

Meeting of August 28, 2023

Board Honors August Employees of the Month

The Orange County Transportation Authority's board of directors recognized three employees of the month for August.

The honors went to:

- Damian Luna, a coach operator at the Garden Grove base who started at OCTA in 1994 as an OC ACCESS customer service operator. He is an excellent employee who represents OCTA in an exemplary manner by providing customers with safe, courteous, and reliable bus service. Damian recently achieved an incredible 24 years of safe driving.
- Jose Munguia, a service worker who joined OCTA's Garden Grove base in 1991 and currently works on the first shift. He regularly demonstrates OCTA's core values, and his can-do spirit and sense of teamwork make him a key contributor. Jose recently took the initiative to research the coding on some batteries that were ready for disposal and found they were still under warranty, ultimately recovering more than a thousand dollars in warranty money.
- Connie Mendoza, a warranty supervisor on day shift at the Santa Ana base who joined OCTA in 2008 as a warranty coordinator. She does an excellent job scheduling warranty repairs for the 173 new Cummins engines being installed as part of OCTA's ongoing repower campaign- recovering approximately \$52,000 so far in the early stages. Additionally, under Connie's leadership, the warranty team has recovered more than \$1.7 million in claims this fiscal year and more than \$8 million over the last three years.

OCTA Board Advances I-405 Outreach Plans

The OCTA board amended an agreement between OCTA and Kleinfelder Construction Inc. to provide public outreach services for the I-405 Improvement Project between SR-73 and I-605.

The current comprehensive outreach program for the project generates public awareness of project improvements, creates an understanding of project benefits, and notifies community stakeholders about construction activities and impacts. The Kleinfelder team coordinates OCTA's public notification effort including logging and responding to public comments and questions received by email, telephone, and social media.

The amendment would increase funding for and extend the contract by 6 months effective May 1, 2024, through October 31, 2024, allowing Kleinfelder to provide public outreach services for construction activities, and close out the outreach effort.

The \$2.16 billion I-405 Improvement Project will add one general purpose lane in each direction between Euclid Street and I-605, and a second lane in each direction from SR-73 to I-605 that will be combined with the existing carpool lanes to form the 405 Express Lanes.