

20  
23

# Accomplishments Report

## KEEPING ORANGE COUNTY MOVING



Orange County  
Transportation Authority

[www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net)



## ABOUT OCTA

The Orange County Transportation Authority is the county's transportation planning commission, responsible for funding and implementing transit and capital projects for a balanced and sustainable transportation system that reflects the diverse travel needs of Orange County and its 34 cities. OCTA was formed in 1991 through the consolidation of seven separate transportation agencies. A 17-member board of directors governs OCTA with the Caltrans district director serving as the 18th member in an ex officio capacity.

OCTA has an annual budget of \$1.7 billion and employs 1,370 people along with 846 contracted employees providing OC Bus, OC ACCESS and OC Flex services.



## OCTA SERVICES & PROGRAMS

With a focus on continually improving Orange County's transportation system, OCTA delivers the following services and programs:

- Bus and rail transit
- Freeway improvements
- Street improvements
- Managing agency for the LOSSAN Rail Corridor
- Environmental programs
- Rideshare
- Active transportation
- Motorist services
- Administering Measure M, Orange County's local half cent transportation sales tax
- Long-range & multimodal transportation planning



## OCTA FIRSTS

**2019**

Pioneered regional microtransit service with the introduction of OC Flex, an app-based, on demand local service.

**2020**

Unveiled the largest transit-operated hydrogen fueling station in the nation.

**2021**

First agency to reset a partially drawn TIFIA loan, taking advantage of historically low interest rates to realize savings of \$158 million for taxpayers.

**2022**

First large transit agency in the region to permanently offer free bus rides to all youth ages 6 to 18.

Reached a milestone of more than \$1 billion invested in Orange County streets through Measure M to preserve pavement, synchronize traffic signals, and improve busy intersections.



In 2023, the OCTA Board of Directors established three strategic initiatives to deliver on its mission of keeping Orange County moving.

## **EQUITABLE, RELIABLE AND BALANCED TRANSPORTATION**

- Opened the I-405 Improvement Project spanning 16 miles between SR-73 and I-605. The project added new regular lanes, the 405 Express Lanes, improved on- and off-ramps, replaced and widened bridges with added bike lanes and sidewalks – all to improve travel times and keep pace with regional growth.
- Enhanced access to public transit by extending partnerships to renew College Pass Programs, continued the Youth Ride Free Program and deployed a limited-time Savings Pass, all of which resulted in a 7% increase in boardings.
- Approved the Long-Range Transportation Plan that will provide equitable, reliable and balanced transportation options for the next 30 years to help ensure a sustainable future.



## **FINANCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE**

- Received a perfect score from the Federal Transit Administration during its triennial review of OCTA's operations and business practices for the second time in a row – the average transit agency receives nine corrections.
- Worked with key stakeholders on emergency efforts to help ensure uninterrupted coastal rail service and launched a study to assess vulnerability of the railroad right-of-way in South Orange County and to address impacts from erosion, sea-level rise and other factors.
- Awarded \$3.4 million for 10 projects to reduce roadway runoff through the Measure M Environmental Cleanup Program. OCTA has funded 222 projects totaling more than \$36 million and capturing more than 60 million gallons of trash since the program began in 2011.



## **ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE, LEADERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

- Implemented core competencies into all OCTA job descriptions, providing clear growth and development pathways for staff.
- Supported professional development opportunities through OCTA's Management Development Academy and Early Career Academy.
- Continued as a transportation industry leader in zero-emission bus technology by adding battery-electric buses to OCTA's fleet of hydrogen fuel-cell electric buses.



# 2023 OCTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chairman  
Gene Hernandez



Vice Chair  
Tam T. Nguyen



Doug Chaffee



Jose Diaz



Andrew Do



Jon Dumitru



Jamey Federico



Katrina Foley



Brian Goodell



Patrick Harper



Michael Hennessey



Steve Jones



Fred Jung



Farrah N. Khan



Jessie Lopez



Vicente Sarmiento



Donald P. Wagner



Darrell E. Johnson  
Chief Executive Officer



Jennifer L. Bergener  
Deputy Chief Executive Officer