

## **Meeting of Sept. 26, 2016**

### **Employees of the month for September honored**

The Orange County Transportation Authority board honored three employees of the month for September.

Resolutions of appreciation were presented to:

- Coach operator Joseph Adducci
- Debora Munguia from the maintenance division
- Amelia Hsu from administration

### **Community provides feedback on proposed fare policy changes**

After hearing the concerns of ACCESS customers, the Orange County Transportation Authority board decided to remove from consideration at this time a plan to implement zone-based fares that would have increased the cost for the longest trips.

The proposed change would have created a new fare structure for ACCESS paratransit service. A north, central and south zone would have been established and the fare for trips that stretched the entire county, through three zones would have increased to \$7.20. All other trips would have remained at the existing \$3.60.

Other recommended changes to OCTA's fare policy are still being considered and include:

- Reducing the day pass to \$4 from \$5, which has already been approved for a six-month promotional period beginning with the Oct. 9 service change
- Eliminating the 5 Ride Pass and 7 Day Pass
- Increasing the fare for express routes that travel within Orange County from \$2 to \$4 and increasing the fare for express routes that travel to neighboring counties from \$6 to \$7
- Enforcing reduced fare eligibility requirements for seniors and people with disabilities at point-of-sale

Public feedback will be reviewed and considered as OCTA develops the final fare policy adjustment plan. Final recommendations are expected to go to the board in late October or November.

### **405 Express Lanes procurement options discussed**

The OCTA board discussed options for the procurement of several operating services and equipment for the 405 Express Lanes, including in-lane tolling systems and back office services.

Three options were discussed, including bundling in-lane tolling and traffic management systems, back office system, back office staffing, traffic operations center staffing and customer assistance patrol into one contract. Other options involved breaking the services up into two or three contracts.

A preliminary recommendation suggested pursuing three contracts and combining the 405 Express Lanes procurements with those of the 91 Express Lanes.

Final procurement recommendations and scheduling will be presented to the Finance and Administration Committee in October and then to the full board.