



## **CAC Bicycle and Pedestrian Active Transportation Subcommittee**

550 S. Main Street, Orange CA, Room 07  
September 20, 2022 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Welcome**

#### **2. Presentation Items**

- A. Bike Gap Closure Study Update – Peter Sotherland, Active Transportation Coordinator
- B. I-5 (San Diego County Line to Avenida Pico) – Josue Vaglienty, Capital Programs
- C. I-5 Improvement Project Active Transportation Update – Niall Barrett, Capital Programs

#### **3. OCTA Staff Updates (5 minutes each)**

- A. Marketing Update – Kristopher Hewkin, External Affairs
- B. Active Transportation Update – Peter Sotherland, Active Transportation Coordinator
- C. Staff Liaison Update – Christina Byrne, External Affairs

#### **4. Subcommittee Member Comments**

#### **5. Public Comments\***

#### **6. Adjournment**

#### **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 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  
Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee  
Meeting Notes**

June 21, 2022 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
550 S. Main Street, Orange CA, Room 09

**1. Welcome**

Chair Paul Adams welcomed everyone to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Bicycle and Pedestrian Active Transportation Subcommittee meeting. Christina Byrne said there were no public comments received prior to the meeting.

**2. Roll Call Attendance**

Chair Paul Adams noted that there was not a quorum present.

Members Present:

Paul Adams

Nick Polichetti

John Kinney

**3. Presentation Items**

**A. E-Bike Update**

Peter Sotherland provided an overview of a survey given to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) regarding e-bike use. He noted that this was a small survey group, and the results do not reflect Orange County as a whole. Recreation is almost universally seen as the largest use for e-bikes, but half of respondents identified, school, personal errands, and commuter trips as uses for e-bikes in their jurisdictions. Speed was respondents' largest concern, but general behavior of e-cyclists (adherence to traffic laws and conflicts with other users) was also identified as a prominent concern. The TAC also shared that there is a lack of resources available for e-bike enforcement and education.

Peter shared the updates made to the e-bike webpage and upcoming marketing efforts. The videos are targeted towards teen operators to share how to safely operate an e-bike and be a courteous cyclist. The print materials are targeted towards a general audience but still share safety messages. A 6-month social media campaign will be launched and complement any other e-bike media being developed. Peter said OCTA went to Assemblywomen Davie's E-Bike event in Dana Point to share messaging centered around safe e-bike operations and use of bicycle facilities. Peter noted that he only shared the e-bike safety side of the equation, but the way drivers operate cars around cyclists is just as important. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

Nick Polichetti asked if OCTA is keeping track of specific city ordinances in project areas that would affect the ability of someone to use an e-bike. Peter said they have a list of all bicycle-related ordinances for each jurisdiction but there are only a few regarding e-bikes; most of which are on unpaved trails. Nick Polichetti found it interesting how many TAC members voted about e-bikes being used for work or school and wanted to know what the average mileage is for those trips. Peter said OCTA does yearly counts of how many e-bikes are on the road and what facilities they use, but they do not have a specific number in terms of mileage.

John Kinney shared that many kids in Laguna Niguel have electric bikes because of the hilly terrain. Peter said it will be interesting to see the rise in e-bike use and the challenges that may come with it. He said they are looking into different ways they can communicate safety information.

Chair Paul Adams asked if this presentation could be shared with the Citizens Advisory Committee. Christina said this presentation will be attached to their next agenda. Paul said that OCTA is ahead of the curve in terms of e-bikes and many other city agencies will be looking to them for guidance.

Nick Polichetti asked if bike theft has been a common issue they have seen. Peter said it is becoming more of an issue and San Clemente is a city that is on top of it.

B. Bike Month Recap

Kristopher Hewkin talked about Bike Month 2022. He said the theme was *Bike There*. He said OCTA did more of a “full week” approach throughout May 2022, versus a “day” since people have hybrid commutes, with each week having a different theme. The first week was about safety, the second was about recreation, the third was about commuting, and the fourth was about fitness. The ultimate goal was to increase bike use in Orange County and spread awareness of bike safety. Kristopher thanked Spectrumotion Transportation Management Association and Jax Bicycle Center for their sponsorship and support. Overall, there were 1,410 pledges which was a 72.4% increase, and 95 new Strava members which was a 37.1% increase. The social media reach increased by 12% with a little over 404,000 views and the website increased by 27.6% with 11,305 views. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

Nick Polichetti said influential people in the Orange County biking community can share pertinent information with their followers who are all the target audience. Kris said this is a great idea and they are always looking for ways to improve.

#### 4. OCTA Staff Updates

- A. Marketing Update – Kristopher Hewkin talked about the progress of the E-Bike safety videos and is excited about the new e-bike webpage. He said they will be doing a bike photoshoot so they can grow their own library instead of using stock images. Kris said OCTA is offering the Value Pass which is a discounted bus pass to encourage people to take public transportation while gas prices are high. Youth Ride Free was extended indefinitely and OCTA is partnering with schools and parents for distribution. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

##### Committee Member Comments

John Kinney asked where the value pass is being marketed. Kris said they are promoting it everywhere they can from digital to in-person.

- B. Active Transportation Update – Peter Sotherland talked about the Safe Travels Education Program (STEP) campaign. Enrollment has increased from 11 schools to 23. OCTA is pursuing a grant extension on that project after losing a year due to COVID-19. Peter said they are working on the Bike Gap Closure Feasibility Study to identify gaps within the OC Loops system in order to make connections across the county. The Bus Stop Safety and Accessibility Study will be starting within the next few months to evaluate a quarter mile around the bus stops and look at first and last mile connections. Peter said he has one open position for an intern as well as an entry-level, full-time employee.

##### Committee Member Comments:

No committee member comments.

- C. Capital Projects Update – Chris Boucly talked about the I-405 Improvement Project. He said the remaining work to complete on the Heil Avenue Pedestrian Bridge is the handrails because there have been some fabrication issues, but the majority of the construction is done. Chris encouraged everyone to sign up for alerts online to know when there are closures, openings, and route changes. The I-5 Improvement Project (County Line to Avenida Pico) is in the environmental phase and future plans are being discussed.

##### Committee Member Comments:

No committee member comments.

- D. Staff Liaison Update – Christina Byrne said the next regular CAC meeting will be at noon on July 19, 2022 and will be in-person. She said the next meeting of this committee will be September 20, 2022.

#### 5. Subcommittee Member Comments

Chair Paul Adams thanked staff for the meeting and told everyone to enjoy their summer.

#### 6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

**CAC Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee  
Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Attendance Record**

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

| <b>Members</b>   | <b>6/21/22</b> | <b>9/20/22</b> | <b>12/20/22</b> | <b>3/21/23</b> | <b>6/20/23</b> |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Adams, Paul      | ●              |                |                 |                |                |
| Kalmick, Dan     | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Kinney, John     | ●              |                |                 |                |                |
| Laveaga, Marie   | N/A            |                |                 |                |                |
| Orozco, Lisandro | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Paredes, Mark    | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Polichetti, Nick | ●              |                |                 |                |                |
| Reimer, Laurel   | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Shahbazian, Roy  | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Thompson, Diane  | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Thompson, Jeff   | ⊙              |                |                 |                |                |
| Tordini, Damon   | N/A            |                |                 |                |                |
| Vukcevich, Marc  | N/A            |                |                 |                |                |