

I-5 Fall Newsletter 2012
As of 10/8/12



OCTA and Caltrans Plan I-5 South County Improvements

Work between SR-73 and El Toro Road will be funded by Measure M

Community meetings are tentatively scheduled for late February 2013 to inform residents about improvements on Interstate 5 (I-5) in South County between SR-73 to El Toro Road. The purpose of the project is to enhance traffic flow, improve mobility and reduce congestion throughout the project area.

The project is proposed by the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The project will be paid for by Measure M, the half-cent sales tax approved by Orange County voters for transportation improvements, as well as federal funds.

Three alternatives are currently being studied:

- Alternative 1: No Build
- Alternative 2: Add **one general purpose lane** in each direction and extend the second carpool lane from El Toro interchange to Alicia Parkway (estimated cost \$560 million)
- Alternative 3: Add **two general purpose lanes** in each direction and extend of the second carpool lane from El Toro interchange to Alicia Parkway (estimated cost \$700 million)

In addition, the proposed plan would reconstruct the Avery Parkway and La Paz Road interchanges, and add soundwalls and retaining walls as needed. The project is early in the environmental analysis phase. As part of this phase, the public will be given a 30-day opportunity to review and comment on the draft environmental document, as well as attend a public hearing tentatively scheduled for July 2013. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2018.

OCTA outreach team members have been active in the local community by meeting with city and community leaders from Aliso Viejo, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Lake Forest and Mission Viejo. Look for more information on the community meetings in early January 2013. The community meetings will provide an opportunity for businesses and residents to meet members of the project team and ask questions.

For more information, contact Julie Toledo at (714) 560-5573 or via e-mail at jtoledo@octa.net. Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OCI5SouthCounty or at www.octa.net/I5ElToro

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