# Making Better Connections Study Draft Service Plan

#### Accessible Transit Advisory Committee July 26, 2022



### **Background and Purpose**

- Last bus restructuring study in 2012 and implemented as OC Bus 360°
- Declining ridership experienced over the last decade
- Ridership decline exacerbated by COVID-19
- Understand the changes in transit demand
- Align transit system design with emerging, post pandemic, travel patterns
- Improve customer experience and grow ridership by:
  - Matching the service to markets
  - Improving service in the central urban core area
  - Leveraging innovation and technology to reduce customer wait and travel times

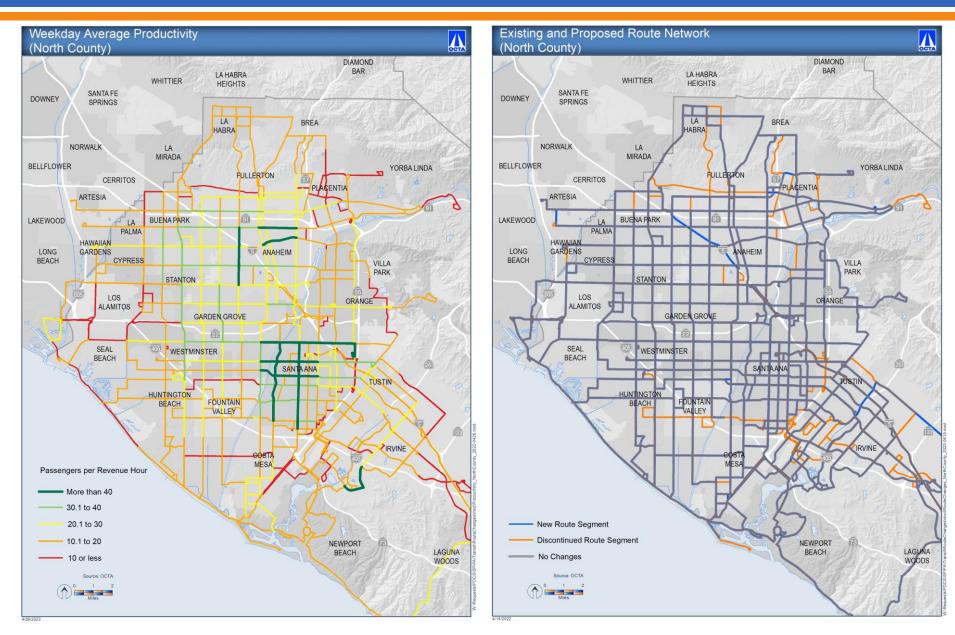
#### Summary of Proposed Modifications

- Improve frequencies, expand service hours, modify route alignments, and discontinue unproductive routes
- Top 10 corridors operate every 10-15 minutes frequency from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM, benefiting over 58% of all riders
- 38 routes in core area operate on a frequency of 30 minutes or better
- Nine routes operate on a frequency between 30 and 60 minutes
- Timed transfer hubs at Laguna Hills Transportation Centers and Brea Mall

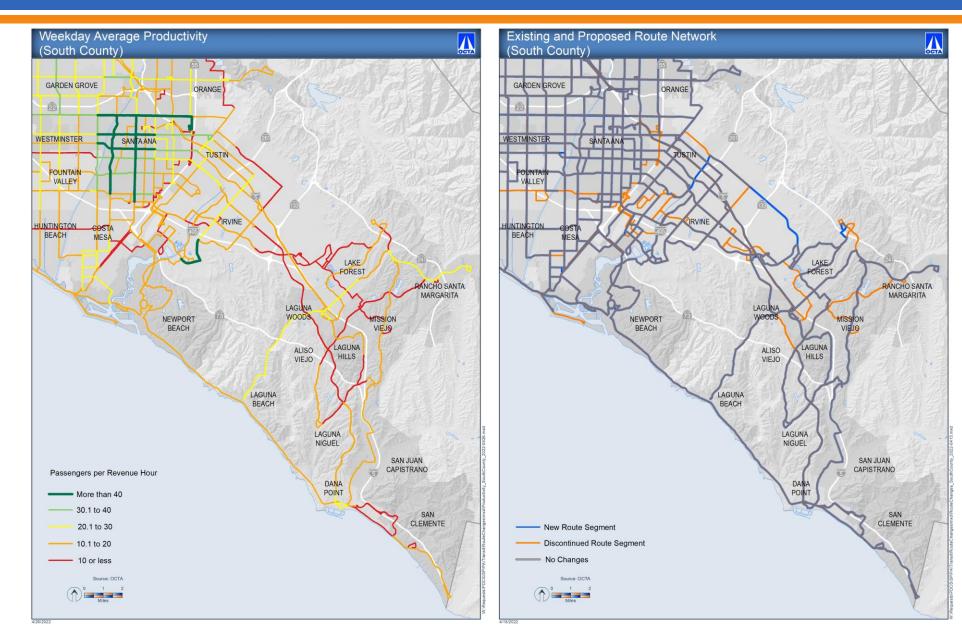
## Summary of Proposed Modifications (cont.)

- New community Route 164 on Irvine Boulevard
- New limited stop Bravo! Route 553 on Main Street
- Five freeway Express Routes proposed to be discontinued (currently suspended)
- One Stationlink Route and three arterial Local Routes proposed to be discontinued

## Existing and Proposed Route Network (North)



#### Existing Productivity and Proposed Network (South)



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# **Outreach Activities**

- 60,000 print booklets including survey in multiple languages – onboard buses and at outreach events (also available online)
- Digital communications web portal and comparative trip planner
- Bus ride-alongs, ads and interior cards
- Press releases / advertisements
- Local jurisdiction and public committee communications and meetings
- School (K-12 & College) and employer communications
- 3 in-person / virtual community meetings





#### What We're Hearing So Far

60 percent support proposed changes, noting:

- Increased service frequency (27 routes)
- Increased weekday service hours (23 routes)
- Increased weekend service hours (31 routes)

22 percent disagreed with the draft plan, noting:

- Route modifications, including removed segments (30 routes)
- Discontinuation of routes (9 routes) or limited stop service (3 routes)





#### Feedback by Type of Change

| Route Change Summary   | %<br>Support | %<br>No Opinion | %<br>Oppose | Total<br>Responses |
|--|--------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| New Routes   | 77%          | 18%             | 5%          | 73                 |
| Route improvements (including frequency, weekday hours, and/or weekend hours)                                | 72%          | 15%             | 13%         | 1,177              |
| More weekday hours and/or weekend hours, includes alignment changes  | 59%          | 22%             | 20%         | 333                |
| Improved frequency with more weekday<br>hours and/or weekend hours, includes<br>alignment changes            | 56%          | 21%             | 23%         | 1,757              |
| Changes to frequency and other<br>adjustments, including weekday /<br>weekend hours and/or alignment changes | 52%          | 18%             | 30%         | 787                |
| Discontinued Routes  | 48%          | 16%             | 36%         | 234                |
| No Changes   | 41%          | 41%             | 19%         | 27                 |
| Total  | 60%          | 19%             | 22%         | 4,388              |





| Plan Schedule                                  | Timeline                |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| Released Draft Plan for Public Input           | May 23, 2022            |  |
| Implementing Outreach Program                  | May 2022 - July 2022    |  |
| Conduct Public Hearing                         | July 25, 2022           |  |
| Consider Comments in Preparation of Final Plan | May 2022 - October 2022 |  |
| Submit Final Plan Recommendations              | October 24, 2022        |  |
| Initiate Changes with Service Changes          | As early as 2023        |  |