



COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE • MEDIA RELATIONS
PRESS RELEASE

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Economic Impact of Stimulus Program on the County of Orange Tops \$200 Million

(Santa Ana, CA) — The economic impact on the County of Orange of Federal stimulus projects included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is now estimated at over \$200 million.

The largest single economic benefit to the County is the result of the elimination of the Alternative Minimum Tax on Private Activity Bonds for improvements at John Wayne Airport, which will reduce bond expenses by up to \$122.8 million. Through other programs, OC Community Resources will receive more than \$12 million for job training and employment services, while reductions in required matching amounts for services provided through the Social Services Agency will save the County over \$14 million.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has announced more than \$50 million will be spent in Orange County on projects selected based on their anticipated economic and environmental return. The projects selected for funding include:

- \$26,550,000 for river bank improvements on the Santa Ana River in order to protect the 91 Freeway from flooding and erosion damage.
- \$17,363,000 to complete the environmental restoration of Upper Newport Bay, an estuary of national significance. The project will complete the dredging of sediment basins resulting in a 20-year maintenance cycle.
- \$5,265,000 to provide for needed maintenance for the Santa Ana River, Carbon Canyon Dam, Prado Dam and Fullerton Dam. Projects will include removal of sediment, vegetation and graffiti.
- \$500,000 for a Dana Point Harbor breakwater study.

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“This funding will be used to support important infrastructure projects that are underway in Orange County,” said Patricia C. Bates, Board Chair and Fifth District Supervisor. “These much-needed projects will help improve our local economy and preserve and create jobs.”

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