

## **Meeting of Aug. 22, 2016**

### **Employees of the month for August honored**

The Orange County Transportation Authority board honored three employees of the month for August. Resolutions of appreciation were presented to:

- Manh Tran, coach operator
- Charles Henke from maintenance
- Regie Peaslee from administration

### **OC Streetcar rolls forward with revised funding plan, stop design criteria**

The OC Streetcar took several steps forward as the OCTA board approved a revised capital funding plan for the project, along with stop design criteria.

The revised capital funding plan follows the announcement of a \$25.5 million state-funded grant. The funding comes from the California State Transportation Agency-administered Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program, a part of the Cap-and-Trade Program.

The previous funding assumed that the \$297.9 million project might receive up to \$40 million from the Cap-and-Trade Program, leaving a \$14.5 million gap in the funding plan.

To make up the funding gap, the board approved the redirection of \$9.17 million in Federal Transit Administration funds from the Anaheim Regional Connector Project to the OC Streetcar and approved the use of up to \$5.32 million in Measure M Project S funds, a program which provides transit extensions to Metrolink.

The board also approved streetcar stop design criteria, which focuses on functionality, aesthetics and cost. There will be 10 stops along the 4.15-mile streetcar route in the cities of Santa Ana and Garden Grove.

Community feedback on the stop design will be solicited through workshops, an online survey and a series of public meetings. The design is expected to be finalized in December.

On the current schedule, construction for the OC Streetcar would begin in 2018, with service beginning in 2020.

### **Day pass cost drops \$1, other fare policy recommendations made**

The board approved reducing the day pass fare from \$5 to \$4 for a six-month promotional period.

The day pass fare reduction, along with other fare policy recommendations, are a result of a fare policy evaluation conducted as part of OCTA's OC Bus 360° plan. The plan seeks to improve the bus system and increase ridership.

The promotional fare reduction will go into effect with the Oct. 9 service change. Ridership is expected to increase by 600,000 boardings over the promotional period, with loss in revenue being made up for with Low Carbon Transit Operations Program funds provided by the state's Cap-and-Trade Program.

Other recommended changes to OCTA's fare policy include:

- Eliminating the 5 Ride Pass and 7 Day Pass to simplify OCTA's fare policy and eliminate the cost of production.
- Increasing the fare for express routes that travel within Orange County from \$2 to \$4 and increasing the fare for intercounty express routes from \$6 to \$7.
- Implementing a zone-based fare structure for ACCESS service. A north, central and south zone would be established within the county and the fare for trips that travel through three zones would increase to \$7.20. All other trips would remain at \$3.60 per trip.

A public hearing on the proposed changes is scheduled for the Sept. 26 OCTA board meeting.

### **Board receives CEO's second quarter initiatives update**

The OCTA board received a second quarter report of CEO Darrell Johnson's initiatives and action plan.

The action plan consists of 12 initiatives, implemented through 66 strategies and monitored through 90 milestones for the year. The milestones all fit into the strategic plan goal areas of mobility, public service, fiscal sustainability, stewardship and organizational excellence.

In the second quarter, 24 of the milestones were completed.

Accomplishments include:

- Completion of the SR-91 Interchange Project from Tustin Avenue to SR-55
- The launch of the new Bravo! 560 limited-stop bus service
- Expansion of the OC Bus mobile ticketing application
- Approval of OCTA's balanced budget for fiscal year 2016-17