

Meeting of Sept. 12, 2022

Adjustments to Bus Schedule Go into Effect Oct. 9

The Orange County Transportation Authority's board of directors approved bus service changes set to be implemented beginning Oct. 9.

The updates include a new Bravo! Route 553 on Main Street between the cities of Anaheim and Santa Ana. The limited-stop service will improve travel times compared to the existing regular bus service along Main Street. Bravo! Route 553 will be implemented using grant-funded battery-electric buses as part of OCTA's overall sustainability efforts.

Other changes beginning Oct. 9 include minor adjustments to 18 OC Bus routes.

Information about the service change will be available at www.OCBus.com.

Board Approves Updated 2023 Active Transportation Program Regional Project Points

The board approved updated scoring of Orange County's active transportation projects to better compete for state funding.

The California Transportation Commission's Active Transportation Program provides funding for projects throughout the state that encourage increased use of active modes of transportation such as bicycling and walking. Projects in Orange County are eligible to receive funding through the statewide and regional rounds of funding. The California Transportation Commission is currently considering projects for the statewide round and is expected to publish funding recommendations in October.

In total, Orange County agencies submitted 34 applications, requesting a total of \$311.1 million in Active Transportation Program funding.

Orange County projects that are not recommended for funding through the statewide round will be considered for the regional round of funding through the Southern California Association of Governments. The association allows county transportation commissions to develop a prioritization method to augment the scores of projects that provide local benefits.

To increase the chances of projects receiving funding through the regional round, the OCTA board has approved the addition of points for its project applications as outlined in the Southern California Association of Governments' process. Orange County anticipates receiving approximately \$61.1 million in Active Transportation Funding through the regional round.