



## Citizens Advisory Committee

April 17, 2012

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

600 South Main Street, Orange, California, 92863

Conference Room 103

### Agenda

1. **Chairman's Remarks** Patrick Pepper, *Chair, CAC*
  
2. **M2020 Plan** (60 minutes)  
*Discussion* Kia Mortazavi, *Executive Director, Planning*  
Tamara Warren, *M Program Management Office*
  
3. **Metrolink Customer Satisfaction and Market Study** (30 min)  
*Discussion* Stella Lin, *Manager, Marketing*
  
4. **Update Reports** (5 minutes each)
  - Government Affairs Lance Larson, *Exec. Director, Government Rel.*
  - Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Roy Shahbazian, *Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee*
  - Bike to Work Week Planning Wes Parsel, *Marketing Specialist Assistant*
  - Staff Liaison Report Alice Rogan, *Strategic Communications Mgr*
  
5. **Committee Member Comments**
  
6. **Public Comments**
  
7. **Adjournment / Next Meeting:**  
July 17, 2012

#### **Agenda Descriptions/Public Comments on Agenda Items**

The Agenda descriptions are intended to give notice to members of the public of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. Members from the public wishing to address the Committee will be recognized by the Chairman at the time the Agenda item is to be considered. A speaker's comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes.

Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the OCTA at (714) 560-5611, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

**Citizens Advisory Committee  
Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Attendance Record**

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

Member	7/19/11	9/20/11	11/15/11	1/17/12	4/17/12
	Adams, Paul	●	●	●	●
Altman, Eric	●	⊙	●	●	
Bahadori, Hamid	●	●	●	●	
Bauer, Ralph	⊙	●	●	⊙	
Brandman, Michael	●	●	●	●	
Buck, Vince	⊙	●	●	●	
Chapel, David	●	●	●	⊙	
Coakley, Terry	●	●	●	●	
DiCandia, Carla	●	●	●	⊙	
Frankel, John	⊙	●	●	●	
Gantman, Greg	⊙	⊙	●	⊙	
Garner, Tom	⊙	●	●	⊙	
Gonzales-Hayes, Dolores	N/A	⊙	●	⊙	
Harris, Jeremy	●	●	⊙	●	
Jorgensen, Roberta	⊙	●	●	⊙	
Lahtinen, Leonard	●	●	⊙	●	
Lalloway, Jeffrey	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Leach, James	●	⊙	⊙	●	
Mason, Barbara	●	⊙	●	●	
McGregor, Derek	●	⊙	●	●	
McNally, Michael	●	●	●	⊙	
Mootchnick, David	⊙	⊙	●	⊙	
Murray, Al	⊙	●	●	●	
Niccum, Bob	●	●	●	●	
Oregel, Dan	N/A	●	●	●	
Overby, Lyle	⊙	⊙	⊙	●	
Pepper, Pat	●	●	●	●	
Reifer, Jane	⊙	●	●	●	
Rogers, Linda	●	⊙	⊙	●	
Shahbazian, Roy	●	●	●	●	
Smith, Greg	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Thompson, Jeff	●	●	●	●	
Tran, Jacqueline	●	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Watson, Kara	●	●	⊙	●	



**Citizens Advisory Committee  
Meeting Notes  
January 17, 2012  
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Orange County Transportation Authority  
600 South Main Street, Orange, CA  
Conference Room 103/104**

**Members Present**

<p>Paul Adams, <i>Fountain Valley Resident</i> Eric Altman, <i>La Habra Resident</i> Hamid Bahadori, <i>Automobile Club of Southern California</i> Michael Brandman, <i>Building Industry Association</i> Vince Buck, <i>Cal State Fullerton</i> Terry Coakley, <i>Fountain Valley Resident</i> John Frankel, <i>Rancho Santa Margarita Architectural Review</i> Jeremy Harris, <i>Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce</i> Leonard Lahtinen, <i>North O.C. Community College District</i> James Leach, <i>Orange County Taxpayers Association</i> Barbara Mason, <i>Boeing</i></p>	<p>Derek McGregor, <i>Trabuco Canyon Advisory Committee</i> Al Murray, <i>Tustin City Council</i> Bob Niccum, <i>Buena Park Library Board of Trustees</i> Dan Oregel, <i>Santa Ana Resident</i> Lyle Overby, <i>Building Industry Association</i> Pat Pepper, <i>Anaheim Hills Citizen Coalition</i> Jane Reifer, <i>Transit Advocates of Orange County</i> Linda Rogers, <i>League of Women Voters</i> Roy Shahbazian, <i>Transit Advocates of Orange County</i> Jeff Thompson, <i>Tustin Planning Commission</i> Kara Watson, <i>Yorba Linda Resident</i></p>
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**Members Absent**

<p>Ralph Bauer, <i>Council on Aging and City of Huntington Beach</i> Dr. David Chapel, <i>OC School Boards Association</i> Carla DiCandia, <i>Mission Hospital</i> Greg Gantman, <i>Aliso Viejo Planning Commission</i> Tom Garner, <i>Retired Lieutenant from Laguna Hills</i> Dolores Gonzalez-Hayes, <i>Latino Health Access</i></p>	<p>Roberta Jorgensen, <i>Architect</i> Jeffrey Lalloway, <i>Irvine City Council</i> Michael McNally, <i>UC Irvine</i> David Mootchnick, <i>Southern California Commuters Forum</i> Greg Smith, <i>Irvine Resident</i> Jacqueline Tran, <i>Santa Ana Resident</i></p>
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**1. Welcome/Chairman's Remarks**

Chairman Pat Pepper began the meeting at 1:06 PM and welcomed everyone. He reminded the Committee that they are meeting quarterly and asked if there were any topics that members would like addressed at future meetings. Please email Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, [arogan@octa.net](mailto:arogan@octa.net) if you think of something.

## **2. Measure M Environmental Program Update**

Marissa Espino, Environmental Programs Outreach Manager, discussed the environmental mitigation program update. Measure M2, renewed ½ cent local transportation sales tax, was approved by voters in Nov. 2006. M2 includes the environmental mitigation program which allocates 5% of total revenues to this program. The mitigation off-sets impacts for 13 M2 freeway projects through property acquisition and habitat restoration. A public input opportunity for the National Committee Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan will be established later this year and we will keep the committee apprised of the dates. There is a 30-month period for this process and we anticipate it concluding in early 2013.

The recent M2 revenue forecast projected OCTA has approximately \$300 million for this program which is approximately 40 percent less than the original 2005 estimate. The first round of restoration proposals was submitted and 5 were granted funding (\$55.5 million). Five million dollars is available for funding the second round of restoration proposals. Board approval for the selected projects funded is anticipated in the first quarter of 2012.

Dan Phu, Environmental Programs Program Manager, added that the funds for the first round of restoration proposals included some borrowing which elevated our actual cost to \$100 million. We evaluated properties based on their biological merit. OCTA has set aside 25% of the revenue for management of our acquired properties. The Board delegated the decisions regarding acquisition to the Environmental Oversight Committee chaired by Director Pat Bates. The goal is to maintain 60-75% of native habits on the properties. The next steps include: completing expenditures for acquisition of open space properties, seeking funding for second round of restoration and completing the draft NCCP/HCP and environmental documents.

Michael Brandman inquired if OCTA is looking at deeding properties to adjacent property owners in regards to long term management.

Dan Phu, Environmental Programs Program Manager, responded that Conservation Plan is still being developed. The interim land manager in the short term is based on a logical cost standpoint. These factors are still being considered in the development of the NCCP/HCP.

Michael Brandman followed up by inquiring since the biological value has been identified for the properties there may be some properties with needs beyond the environmental impact with residual mitigation value. Are there opportunities to create mitigation bank credits if possible?

Dan Phu, Environmental Programs Program Manager, replied that we are not sure just yet. The needs will be identified as well through the NCCP/HCP. He further mentioned that this process does not satisfy the Clean Water Act permits. We are working on a

parallel path to see where there are opportunities to maximize benefits of wildlife and water quality permitting process.

Leonard Lahtinen asked if OCTA expects to get reimbursed if they deed the properties to a management firm.

Dan Phu, Environmental Programs Program Manager, replied no because OCTA is getting the streamlined permits from the wildlife agencies. It is a trade-off to build the 13 freeway projects.

### **3. Regional Transportation Program Status Report**

Charlie Larwood, Strategic Planning Manager, discussed an update regarding Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) development of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The purpose of the RTP is to develop a 20-year master transportation plan that meets federal, state and local goals and requirements. This document must meet federal requirements for OCTA's projects to be eligible for state or federal dollars.

The draft accomplishes its goals through a \$525 billion program with projects throughout Southern California. It includes all of the projects that OCTA has identified. It also includes projects that go beyond our goals to meet greenhouse reduction standards and requirements within the Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS). The RTP faces a revenue shortfall of \$220 billion. The document assumes \$127.2 billion will be addressed through a gas tax and Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) fee. The assumption is that between 2017 and 2024 a state or federal gas tax would be assumed and replaced with a VMT fee. It also assumes a regional high occupancy toll network would contribute \$22 billion which includes portions of Orange County. An additional \$33 billion is assumed from High Speed Rail and the rest from private investment and other sources. Staff is continuing the technical review on the respective documents involved. There are some public workshops coming up. The first one is on Jan. 26, 2012 at Anaheim Council Chambers. The public comment period will close Feb. 14, 2012. SCAG's Regional Council and the General Assembly will consider adoption of the 2012 RTP on Apr. 4, 2012.

Chairman Pat Pepper inquired if High Speed Rail funds disappear does that reduce the shortfall.

Charlie Larwood, Strategic Planning Manager, responded affirmatively that it would reduce the shortfall. SCAG would then have to find a substitute project for air quality purposes.

Michael Brandman asked how the model takes into account changes in technology as far as passenger cars, locomotives and such.

Charlie Larwood, Strategic Planning Manager, replied that there are many technologies out there that are supposed to be emission free by 2030.

Greg Nord, Transportation Analyst, responded that there are agreements between the metropolitan planning organizations like SCAG for the assumptions in the model.

Michael Brandman extrapolated further of the concern of the RTP's reliance on the gas tax if new gas-free vehicles are developed.

Charlie Larwood, Strategic Planning Manager, explained that the assumptions will be updated every four years. SCAG has brought up the buying power of the gas tax is going down with fuel economy getting better. They are looking into other funding sources to maintain the transportation infrastructure.

#### **4. Attitudinal & Awareness Survey Results**

Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, gave an update on the results of the Attitudinal & Awareness Survey results. The study provides a measure of perceptions of how effectively OCTA is at delivering projects, programs and services. The telephone survey consisted of over 2,000 Orange County adults and has a  $\pm 2.19\%$  margin of error. The survey found that overall awareness of OCTA is high for a special district but awareness does not necessarily translate to an opinion. Those who use transit services & the 91 Express Lanes were the most likely to rate the services as excellent / good. Residents have clear priorities in terms of ways to improve the transportation system. Their top priorities are: repairing roads, coordinating traffic signals, optimizing the existing transportation system and widening freeways. The recommendations OCTA garnered from this data is to enhance customer communication in the most effective channels and to adjust performance metrics for future studies.

Leonard Lahtinen commented that the survey includes only a small percentage of people who use bus services.

Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, responded that in addition to this survey OCTA also is conducting additional surveys to include: bus customer satisfaction, Metrolink, and the 91 Express lanes. OCTA does more than just bus service so we want to make sure to capture the attitudes and awareness of all of our services.

Eric Altman asked if there is information of the attitudes of Metrolink riders versus bus riders versus drivers.

Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, replied that there is cross tabulation information that we can send if you're interested.

Paul Adams commented that OCTA's marketing for special events has been great and asked if there was a way to track whether the individuals who participated became regular OCTA users.

Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, responded that she would follow-up with Stella Lin, Marketing Manager, to verify if we track that information.

Director Winterbottom commented that there was a high percentage of first-time users of Metrolink on the Angels Express and the bus during the Orange County Fair. That is an important question to ask.

Michael Brandman asked if there were any further questions to find out why exactly the 5% of individuals surveyed were extremely dissatisfied.

Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, replied that is a great follow-up question to look into.

Vince Buck inquired how many people responded to each question for instance bicycle planning.

## **5. OCTA Budget Report**

Sean Murdock, Finance Planning & Analysis Manager, discussed the OCTA Fiscal Year 2011-12 sales tax revenue update. The two primary local sales tax measures we receive are the Local Transportation Fund (LTF) and the Local Transportation Authority Fund (LTA). The LTF funds bus operations and LTA or Measure M2 funds the projects / programs within the ordinance. During fiscal years 2010-12 we have experienced an increase as in comparison to fiscal years 2008-2010 where we experienced approximately a 40% reduction in projected funds within the measure. Currently, OCTA built the budget on the assumption with the sales tax growth rate at 5.4%. The budgets have experienced a growth of an additional 5% resulting in an increase of approximately 10%.

Chairman Pepper inquired what the funding level was with Measure M in 2008.

Sean Murdock, Finance Planning & Analysis Manager, responded that during Fiscal Year 2006-07 the funding was \$143 million. That is the most we have ever received.

John Frankel asked if the loss of redevelopment funds impacted OCTA?

Lance Larson, Executive Director Government Relations, replied that most of the redevelopment money that cities put towards transportation is for Metrolink funding and that includes the cities of Orange and Fullerton. The cities have expended most of the money but some of it is involved with future transportation planning. We are working with the cities to put together an overview of the impacts.

Jeff Thompson asked now that revenues are headed in the right direction, when do you anticipate potentially restoring some of the bus services.

Sean Murdock, Finance Planning & Analysis Manager, responded that there a few factors are involved. When OCTA cut bus service they dipped into reserves so some replenishment comes into play. OCTA is also dependent on STA revenues that are in flux from year to year. The federal reauthorization also impacts our bus service where we receive approximately \$60 million per year.

Michael Brandman asked what it would take to get back to where we originally were if possible. If not what that would look like.

Sean Murdock, Finance Planning & Analysis Manager, replied that getting back to \$24.3 billion is a monumental feat. OCTA would need some substantial growth in early years to compound interest enough to achieve that. Many of the streets and roads and transit projects scale down when the sales tax scales down. We have also seen a reduction in some costs.

## 6. Update Reports

- Government Affairs, Lance Larson, Executive Director Government Relations, discussed a federal and state update. Our legislative platform is currently online to advocate our initiatives based on Board and public input. We completed outreach to over 80 institutions.

The Governor released the 2012-13 state budget. The ballot initiatives protect a lot of transportation funding. It takes a huge hit from health and human services. K-12, public safety, and higher education will also take a hit if a temporary tax is not approved by voters. Currently we budgeted \$19.7 million in State Transit Assistance (STA) funds and are projected to receive \$24.7 million. The Governor's budget does not ask for more bond appropriations. Once a financing plan for the capital programs is established he will likely address the legislature for more bonding. Governor Brown did fund High Speed Rail at the maintenance level until the Business Plan comes out from the Peer Review Group. He is additionally revamping some agencies. He would like to make one transportation agency to include: Caltrans, Department of Motor Vehicles, High Speed Rail Authority, California Highway Patrol, California Transportation Commission and the Board of Pilot Commissioners.

Federally speaking this is an election year so not much will be happening. Payroll tax extension is extended for two months. Chair Glaab is going to Washington this month to discuss OCTA's \$4 million alternative fuel tax credit extension. We are still appropriated through the end of the fiscal year for our transportation bill and have authorization through March 2012. They may have another extension through the end of the Fiscal Year. Redistricting has impacted Orange County's Federal Delegation with Congressman Miller now running in

another county. He will continue to advocate for the regional transportation issues. We continue to advocate our Breaking Down Barriers initiative to expedite project delivery and have it incorporated into the missions of other transportation agencies.

- Bicycle Ad Hoc Committee, Roy Shahbazian, Chair, discussed an update of the most recent meeting. The committee reviewed and commented on the guidelines for the call for projects going out in Feb / Mar using Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds. Ten percent will go towards bike projects per Board direction. We had a presentation on coach operator training. We gave comments regarding an award OCTA is applying for regarding bike friendly communities.
- Grade Crossing Program Update, Sarah Swensson, Community Relations Specialist, discussed an update on our railroad crossing completion. New railroad crossing safety enhancements were completed at 52 crossings in eight cities. The improvements allow for the continued expansion of Metrolink, while ensuring our communities are safe and their lives are not routinely disrupted by train horns. More than 72 commuter and freight trains pass through Orange County daily. We completed this \$85 million project in December using funds from Measure M2 (88%) and local cities (12%). The cities were then eligible to apply for quiet zones.
- M Website Update, Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, provided the M website update. The Measure M triennial assessment had recommendations to improve the website to report in a dashboard style. We are on our way to becoming more transparent, informative and easy to navigate. The next steps are to ensure each project page and factsheet is consistent with the overall look and launch interactive maps. It is expected to be complete by the end of the Fiscal Year. If you have any feedback after viewing the site please email me at [arogan@octa.net](mailto:arogan@octa.net).
- Staff Liaison Report, Alice Rogan, Strategic Communications Manager, mentioned that the next recruitment for the CAC will take place in the Mar / Apr timeframe. Every other year your two year term expires. If you are interested in being reappointed we will follow up with the Board member who appointed you.

## **7. Committee Member Comments**

Linda Rogers commented that she appreciated hearing the positive budget outlook.

## **8. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 PM and the next meeting will be held on April 17, 2017 at 1:00 PM at OCTA Headquarters.