

Meeting of July 24, 2023

Board Recognizes July Employees of the Month

The Orange County Transportation Authority's board of directors recognized three employees of the month for June.

The honors went to:

- Raj Singh, a coach operator at the Santa Ana base who started at OCTA in 2002. Raj is an excellent employee who represents OCTA in an exemplary manner by providing passengers with safe, courteous, and reliable bus service. He recently achieved an incredible 20 years of safe driving.
- David Sanchez, a journeyman mechanic who joined OCTA's Santa Ana base in 2019 and currently works on the third shift. He regularly demonstrates OCTA's core values, and his can-do spirit and sense of teamwork make him a key contributor. David's meticulous, accurate and timely work helps the Santa Ana maintenance team provide the buses needed to meet daily demands.
- Christina Perez, an employee relations representative who joined OCTA's human resources department in 2017. She always demonstrates the highest degree of integrity and professionalism in all her interactions with OCTA staff, labor unions and the public. Christina also coordinates OCTA's Employee Rotation Program, bringing her experience as a graduate of the pilot cohort to continue enhancing the program.

OCTA Board Approves 405 Express Lanes Toll Policy

OCTA's board approved an update to the toll policy for the 405 Express Lanes, which is being built as part of the I-405 Improvement Project.

The 405 Express Lanes – between SR-73 in Costa Mesa and I-605 at the Orange County Line – will give options to carpoolers to travel for free and solo drivers the choice to speed up their commute for a toll. The tolls will vary by hour, day of the week, direction of travel, and distance traveled, and will be adjusted regularly to ensure a free-flowing commute.

The toll policy helps meet the OCTA Board's goals for the 405 Express Lanes, including providing drivers with a safe, reliable commute and maximizing the number of vehicles that travel at free-flow speeds.

The overall \$2.1 billion I-405 Improvement Project is currently 95% complete and all improvements are scheduled to open to traffic in late 2023.

For more information on the express lanes, visit [405ExpressLanes.com](https://www.405ExpressLanes.com)