

Emergency Coastal Rail Projects Update & Planning for the Future

Darrell E. Johnson, OCTA Chief Executive Officer LOSSAN Rail Corridor Resiliency Subcommittee • Aug. 15, 2023



LOSSAN Corridor

Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo





351 miles	6 counties
7 right-of-way owners	55% freight owned
3 passenger rail operators	2 freight operators

Pacific Surfliner Service

the busiest State-supported Amtrak route in the U.S.

Funding for Emergency Projects



Total Emergency Work: \$27.7 million+

excludes right-of-way and permitting costs that have yet to be determined

Cyprus Shore Location

Cyprus Shore Initial Track Stabilization Project

MP 206.8

\$8 million

•\$8 million – OCTA funds

Cyprus Shore
Track Stabilization Project

MP 206.8

\$13.7 million+

does not include right-of-way and all environmental mitigation costs

- \$6 million federal Surface
 Transportation Block Grant Program
- •\$6 million Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP)
 - o Oct. 3, 2022 emergency CTC meeting
- \$1 million federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act
- •\$700,000 OCTA funds

Casa Romantica Location

San Clemente Track Protection Project

MP 204.6

\$6 million

- •\$3 million OCTA funds
- •\$3 million ITIP
 - Emergency CTC allocation under Resolution G-23-20 on June 20, 2023

Orange – prevent beach erosion Blue – response to landslide

Working Together Toward a Solution











Cyprus Shore October 2022

CTC Policy May 2023 Casa Romantica
June 2023

Next Steps

- The following actions were instrumental in allowing OCTA to expedite the work to safely restore passenger rail service:
 - Caltrans declared a state transportation emergency
 - CTC held a special meeting to consider emergency funding
 - OCTA Board declared an emergency

- CTC establishes a new policy allowing for funding allocations for emergencies impacting publicly-owned rail facilities:
 - OCTA was involved in its development following our experience with getting approvals for the events at Cyprus Shore
- The new CTC policy allowed the agency to quickly award funding after Caltrans declared an emergency, allowing Metrolink to award an emergency contract to begin work on the temporary barrier wall to protect the tracks.
 - OCTA Board also declared an emergency to expedite process

- OCTA is moving forward on a study to look at near-term solutions to protect Orange County's coastal rail infrastructure.
 - OCTA Board also looking at longer-term solutions, in part with \$5 million awarded by CalSTA through the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program

Action Plan



Coastal Rail Protection Study short- to medium-term solutions

- Develop options to protect 7 miles of coastal rail infrastructure at various sea levels
- Gain an understanding of climate effects on coastal rail infrastructure
- Identify potential solutions, including sand replenishment / retention
- Engage key stakeholders / agencies
- OCTA Board action August 14, 2023
- Next Step: Environmental for Coastal Rail Infrastructure Resiliency Project

Coastal Rail Long-Term Solutions Study

- Develop options for potential long-term solutions for the coastal section of rail line
- Create an action plan for key elements
- Partner with LOSSAN, state and federal agencies
- Engage key stakeholders / agencies

Funding for Coastal Rail Studies



Coastal Rail Protection Study \$2 million

- \$1.77 million in federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Program
- \$330,000 in OCTA funds

Coastal Rail Infrastructure Resiliency Project - Environmental Funding Need: \$15 million

- Seeking \$12 million in Local Transportation Climate Action Protection (LTCAP) from CTC
- \$3 million in OCTA funds

Coastal Rail Long-Term Solutions Study \$8.5 million

- \$5 million in Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Funds (TIRCP)
- \$3.5 million in pending Community Project Funding