



Citizens Advisory Committee Teleconference Notice

Committee Members:

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Amelia Castro | Javier Mejia | Michael McNally |
| Andrew Ramirez | Jeff Thompson | Mike Franze |
| Damon Tordini | John Kinney | Min Chai |
| Dan Kalmick | John Taylor | Nick Polichetti |
| David Wheeler | Karalee Darnell | Patrick Brenden |
| Deepak Krishan | Kellie Aamodt Kunal Mittal | Paul Adams |
| Derek McGregor | Laurel Reimer | Roy Shahbazian |
| Dianne Thompson | Lisandro Orozco | Stephanie Klopfenstein |
| Dirissy Doan | Margaret Novak | Steve Kozak |
| Frank Murphy | Mark Paredes | Theresa Harvey |

Teleconference Sites:

Orange County Transportation Authority - Headquarters
550 S. Main Street
Conference Room 07
Orange, CA

Guidance for Public Access to this Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting:

Governor Gavin Newsom enacted Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 authorizing a local legislative body to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and make public meetings accessible telephonically or electronically to all members of the public to promote social distancing due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, and in order to ensure the safety of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) CAC Members and staff and for the purposes of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at public meetings of the OCTA will not be allowed during the time period covered by the above-referenced Executive Orders.

Instead, members of the public can listen to a live stream of the October 20, 2020 12p.m. Citizens Advisory Committee meeting by clicking this [link](#).

Public comments may be submitted for the upcoming October 20, 2020 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting by emailing them to publiccomments@octa.net. **If you wish to comment on a specific agenda item, please identify the committee name and item number in your email.** All public comments that are timely received will be part of the public record and distributed to the CAC. Public comments will be made available to the public upon request. In order to ensure that staff has the ability to provide comments to the CAC Members in a timely manner, please submit your public comments 30 minutes prior to the start time of the Committee meeting date.

Agenda Descriptions

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. 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

October 20, 2020

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Teleconference Meeting

Agenda

1. **Chairman’s Remarks** Jeff Thompson, *Chair, CAC*
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** Jeff Thompson, *Chair, CAC*
3. **Approval of July Minutes**
Action Item
4. **Coronavirus Update** Jennifer Bergener, *Deputy CEO*
(10 min) Presentation
5. **Orange County Coronavirus Travel Trends** Kurt Brotcke, *Planning*
(10 min) Presentation
6. **South Orange County Multimodal Transportation Study** Warren Whiteakar *Planning*
(15 min) Discussion Marissa Espino, *External Affairs*
7. **Planning Studies Update** Charlie Larwood, *Planning*
(10 min) Presentation Marissa Espino, *External Affairs*
8. **OC Streetcar Project Update** Jim Beil, *Capital Programs*
(15 min) Presentation Cleve Cleveland, *OC Streetcar Operations*
Tresa Oliveri, *External Affairs*
9. **Fullerton Park and Ride Joint Development Study** Sam Sharvini, *Planning*
(10 min) Presentation
10. **Update Reports**
(5 minutes each)
 - Government Affairs Lance Larson, *Government Relations*
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Paul Adams, *Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee*
 - Marketing Stella Lin, *Marketing & Customer Relations*
 - I-405 Improvement Project Christina Byrne, *Public Outreach*
 - Staff Liaison Christina Byrne, *Public Outreach*
11. **Committee Member Comments**
12. **Adjournment / Next Meeting:**
January 19, 2021

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Citizens Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

July 21, 2020

12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

550 S. Main Street, Orange, CA.

Teleconference Meeting

Members Present

Kellie Aamodt, *UC Irvine/UPS*

Paul Adams, *Fountain Valley Planning Commission*

Patrick Brenden, *Huntington Beach Resident/City Council*

Amelia Castro, *Anaheim Housing & Comm. Dev Comsn.*

Min Chai, *Irvine Resident*

Karalee Darnell, *Yorba Linda Planning Commission*

Dirissy Doan, *Orange County Realtors*

Theresa Harvey, *North Orange County Chamber*

Dan Kalmick, *Huntington Beach Resident*

John Kinney, *Laguna Niguel Traffic Commission*

Steve Kozak, *Tustin Planning Commission*

Deepak Krishan, *Anaheim Resident / Accountant*

Derek McGregor, *Trabuco Canyon Advisory Comm.*

Michael McNally, *UC Irvine*

Kunal Mittal, *Civil Engineer*

Frank Murphy, *Orange Rotary*

Margaret Novak, *Ladera Ranch Maintenance Corporation*

Lisandro Orozco, *Historic Santa Ana*

Nick Polichetti, *American Society of Civil Engineers*

Andrew Ramirez, *Santa Ana Resident*

Laurel Reimer, *Orange County Young Planners Group /
American Planning Association*

Roy Shahbazian, *Bus Rider, Transit Advocate of OC*

Randy Styner, *Garden Grove Resident*

John Taylor, *Mayor Pro Tem, City of San Juan Capistrano*

Dianne Thompson, *Huntington Beach Chamber*

Jeff Thompson, *Engineering Mgr.r & Adjunct Professor*

Damon Tordini, *Santa Ana Resident*

David Wheeler, *Laguna Hills Resident/City Council*

Members Absent

Michael Franze, *Fullerton Bicycles*

Stephanie Klopfenstein, *GG Council/Neighborhood Assn.*

Javier Mejia, *Los Alamitos Traffic Commission*

Mark Paredes, *Garden Grove Planning Commission*

1. Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Roy Shahbazian welcomed everyone to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. He asked the clerk to read any public comments. Christina Byrne said there are no comments. Christina read through the teleconference protocols.

Chairman Roy Shahbazian acknowledged the passing of OCTA Board Member and CAC Liaison Gregory Winterbottom. Chairman Shahbazian asked everyone to join him in a moment of silence in honor of Director Winterbottom.

Chairman Roy Shahbazian welcomed new members and asked them to introduce themselves.

Amelia Castro said she is a long-time resident of the City of Anaheim and does a lot of community outreach through her job with Wells Fargo. Amelia also sits on the board of the City of Anaheim's Housing and Community Development Commission.

Deepak Krishan is from the City of Irvine and is a CPA. He has previously served on boards and commissions at the county level.

Dirissy Doan is the Government Affairs Director for the Orange County Realtors

Christina Byrne took a roll call of members present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Roy Shahbazian led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Approval of January Minutes

Chairman Roy Shahbazian asked if there are any corrections to the January 21, 2020 CAC minutes/Attendance Report. Margret Novak noted she was at the meeting but marked absent.

A motion was made by Theresa Harvey, seconded by Min Chai, and carried unanimously to approve the CAC minutes with correction and members not present abstaining.

4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Christina Byrne said a form was mailed to committee members by which committee members could fill out a statement of candidacy. Roy Shahbazian and Jeff Thompson submitted their candidacy for Chairman. They each provided their background and why they would be good for the position. Christina asked for nominations.

A motion was made by Derek McGregor, seconded by Paul Adams, to open the nominations of Roy Shahbazian and Jeff Thompson for the position of Chairman. They each accepted the nomination.

A motion was made by Randy Styner, seconded by Damon Tordini, to open the nominations for a roll call. Jeff Thompson was elected to the position of Chairman by a vote of 19 to 8 with one abstention.

Jeff Thompson thanked Roy Shahbazian for his many years as Chairman of the CAC. Roy's dedication to the committee and the citizens of Orange County will prove invaluable to the committee in the future. Roy said he is looking forward to Jeff's leadership.

Derek McGregor acknowledged Roy Shahbazian's many years of service to the CAC. He has shown tremendous leadership and enthusiasm for close to 20 years serving on this committee. Derek said chairing this committee does not come easily. There is a lot of work involved with being a chair, and Roy has taken the position to the next level.

Christina Byrne said staff received one statement of candidacy for the position of Vice Chairman. Dan Kalmick provided a brief statement on why he would be good for the position of Vice Chairman.

A nomination for Dan Kalmick to the position of Vice Chairman was made by Dianne Thompson, seconded by Jeff Thompson. Dan Kalmick accepted the nomination.

A motion was made by Paul Adams, seconded by Randy Styner, to open the nomination of Dan Kalmick to the position of Vice Chairman for a roll call. Dan Kalmick was unanimously elected to the position of Vice Chairman with one abstention.

5. Transit Services Update

Christina Byrne introduced OCTA's new Deputy CEO, Jennifer Bergener, who has more than 20 years of experience as a transit professional. She has served in various management roles, such as OCTA's Chief Operating Officer and Managing Director of LOSSAN.

Jennifer Bergener said she accepted the position of Deputy CEO in March as the pandemic was hitting Orange County. She said the pandemic created many hurdles for OCTA transit. She introduced Johnny Dunning, who will present this item.

Johnny Dunning presented OCTA's response to the Coronavirus in regard to the transit system. There was a severe decline in ridership during March and April. On March 23, 2020, OCTA implemented a Sunday service schedule for all days of the week, providing less trips/frequency and reducing the number of routes in service from 61 to 41 routes. Johnny discussed other actions OCTA took to stop the spread of the virus, including implementing rear door boarding, enhanced sanitizing of vehicles, installing sanitizer dispensers, and reducing capacity on board vehicles. Some of the items OCTA is tracking include ridership, which is about half of what it was previous to the pandemic, pass-bys due to reaching capacity, and unscheduled trips to pick-up bypassed passengers. Last month, the June 2020 Service Change was implemented. OCTA moved to a Saturday service schedule on weekdays and Saturdays. Nine community routes were restored, bringing the total to 50 routes in operation, and weekday trips were increased by 517 daily trips. Johnny talked about how OC ACCESS operates per the ADA guidelines providing service within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of fixed-route service and limiting the number of passengers. There are no shared rides on taxi service. Hand sanitizer is available in vehicles, and enhanced vehicle sanitization has been implemented. Johnny concluded his presentation with ridership numbers across all services.

David Wheeler asked about the impact on personnel and if any coach operators contracted the virus. Johnny Dunning said OCTA identified coach operators, and anyone with underlying issues (such as those 65+) were pulled from service. He said this choice impacted OCTA's manpower for providing service. Jennifer Bergener said OCTA has taken many preventative measures to limit the spread of the virus. She said OCTA has had a low number of employees who have contracted the virus. There are 10 employees out of over 600 who have contracted the virus and no fatalities.

Dan Kalmick asked about improving ventilation on the buses. Jennifer Bergener emphasized the stringent cleaning procedures for the buses. She said the windows could be opened depending on the exact configuration of the bus. OCTA has been looking at enhanced filtration for the buses. If the windows are down on the bus, it puts stress on the air conditioning systems.

Kellie Aamondt asked if OCTA is looking at adjusting the fare. Jennifer Bergener said there are no fare adjustments being looked at currently. She said costs are up for OCTA due to extra cleaning and limiting ridership capacity. Jennifer said the CARES Act was enacted, and OCTA has received money to offset some of these stresses. The OCTA Board of Directors approved a balanced budget in June, and no fare adjustments were in that budget.

6. Coronavirus Budget Impacts Update

Anthony Baruch provided an update on the OCTA budget and the impacts of Coronavirus on the budget. This is a conservative budget due to the unclear economic uncertainty. OCTA received \$221 million in CARES Act funding to help with bus and rail service. Within the Measure M2 program, the budget keeps current projects moving forward without starting any new projects. Metrolink is also operating with reduced levels of ridership and has requested OCTA to provide a budget for the first three months of the fiscal year. There will be a budget amendment to extend the contract for Metrolink by three months. The 91 Express Lanes has seen some reduction in travel as well but continues to meet bond requirements. Anthony talked about the reduction in the budget compared to previous years. He discussed assumptions for the next fiscal year.

There were no committee comments.

7. Active Transportation Programs Update

Peter Sotherland presented the Active Transportation Update. In 2019, OCTA received funding from the Office of Traffic and Pedestrian Safety. OCTA is providing virtual education classes/meetings and continues to distribute materials. He discussed the two key efforts underway that are in collaboration with the Orange County Health Care Agency. These efforts are the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program and the Safe Travels Education Program (STEP). OCTA took active counts in May/June of 2020 and will do it again in 2021 during weekdays and Saturdays. The bike map is also being updated. Bike to Work Week has been rescheduled to September. OCTA

realizes some people will still not be returning to work at that time and is developing challenges for people working from home as well. OCTA was recently awarded a Caltrans Sustainable Community Grant for a \$200,000 Bicycle Gap Closure Study. This will be a two-year project beginning in Spring 2021. Peter said he will continue to work with the Bike/Ped Subcommittee and provide updates to the full CAC as needed.

Jeff Thompson talked about how COVID is impacting active transportation. He would like to know how this time can be used to develop active habits for the future. Peter Sotherland said OCTA went forward with the counts this year to evaluate how habits are changing. In May, people were working from home, but also people were starting to leave home more. The data collected this year could provide some useful information. He said webinars are happening to address the impacts of the Coronavirus on active transportation.

David Wheeler asked if the recommendations from Gap Closure Study will have any authority regarding what gets priority. Peter Sotherland said there will be a review of existing programs/corridors. Recommendations will go through a public review process, and identification of grant funding for projects will be made. He said in terms of prioritization, feasibility will most likely determine what moves forward. Peter said he would double-check the information for the committee.

Kellie Aamondt said OCTA may see a shift in the needs of the community from needing transit to needing a safe place to ride or walk. She asked if anyone is developing statistics on this. Peter Sotherland said OCTA will keep an eye on this, especially with the program for working people.

8. Planning Studies Update

Charlie Larwood provided an update on OCTA major planning studies. These studies have become projects in previous years. One of the planning department's tasks is long-term corridor studies. Currently, the department is working on the 2042 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), which is a comprehensive transportation vision for the future. Other long-term studies include the South Orange County Multi Modal Study, the Mobility Hub Strategy Study, and the Freeway Choke-Points Study. Charlie said the project development/ environmental planning section is working on the 91 Implementation Plan and the 2020 Conservation Plan. In transit planning work is being done on the Bristol Street Corridor Study, Coordinated Services Plan, Freeway Bus Rapid Transit Study, and Connect OC-LA Study. OCTA also works with other counties on coordinated studies. These include the Regional Transportation Plan done by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and several plans/policies partnered with Caltrans.

Nick Polichetti asked for the update to be provided via email. Charlie Larwood said he would provide a factsheet on the studies.

9. Update Reports

Government Affairs – Dustin Sifford talked about federal assistance during the pandemic. He said the CARES Act provided \$25 billion in funding for transit agencies, of which Orange County received about \$221 million to help prevent the spread of the virus through sanitization, etc. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced they officially processed OCTA's grants. He said there is roughly \$160 million dedicated to OCTA's bus service. The CARES Act was the third federal relief bill. For the second round of the bill, there are two different formulas being considered, but indications are transit would not be included in the next bill. OCTA is tracking that closely.

Dustin Sifford said CAC members should have received a letter from Lance Larson requesting input on the State and Legislative Platforms. To submit comments, you can send them to Christina Byrne via email, or comments can be submitted online at OCTA.net. He said teleworking is actively being discussed in the legislature.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee – Paul Adams said there had not been a meeting in the past six months. Paul said he has been in contact with OCTA staff and discussed having a meeting in March but ultimately decided against it due to COVID. He has kept in contact with Chair Shahbazian on what is happening at a staff level regarding bicycle/pedestrian issues. Paul has also been working with Peter Sotherland about issues involving COVID. The next planned meeting of the subcommittee is September 15, 2020. It will most likely be done by teleconference.

Marketing – Stella Lin said the Marketing team has been busy keeping customers up to date through timely communication regarding the Coronavirus and OCTA's transit service. She said the June Service Change was implemented, and communication was provided through various formats and languages. Stella updated the committee on the College Pass Program. She shared information regarding the Metrolink Customer Comeback Campaign. Stella mentioned National Bike to Work Week in September. She provided information on the marketing program for the OC Streetcar.

David Wheeler asked about the College Pass Program and why UCI is not on the list. Stella Lin said this program is currently for community colleges. OCTA does have a program for universities, and UCI is in that program. The university program works a little different with the college offering interested students a discounted pass. David also asked if there is a high school program. Stella said there are youth passes available through OCTA.

Damon Tordini said he shared the Sunday schedule change on social media, but he missed the change to Saturday service because it posted under the OC Bus account. Stella Lin says there are several OCTA Facebook pages. She said most information about buses is posted on the OCTA Bus page.

I-405 Improvement Project – Christina Byrne said the CAC members received an I-405 bridge construction map prior to the meeting. The Talbert Avenue bridge is expected to open in 2021. The Bushard bridge is scheduled to open in the Fall 2020. The Magnolia Street bridge is expected to open in Spring 2021. The McFadden Street bridge will open late this summer. OCTA recently closed the Edward Street bridge and the bridge will remain closed for the next year. There will be a virtual celebration for the opening of the McFadden Street bridge in late summer/early Fall. She said there are 17 bridges and 75 walls under construction. OCTA continues to host virtual community meetings with Q&A to keep the community informed. Information also continues to be distributed through social media, email and flyers.

Staff Liaison – Christina Byrne said staff will send out the information talked about in this meeting. She thanked the CAC for their patience during the first virtual meeting.

11. Committee Member Comments

David Wheeler mentioned that he thinks the Oso entrance/on-ramp to the I-5 is extremely dangerous. He would appreciate someone looking into it. Christina Byrne said she will take the comment back to project staff.

Jeff Thompson thanked Chairman Shahbazian for his commitment to the CAC.

12. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

13. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm in memory of Director Gregory Winterbottom. The next meeting will be on October 20, 2020. (This most likely will be virtual.)

Citizens Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Attendance Record

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

| MEMBER | 7/21/20 | 10/20.20 | 1/19/21 | 4/20/21 |
|------------------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| Randy Styner | ● | | | |
| Mark Paredes | ⊙ | | | |
| Stephanie Klopfenstein | ⊙ | | | |
| Lisandro Orozco | ● | | | |
| Andrew Ramirez | ● | | | |
| Damon Tordini | ● | | | |
| Patrick Brenden | ● | | | |
| Dianne Thompson | ● | | | |
| Javier Mejia | ● | | | |
| Paul Adams | ● | | | |
| Min Chai | ● | | | |
| Jeff Thompson | ● | | | |
| Steve Kozak | ● | | | |
| Karalee Darnell | ● | | | |
| Roy Shahbazian | ● | | | |
| Theresa Harvey | ● | | | |
| Laurel Reimer | ⊙ | | | |
| Mike Franze | ⊙ | | | |
| Nick Polichetti | ● | | | |
| John Taylor | ● | | | |
| Derek McGregor | ● | | | |
| Margaret Novak | ● | | | |
| David Wheeler | ● | | | |
| John Kinney | ● | | | |
| Kellie Aamodt | ● | | | |
| Frank Murphy | ● | | | |
| Michael McNally | ● | | | |
| Dan Kalmick | ● | | | |
| Kunal Mittal | ● | | | |
| Amelia Castro | ● | | | |
| Deepak Krishan | ● | | | |
| Dirissy Doan | ● | | | |