2002 Report Card for Orange County's Infrastructure

Aviation: C+
Parks / Recreation / Environmental: C
School Facilities: D+
Solid Waste: B
Transportation: C
Urban Runoff / Flood Control: D
Water: B
Wastewater: C+
OC's Infrastructure GPA: C

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**Aviation**

Orange County’s aviation demands are forecasted to be 37 million annual passengers by the year 2025. Our challenge is to balance these needs with long term solutions to address commercial air and air freight demands.

**Parks / Recreation / Environmental**

To date PR&E has not been considered as a component of infrastructure. This makes funding the number one critical challenge to PR&E when there is a competitive rivalry for dollars and resources with other mandated functions of government.

**School Facilities**

Due to aging, or outdated facilities, or overcrowding, a significant portion of Orange County’s public school buildings are deficient and will become more so without increased investments. Excellence in education rests directly on the foundation of adequate infrastructure.

**Solid Waste**

Public debate is ongoing over the location and use of Orange County’s landfills, processing plants and transfer stations. Proper planning at this time will ensure the adequacy of this vital infrastructure for the future.

**Transportation**

To continue maintaining and improving our transportation system, we need another similar funding source like Measure M. Without adequate future funding to Measure M for transportation improvements, there is no doubt that as the population increases in the County, gridlock will set in.

**Urban Runoff / Flood Control**

Facing budget shortfalls and increasing need for investment in deficient facilities requires innovative approaches such as creating stormwater utility Districts to raise revenues for much needed and costly stormwater infrastructure projects.

**Water**

Although currently graded at a B, Orange County’s 7500 miles of water main and 300 potable water storage tanks face enormous challenges in the next decade. These challenges include aging infrastructure, shrinking sources of water supply, water quality, and overall system reliability.

**Wastewater**

Orange County’s 7,000 miles of collection system sewers and 240 pump stations face enormous needs. Just to maintain the wastewater system at its present grade plus meeting the standards required by existing and new federal regulations will require continued and consistent investments.