LTA Sales Tax Forecast Methodology



Background

- Chapman University Forecast
 - Since inception of Measure M (M1) in 1991
- Three University Forecast
 - Since development of Measure M2 (M2)
 - Average of three forecasts
 - Chapman University (Chapman)
 - University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
 - California State University, Fullerton (CSUF)

Concerns With Current Methodology

- Forecast performance has varied
- Not accurate during the 3 years of the recession
- Very accurate for the first 3 years after the recession
- Sales tax receipts underperforming forecasted rates since FY 2014

Evaluated Options

- Received forecasts from two additional sources, which were Beacon Economics and MuniServices
- Beacon Economics
 - Generally consistent with Chapman though less optimistic in short term and more optimistic in long-term

| Fiscal Year | Chapman | UCLA | CSUF | Beacon |
|----------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2016 - 2021 | 5.3% | 4.7% | 6.1% | 5.0% |
| 2022 - 2041 | 4.3% | 4.3% | 4.3% | 4.5% |
| | | | | |
| 2016 - 2041 | 4.5% | 4.3% | 4.7% | 4.6% |
| | | | | |
| M2 Program Revenue * | \$15.8 | \$15.2 | \$16.4 | \$15.8 |

* M2 Program revenue in billions from 2011 - 2041

Evaluated Options (cont.)

- MuniServices provided OCTA with an LTA forecast in the fall of 2012
- Forecast has been accurate

| Fiscal | Forecast | Actual | |
|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| Year | Rate | Rate | Variance |
| 2013 | 7.1% | 6.2% | -0.9% |
| 2014 | 4.7% | 4.8% | 0.1% |
| 2015 | 4.3% | 4.3% | 0.0% |
| 2016 * | 3.5% | 3.3% | -0.2% |
| 2017 | 3.2% | | |
| 2018 | 3.0% | | |

* Represents fiscal year-to-date actuals through September 2015

MuniServices Performance

- MuniServices fall of 2012 LTA forecast has been more accurate than others
- Fall of 2015 LTA forecast is more optimistic than fall of 2012
 - Forecast FY 2016 growth of 4.1%
 - Receipts of 3.3% through September 2015
 - Chapman most conservative university at 5.7%

Recommended Changes to LTA Methodology

• For LTA sales tax forecasting, use MuniServices, LLC forecast for the first 5 years and the three university average for the remaining years

- Implement the change in methodology with the development of the fiscal year 2016-17 OCTA budget
- OCTA Board of Directors approved the changes in methodology at the March 28th meeting

Next Steps

- Change in methodology will result in reduction in forecasted M2
 Program revenue
 - Estimated program sales tax revenue will decrease from \$15.8 BN to \$15.0 BN

 Staff has been directed to update the M2020 Plan and Comprehensive Business Plan