



ITEM ID: 2026-316-0

TRANSMITTAL DATE: October 16, 2026

MEETING DATE: October 23, 2026

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Justin Fornelli, Chief, Program Delivery

SUBJECT: Increase in Contract Authority - Contract No. C3153 with Flatiron West, Inc. - San Juan Creek Bridge Replacement Project

Issue

The San Juan Creek Bridge replacement project has been under construction since March 2024 and is substantially complete with train service running over the new bridge since October 2025. Sheet pile wall installation along the adjacent creek bed is the only remaining item to complete on the project. The current contract authority of \$50,376,588 is insufficient to allow for issuance of change orders to install project betterments of sheet pile walls requested by Orange County Public Works (OCPW) and funded by OCPW and OCTA.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to increase the contract authority by \$2,605,341 for a new total not-to-exceed contract authority of \$52,981,929.

Strategic Commitment

This report aligns with the Strategic Business commitments of:

- **Safety is Foundational:** SCRRRA will ensure a safe operating environment by replacing the existing San Juan Creek Bridge, which was built in 1917, with a new bridge that will continue serving the LOSSAN Corridor.
- **Advancing Key Regional Goals:** Construction of a new San Juan Creek Bridge is a critical State of Good Repair project designed to serve the Orange County and the

LOSSAN Corridor for the next 100 years. Also, partnership with OCPW will help the region lower costs by performing improvements under the existing Contract.

Background

The Authority has had an on-going project since 2024 to construct a replacement bridge over San Juan Creek, move service onto the new bridge, and then demolish the old bridge and build a new substructure for a future bridge. The new bridge was completed in September 2025, and train operations serving the Orange County Line have been utilizing the new structure since October 2025.

The project was awarded in December 2023 to Flatiron West, Inc. (FWI) for \$41,980,490 with a 10% contingency, for a total contract funding authorization of \$46,178,539. On February 27, 2026, the Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer to increase the contract contingency on Contract C3153-24 with Flatiron West, Inc. by 10% to accommodate a sheet pile wall alignment design change and additional sheet pile wall construction requested and funded by OCPW. The OCPW request also included changes to sheet pile walls in OCTA's right-of-way funded by OCTA. This increased the contract authority by \$4,198,049 for a new total not-to-exceed contract authority of \$50,376,588.

Discussion

The San Juan Creek Bridge project broke ground in March 2024, and due to environmental permit requirements, work within the San Juan Creek is limited to the dry season of April 1 to September 14 every year. During the final permitting process with Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD), which is a department of OCPW, OCPW required the original planned sheet pile wall to be realigned within OCTA's right-of-way. OCPW also requested that the Authority perform additional improvements of extending the length of the sheet pile wall beyond the railroad right-of-way limits. This betterment request was memorialized, and funding was allocated by OCPW in a cooperative agreement approved by the Board in March 2025.

The contract contingency for this project covered change orders associated with the material costs for both OCTA's and OCPW's portions of the sheet pile wall construction. Based on initial engineer's estimates for OCPW's betterment sheet pile work, it was anticipated that the work could be completed during the Summer 2026 dry season. However, the Contractor was not able to complete all of the sheet pile work in conjunction with the other required project tasks (bridge removal, bridge substructure fabrication, etc.) during the limited dry season window. Therefore, construction of the sheet pile will be completed in a different manner, outside of the creek bed, resulting in increased costs than what was originally estimated.

OCPW staff agree with the revised work plan and associated additional costs. Due to the budget increase associated with betterment sheet pile construction, OCPW staff plan to request an additional funding allocation at the November 17, 2026 OCPW Board Meeting. The additional funding allocation will be memorialized via an amendment to the current funding agreement between the Authority and OCPW. The Authority will not authorize the Contractor to complete work outside of their current construction contract authority until the OCPW funding agreement amendment is executed, covering the cost of the betterment work. If OCPW does not approve the budget increase, OCPW is aware that sheet pile construction will

not resume in OCPW right-of-way, and the project will be closed out with no risk to Metrolink operations.

Budget Impact

The total requested contract authority of \$52,981,929 includes both OCTA and OCPW work. Funding for the OCTA work is included in Cooperative Agreement No. C- 0-2540, between OCTA & the Authority, which fully funds the project through FTA grants and State funding sources. All work associated with change orders for completing betterment work in OCPW right-of-way will be funded through a third-party cooperative agreement with OCPW. No change orders or work authorizations will be issued to the Contractor unless sufficient budget is available. Since these funds are being provided through a Third-Party agreement, there is no impact to Metrolink's budget.

Next Steps

Following the OCPW Board approval in November for an additional allocation of funds and execution of an amendment to OCPW's third-party agreement, the Authority will request a deposit from OCPW for the remaining sheet pile installation. Once the deposit is received, a change order will be negotiated with FWI.

Prepared by: Aaron Azevedo, Director, State of Good Repair

Approved by: Justin Fornelli, Chief, Program Delivery

Attachment(s)

[Presentation - Flatiron Contract Authority Increase](#)