

Meeting of May 12, 2025

OCTA Board Receives Updates on San Clemente Coastal Rail Stabilization

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors received an update on efforts to stabilize the coastal rail line in San Clemente.

Emergency construction work began on April 28. Crews have finished clearing out the remaining spans of a damaged pedestrian bridge near Mariposa Point and continue strategically placing and repairing riprap primarily within the area where riprap previously existed to fortify the track and protect against coastal erosion.

In addition, the California Coastal Commission last week approved a request for a Coastal Development Permit to construct a catchment wall at Mariposa Point and restore the pedestrian trail. The 1,400-foot-long catchment wall will help protect the rail line from sliding debris from the privately owned hillside above the track.

Passenger rail service is expected to resume in early June when the current work is completed. To learn more, please visit octa.net/RailEmergency.

OC Streetcar Service Expected to Launch Next Year

The OCTA Board received an update on the OC Streetcar project, which is nearing completion.

The OC Streetcar will provide an important transit option along a 4-mile route between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove. The route will provide a convenient and affordable way to travel through the densest parts of Orange County, with connections to Metrolink and Pacific Surfliner trains, and more than a dozen of OCTA's busiest bus routes.

Most of the construction is already complete, including tracks, bridges, stations and the streetcar base, where the vehicles will be stored and serviced. Vehicle testing is expected to begin later this year, with service scheduled to launch in spring 2026.

For more information, visit OCStreetcar.com.

Budget Workshop Held to Discuss Proposed FY 2025-26 Budget

The OCTA Board held a workshop to discuss the agency's proposed \$1.74 billion balanced budget for fiscal year 2025-26.

Overall, 50% of the budget is dedicated to transit, 26% for freeways, and 9% for streets and roads.

Highlights from the proposed budget include:

- Ongoing investment in zero-emission buses
- Continuing coastal rail resiliency planning efforts and project implementation
- Completing the OC Streetcar project and preparing for operations to begin in spring 2026
- Delivering Measure M promises, including improvements to SR-55, SR-91 and I-5
- Providing Measure M funding to cities and the County to improve streets and local transit options
- Supporting Metrolink rail service

The Board is expected to consider the budget following a public hearing on June 9.