

# Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: June 7-8, 2006

Reference No.: 2.2c.(4)  
Action Item

From: CINDY McKIM  
Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Jay Norvell  
Division Chief  
Environmental Analysis

Subject: **APPROVAL OF PROJECT FOR CONSIDERATION OF NEW PUBLIC ROAD CONNECTION AND FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF FUNDING, 12-Ora-55, PM R6.97/R8.35 RESOLUTION E-06-16**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Department of Transportation (Department) recommends that the California Transportation Commission (Commission), as a responsible agency, approve the attached Resolution E-06-16.

## **ISSUE:**

The attached resolution proposes to approve for consideration of new public road connection, and for future consideration of funding, the following project for which a Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) has been completed:

- Route 55 in Orange County – Modify an overcrossing and add High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) drop ramps in the cities of Santa Ana and Irvine.

## **BACKGROUND:**

This project is being funded by the Measure M Regional Improvement Program, Measure M Growth Management Area Program, local dollars from the cities of Santa Ana and Irvine, and other local sources. The Department is providing oversight. A concurrent request for a New Public Road Connection for the HOV drop ramps is under agenda item 2.3b. The total estimated project cost, escalated to the construction year, is \$92.6 million. The project is being divided into two construction phases: Phase I will be the overcrossing, and Phase II will be the HOV drop ramps. Phase I is scheduled to begin construction in Fiscal Year 2008-09.

The city of Santa Ana, as the lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), determined that an Environmental Impact Report is the appropriate CEQA document to prepare for this project. A copy of the FEIR has been transmitted to Commission staff.

The Department has approved the project for construction. This approval and the filing of the Notice of Determination with the Office of Planning and Research will satisfy the environmental requirements for this stage of the project planning process.

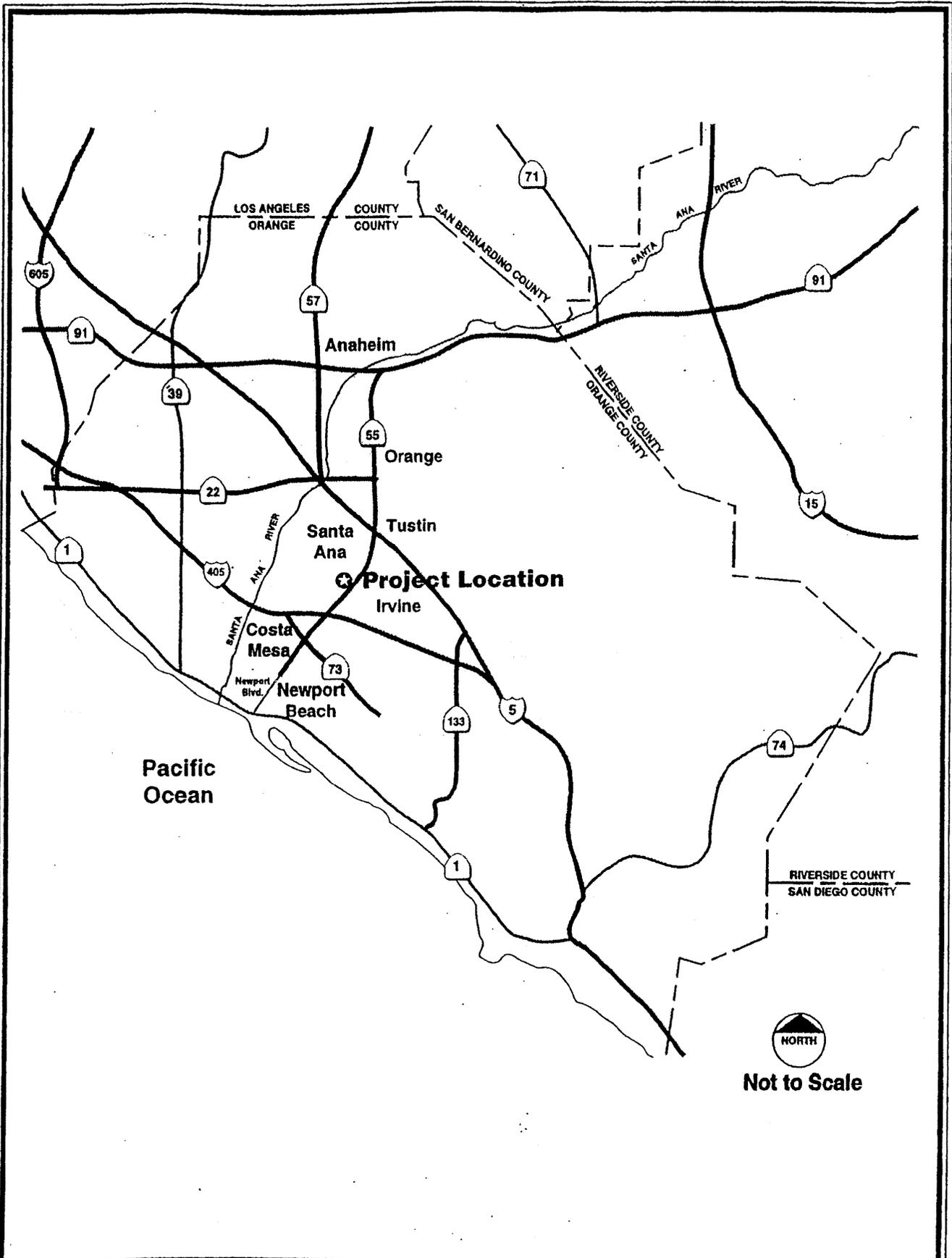
Attachments

## **CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

### **Resolution for Consideration of New Public Road Connection And Future Consideration of Funding 12-Ora-55, PM R6.97/R8.35**

#### **Resolution E-06-16**

- 1.1** **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Transportation (Department) has completed a Final Environmental Impact Report pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines for the following project:
- Route 55 in Orange County – modify an overcrossing and add High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) drop ramps in the cities of Santa Ana and Irvine.
- 1.2** **WHEREAS**, the Department has certified that the Final Environmental Impact Report has been completed pursuant to CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines for its implementation; and
- 1.3** **WHEREAS**, the California Transportation Commission, as a responsible agency, has considered the information contained in the Final Environmental Impact Report; and
- 1.4** **WHEREAS**, the Final Environmental Impact Report did not identify any significant effects after mitigation.
- 2.1** **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the California Transportation Commission does hereby approve the above referenced project to allow for consideration of new public road connection and future consideration of funding.



**ALTON AVENUE  
OVERCROSSING  
AT SR-55**

Regional Map

**FIGURE  
1.2-1**