



Citizens Advisory Committee
550 S. Main Street, Orange CA, Room 07
October 17, 2023 | 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. **Chairman’s Remarks** Karalee Darnell, *Chair, CAC*
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** Karalee Darnell, *Chair, CAC*
3. **Approval of July Minutes / Attendance Report**
Action Item
4. **OC Transit Vision** Charles Main, *Planning*
(20 min) Discussion Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
5. **OC Transportation Demand Management** Kristin Tso, *Planning*
(10 min) Presentation Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
6. **I-405 Improvement Project** Chris Boucly, *Public Outreach*
(10 min) Presentation
7. **Update on Diversity Outreach and Inclusion Efforts** Elia Verduzco, *Diversity Outreach*
(10 min) Presentation
8. **Active Transportation Update** Zully Villegas, *Active Transportation*
(10 min) Presentation
9. **Update Reports**
(5 min) Presentation
 - Government Affairs Clara Brotcke, *Government Relations*
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Paul Adams, *Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee*
 - Marketing Amelia Hsu, *Marketing*
 - Staff Liaison Christina Byrne, *Public Outreach*
10. **Public Comments**
11. **Committee Member Comments**
12. **Adjournment / Next Meeting:**
January 16, 2024

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.

*Public Comments: At this time, members of the public may address the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the CAC, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person, unless different time limits are set by the Chairman, subject to the approval of the CAC.



Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

July 18, 2023

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

550 S. Main Street, Orange, CA

Members Present

Brendon Moeller, *Orange Resident*

Damon Tordini, *Engineers w/o Borders/ Santa Ana*

Dan Kalmick, *Huntington Beach City Council*

Jamie Valencia, *City of Fullerton - INRAC*

Jeff Thompson, *Building Industry*

Jim Cunneen, *Fountain Valley City Council*

John Kinney, *Laguna Niguel Resident*

Karalee Darnell, *Yorba Linda Resident*

Kunal Mittal, *Civil Engineer*

Linda Nguyen, *Garden Grove Resident*

Lisandro Orozco, *Historic Santa Ana*

Marc Vukceovich, *Costa Mesa Alliance for Better Streets*

Martin Varona, *Orange Resident*

Mary Ann Remnet, *Rossmoor Resident*

Paul Adams, *Santa Ana Resident*

Reza Hosseini, *Irvine Resident*

Samara Ali-Ahmad, *Newport Beach Resident*

Steve Kozak, *Tustin Planning Commission*

Tyler Holst, *Civil Engineer*

Members Absent

Alex Rounaghi, *Laguna Beach Resident*

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

Carah Reed, *Santa Ana Resident*

Daniel Soper, *Cal State Fullerton*

David Wheeler, *Laguna Hills City Council*

Deepak Krishan, *Irvine Resident*

Frank Murphy, *Orange Resident*

Kristen Jasko, *Cal State Fullerton*

Laurel Reimer, *American Planning Assoc.: Orange Section*

Mark Paredes, *Garden Grove Resident*

Nick Polichetti, *Placentia Resident*

Randy Styner, *Garden Grove Resident*

Roy Shahbazian, *California Community Colleges*

1. Chairman's Remarks

Lisandro Orozco called the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting to order.

2. Welcome New Members

Christina Byrne welcomed new members in attendance, Jamie Valencia, Linda Nguyen, Reza Hosseini, and Samara Ali-Ahmad. New members Carah Reed and Kristen Jasko did not attend.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Lisandro Orozco led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

4. Approval of April Minutes/Attendance Report

A motion was made by Paul Adams and seconded by Jeff Thompson to approve the April 18, 2023, CAC Minutes/Attendance Report.

5. Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Christina Byrne opened the proceedings for the election of Chair and Vice Chair of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the 2023-2024 term. Ballots for Chair and Vice Chair were passed out and tallied. Karalee Darnell was elected as Chair and Jim Cunneen was elected Vice Chair.

6. Upcoming Planning Studies

Marissa Espino, Public Outreach presented an overview of two upcoming planning studies.

The first, an overview of the Orange County Transportation Demand Management (OCTDM) study with Kristin Tso, as the Project Manager for OCTDM.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked what the purpose is of the OCTDM study. Kristin Tso responded the TDM (Transportation Demand Management) measures involve strategies that optimize existing infrastructure without adding any additional capital improvements. It is a very cost-efficient way to reduce single vehicle travel in the county. This will be a comprehensive plan that will provide information for each of the local agencies and counties to utilize.

A committee member asked if the study is focused on a particular problem or will it develop a plan for transportation issues that we do not have the funding for and/or the right-of-way or resources for. Kristin Tso responded yes, as well as a way to address SB 743 which tries to reduce VMT's (Vehicle Miles Traveled). We do not need a lot of additional funding to implement these strategies but can effectively lower VMT's.

A committee member asked what the measurable objectives and goals are. It is not clear if it is a VMT aggregate reduction, VMT reduction per capita, increasing transit ridership, or congestion relief. Kristin Tso responded it is everything just said, and we are working to develop a performance matrix to measure the effect of these strategies.

The second was an overview of the 2024 OC Transit Vision and Marissa introduced the project manager, Charles Main.

A committee member commented on the Harbor Boulevard and Bristol Corridor Studies in the past. Is the Transit Vision study intentionally only looking at the bus system and not evaluating any other alternatives? Charles Main responded the study will be looking at a variety of modes and specifically for the corridors just mentioned. The original study in 2018 selected 10 priority corridors, the most productive ones in the county in terms of ridership, ridership potential; and it outlined BRT (Bus Rapid Transit), a streetcar extension, or Bravo, all of which will be revisited with the study as a lot has changed since 2018.

A committee member asked where they see the overall plan going. Charles Main responded in terms of ridership we are close to pre-pandemic levels, between 85% to 95% pre-pandemic ridership for OC Bus and that feeds into the LRTP (Long Range Transportation Plan) just approved. In terms of the next 30 years, that's an open question. There will be a lot of discussion on how to optimize existing service, and not necessarily just with capital projects, but with optimizing OC Bus, Bravo, and see where that takes us. We will also look at OC Flex service to see how it could help manage Paratransit demand and supplement OC Bus service.

A committee member commented that micro-transit has a huge impact in some cities who are using it as regular transit subsidiary. Charles Main responded they want to expand this study to include more of the first-last mile components, what the potentials are for mobility hubs, to incorporate bike-pedestrian opportunities to and from transit and some other emerging technologies.

A committee member asked if OCTA reaches out to jurisdictions like the cities of Anaheim, Orange, Tustin, and other local jurisdictions? Marissa Espino responded yes; they will be part of the process. We will have roundtables, stakeholder working groups, etc.

7. 2024 Budget Update

Victor Velasquez, Financial Planning presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member commented monies from the 91 Express Lanes were reinvested in that corridor and asked what are the assumptions in 23-24 for re-investment in the I-405 corridor based on profits, or is that something a couple years out? Victor Velasquez responded the latter, it's a couple years out before decisions on what can be done with the excess revenue from the 405 Express Lanes. The tolling for the first six months of the fiscal year is expected to be fairly low, but the collection of the revenue will be set aside to assure the bondholders there is sufficient money coming through the 405 Express Lanes.

A committee member commented that if sales tax revenues are predicted between 1.9% to 2.6% as shown in the presentation, yet inflation ranges from 3% to 6%, it seems like we are slipping behind. Victor Velasquez responded that we have historically taken a very conservative approach. Recognizing that there is inflation and we do not have an in-house economist, we contract with three universities as well as MuniServices. The three universities provide a local and national forecast in terms of how sales tax is going to perform, and we take the blended rate of those three universities and assume that forecasted rate beyond the next five years and what MuniServices provides for the next five years. The forecast has been very close to what is seen.

A committee member asked for the OC Streetcar, is there enough money budgeted for any overruns to get that completed? Victor Velasquez responded that the OC Streetcar project in terms of cost is more than what was currently presented. What is currently presented is what we believe are the expenses for fiscal year 2024, approximately \$84 million dollars.

A committee member asked that long term are we predicting the Express Lanes are going to bring in \$200 million dollars a year, 15% to 20% of the budget? Victor Velasquez asked the 91 or 405? The committee member responded both, then Victor responded that at this point it is difficult to gauge how much they will collect from the 405 Express Lanes. Historically from the 91 Express Lanes it has fluctuated between \$45 to \$53 million dollars on an annual basis.

8. OC Streetcar Update

Tresa Oliveri, Public Outreach presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked if there was any solar on it. Tresa Oliveri responded no, it is all electric, zero emission. It does have a battery on board in case of power outage to allow it to move into a safe position if needed.

A committee member asked if the project will be delayed due to the forecasted delay in electrical equipment. Tresa Oliveri responded no, we have the equipment, we are waiting on SCE (Southern California Edison) to come and do the hook up.

A committee member asked what type of headway the trains will get and will OCTA work with the City of Santa Ana to optimize traffic? Tresa Oliveri responded that this system has a traffic priority system.

A committee member asked on Fourth Street about the the tight turn onto Mortimer and if that intersection will get a signal. Tresa Oliveri responded yes.

A committee member asked is there any community input on train signaling and hours of operation? Tresa Oliveri responded hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and a little later on the weekends. The sounds that are heard are for safety and they are aware they will be running through residential area and are sensitive to that.

9. I-5 Improvement Project (SR-73 to El Toro)

Fernando Chavarria, Public Outreach presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member commented on the work and input done from the Bike-Ped Subcommittee had been brought to fruition and was an example of how input from the committees can improve active transportation.

A committee member asked if the weekend and nine-day closures of Alicia ramps is a nine-day consecutive closure? Fernando Chavarria responded no, it will be spread out and they will let people know ahead of time.

A committee member asked what are the classes of bike lanes mentioned earlier? Fernando Chavarria responded He would check and verify the classification. Fernando confirmed the Avery and La Paz bike lanes are Class II.

10. I-405 Improvement Project Update

Logan Selleck, Public Outreach presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked when would the 405 be closed at Brookhurst? Logan Selleck responded it will be closed Thursday and Friday night July 20 & 21, 2023 from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m.

11. Update Reports

- Government Affairs – Kristin Jacinto, Government Relations, provided the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member commented that Caltrans is in the process of taking comments on their I-5 managed lanes study between the county line and Redhill, is OCTA planning to comment on that? Kristin Jacinto responded yes.

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee – Paul Adams, Vice Chair, Bike/Ped provided the update.

Committee Member Comments

There were no comments.

- Marketing – Amelia Hsu, Marketing, provided the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member commented that the OC Fair was going on but the OC Fair Express has not returned after Covid. Amelia Hsu responded that there is a promotion encouraging the public to take a few bus routes to get there, and they are evaluating the Fair Express in the future.

A committee member commented that for bicyclists and pedestrians, we have the Fullerton Loop which is a mountain bike loop in the City of Fullerton. As we are near Yorba Linda, is there anything in the works about getting a bike path there? Christina Byrne responded they could provide an update at the CAC meeting in October.

- Staff Liaison – Christina Byrne, Public Outreach, thanked outgoing chair Lisandro Orozco for his leadership, offered congratulations to the new Chair and Vice Chair who will assume leadership at the October 17th, 2023 meeting and welcomed the new members. Christina noted that Denise Sifford had brought a complete streets call update as a follow-up to the presentation at the last meeting and is available after the meeting to answer any questions.

Committee Member Comments:

There were no comments.

10. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

11. Committee Member Comments

A committee member asked if they could have a LOSSAN update at a future CAC meeting. Christina Byrne responded perhaps LOSSAN could be agendized at a future meeting.

12. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Chair Lisandro Orozco thanked the committee and adjourned the meeting.

The next CAC meeting will be October 17, 2023.

**Citizens Advisory Committee
Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Attendance Record**

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

MEMBER	7/18/23	10/17/23	1/16/24	4/16/24
Mary Ann Remnet	●			
Linda Nguyen	●			
Jim Cunneen	●			
Paul Adams	●			
Randy Styner	⊙			
Mark Paredes	⊙			
Martin Varona	●			
Lisandro Orozco	●			
Brendon Moeller	●			
Jeff Thompson	●			
Carah Reed	⊙			
Damon Tordini	●			
Kunal Mittal	●			
Steve Kozak	●			
Samara Ali-Ahmad	●			
Reza Hosseini	●			
Karalee Darnell	●			
Roy Shahbazian	⊙			
Daniel Soper	⊙			
Nick Polichetti	⊙			
Jamie Valencia	●			
Laurel Reimer	⊙			
Amelia Castro	⊙			
Deepak Krishan	⊙			
John Kinney	●			
Tyler Holst	●			
David Wheeler	⊙			
Alex Rounaghi	⊙			
Marc Vukceovich	●			
Frank Murphy	⊙			
Kristen Jasko	⊙			
Dan Kalmick	●			