commit the County to a definite course of action in regards to a project since the action being authorized involves the initiation of an amendment to the County of Orange Circulation Plan within the Transportation Element, which is administrative. This proposed activity is therefore not subject to CEQA. Any future action connected to this approval that constitutes a project will be reviewed for compliance with CEQA.

Submitted by:

Richard Vuong, Planning Manager
OC Development Services/Planning

Reviewed by,

Colby Cataldi, Deputy Director
OC Public Works/Development Services

Attachment 1 County of Orange Circulation Plan, 2018
Attachment 2 Orange County Master Plan of Arterial Highways, 2019
Attachment 3 Conditional Approval Letter from OCTA dated June 21, 2017

ATTACHMENT 1

CIRCULATION PLAN

County of Orange, California

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

UNINCORPORATED

Cleveland National Forest

Pacific Ocean

ARTERIAL HIGHWAYS

	ESTABLISHED ALIGNMENT	CONCEPTUALLY PROPOSED
PRINCIPAL		
MAJOR		
PRIMARY		
SECONDARY		
COMMUTER		

- Existing State Freeways/Transportation Corridors
- Private Status Arterial
- Arterials within County Incorporated Areas
- County Unincorporated Areas
- County Incorporated Areas
- * Future extension/transportation options currently under evaluation by TCA

*See Note

CALIFORNIA

Orange County

0 2.5 5 Miles

4 LANES | 4 LANES

PRINCIPAL
8 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 45,000 to 60,0000 ADT

3 LANES | 3 LANES

MAJOR
6 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 30,000 to 45,000 ADT

2 LANES | 2 LANES

PRIMARY
4 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 20,000 to 30,000 ADT

4 LANES

SECONDARY
4 Lane Undivided Roadway
Accommodates 10,000 to 20,000 ADT

2 LANES

COMMUTER
2 Lane Undivided Roadway
Accommodates 7,500 to 10,000 ADT

EXTRA RIGHT-OF-WAY MAY BE REQUIRED WHEN AN ARTERIAL HIGHWAY COINCIDES WITH AN ADOPTED ROUTE FOR AN ADDITIONAL PUBLIC FACILITY (EX. PEDESTRIAN, BICYCLE, OR EQUESTRIAN TRAIL), OR FOR A SCENIC HIGHWAY. SEE CALTRANS DESIGN MANUAL.

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE RECOMMENDED CIRCULATION PLAN WAS APPROVED AS THE OFFICIAL MAP OF THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT OF THE GENERAL PLAN BY THE ORANGE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION ON MARCH 28, 2018 AND ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION NUMBER 18-XXX OF THE ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON _____, 2018

_____
SHANE SILSBY, DIRECTOR
OC PUBLIC WORKS

DESIGNED AND PRODUCED BY: OC PUBLIC WORKS OC Planning/GIS Carmen Copil Oancea
DATA SOURCE: OC Planning/GIS Geomatics Land Information System Division
DATE: April 9, 2018

NOTE: USERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CHECK FOR SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS TO THE CIRCULATION PLAN. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, REFER TO THE TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT OF THE COUNTY OF ORANGE GENERAL PLAN

ATTACHMENT 2

2019 Master Plan of Arterial Highways

ORANGE COUNTY

California

OCTA

LEGEND

ARTERIAL HIGHWAYS

CONSTRUCTED ROADWAYS **	UNCONSTRUCTED ROADWAYS ***	
		PRINCIPAL
		MAJOR
		PRIMARY
		SECONDARY
		DIVIDED COLLECTOR
		COLLECTOR

ROADS OUTSIDE OF OC SHOWN FOR CONTINUITY

FREEWAY / TOLL ROAD

SMART STREET 8 LANE

SMART STREET 6 LANE

SMART STREET 4 LANE

EXISTING	PROPOSED	
		FREEWAY / TOLL ROAD INTERCHANGES

RIGHT-OF-WAY RESERVE

NOTES:

** Future extension / transportation options currently under evaluation by TCA*

*** Figures show lane difference between MPAH classification and constructed lanes. Red label indicates roadway segment is underbuilt to MPAH classification. Black label indicates overbuilt segments.*

**** Unconstructed roadway alignments may not be finalized*

Freeways / Toll Roads shown for reference purposes only.

CLASSIFICATION

PRINCIPAL
8 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 45,000 to 60,000 ADT

MAJOR
6 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 30,000 to 45,000 ADT

PRIMARY
4 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 20,000 to 30,000 ADT

SECONDARY
4 Lane Undivided Roadway
Accommodates 10,000 to 20,000 ADT

DIVIDED COLLECTOR
2 Lane Divided Roadway
Accommodates 9,000 to 15,000 ADT

COLLECTOR
2 Lane Undivided Roadway
Accommodates 7,500 to 10,000 ADT

Map Published July 22, 2019

0 2.5 5
Miles

Source: OCTA

OCTA

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June 21, 2017

Ms. Nardy Khan
Deputy Director
Orange County Public Works
300 N. Flower Street
Santa Ana, CA 92702

Dear Ms. Khan:

On May 8, 2017, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) approved an amendment to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH). The amendment approved the following changes:

- Reclassify Santiago Canyon Road, from east of the State Route 241 (SR-241) northbound off-ramp to Live Oak Canyon Road, from a primary (four-lane, divided) to a collector (two-lane, undivided);
- Delete the proposed Jeffrey Road extension, between SR-241 and Santiago Canyon Road; and
- Delete the proposed Black Star Canyon Road, between Santiago Canyon Road and the Orange/Riverside County line.

The Board's approval remains conditional until OCTA has received documentation that the cities of Irvine, Lake Forest, Orange, and the County of Orange (County) have amended their general plans and complied with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. Once these actions have occurred, please provide OCTA with copies of the appropriate supporting documentation from the cities and County. This information can be sent to the attention of Carolyn Mamaradlo, Senior Transportation Analyst. Upon receipt of all appropriate documentation, the MPAH will be updated accordingly. The staff report and Board-approved minutes are also attached for your records.

Sincerely,

Kurt Brotcke
Director, Strategic Planning

KB:ss
Attachments

c: Fiona Man, OC Public Works
Jamie Reyes, OC Public Works
Carolyn Mamaradlo, OCTA