



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26001225

MEETING DATE: 06/23/2026

LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION: Orange County Flood Control District

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S): District 5

SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: OC Public Works

DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S): Justin Gollither, 714-667-1675
Jeff Ernst, 714-647-3963

SUBJECT: Approve Amendment to Agreement for San Juan Creek Bridge Replacement Project

CEO CONCUR	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	CLERK OF THE BOARD
Concur	Approve agreement to form	DISCUSSION
		3 Votes Board Majority

Budgeted: Yes	Current Year Cost: \$800,000	Annual Cost: N/A
Staffing Impact: No		Sole Source: N/A
Current Fiscal Year Revenue: N/A	Funding Source: Fund 401: 100%	County Audit in Last 3 years: No
Levine Act Review Completed? N/A		
Prior Board Action: 8/26/2025 #24		

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Agreement with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority for the San Juan Creek Bridge Replacement Project to increase the not-to-exceed amount by \$800,000, for a new total amount not to exceed \$2,800,000, effective upon execution of all necessary signatures until project completion.

SUMMARY:

Approval of Amendment No. 1 to the Cooperative Agreement for the San Juan Creek Bridge Replacement Project will allow completion of planned channel improvements that reduce associated flood risk, enhance rail safety and minimize long-term maintenance costs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The existing San Juan Creek Bridge, built in 1917, is located in the City of San Juan Capistrano near the Camino Capistrano exit of Interstate 5 (I-5). The bridge is operated and maintained by Metrolink/Southern California Regional Rail Authority (Authority) and is used by Metrolink, Amtrak and BNSF trains.

The San Juan Creek Bridge Replacement Project (Project) proposes to replace the existing single-track bridge with a new single-track bridge to improve safety and reduce maintenance needs by increasing the load rating and the foundation depths. The new bridge will be constructed adjacent to the existing structure to maintain rail service during construction.

In 2011, Orange County Flood Control District (District) completed channel improvements to San Juan Creek immediately upstream and downstream of the bridge. The improvements included the installation of sheet pile walls

intended to become the future channel walls. Sheet pile walls were not installed on the Authority's property in 2011, as the work was deferred to a future project phase.

On May 5, 2017, the Authority, as lead agency under CEQA for the replacement project of the San Juan Creek Bridge on the Orange County Line, made a finding that the Project is statutorily exempt pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b) (10) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15275(a).

On August 26, 2025, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved Cooperative Agreement MA-080-25011369 (Agreement) for the Project, between the District and the Authority, in an amount not to exceed \$2 million. The Agreement provides for design and construction of sheet pile channel walls, tying into the 2011 channel improvements, to enhance rail safety and reduce flood risks.

The Authority has since provided an updated cost estimate indicating an increase in Project costs due to escalation in the cost of steel sheet piles and associated installation costs required to complete the work within the Authority's right of way. The updated estimate reflects an \$800,000 increase over the previously approved amount. The updated not-to-exceed amount includes construction costs, construction support services and contingency in accordance with the Agreement. Detailed cost information is included in Attachment C.

OC Public Works is recommending the Board approve Amendment No.1 to the Agreement with the Authority for the Project, to increase the not-to-exceed amount by \$800,000, for a new total amount not to exceed \$2.8 million.

Compliance with CEQA: This action was previously found by the Authority to be statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(10) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15275(a). No substantial changes have been made in the Project, no substantial changes have occurred in the circumstances under which the Project is being undertaken, and no new information of substantial importance to the Project which was not known or could not have been known when the Authority found it to be statutorily exempt has become known; therefore, no further environmental review is required. This action remains consistent with the Authority's determination that the Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(10) and CEQA Guidelines Section 15275(a), which exempt certain mass transit projects from CEQA review.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Appropriations for this Agreement are included in Fund 401, OC Flood - Capital Projects, FY 2025-26 Budget.

The Authority will provide statements against the deposited amounts, and upon completion of the project, any remaining balance will be returned to the District.

The Agreement includes a clause permitting mutual termination by the Authority or the District, provided it is done in writing. It also allows the Authority to suspend or terminate the Agreement with 30 days' prior notice if funding is unavailable or restricted. In that case, the District is only responsible for paying actual costs incurred up to the termination date.

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Amendment No.1 to Cooperative Agreement MA-080-25011369 with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority

Attachment B - Cooperative Agreement MA-080-25011369 with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority

