# 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

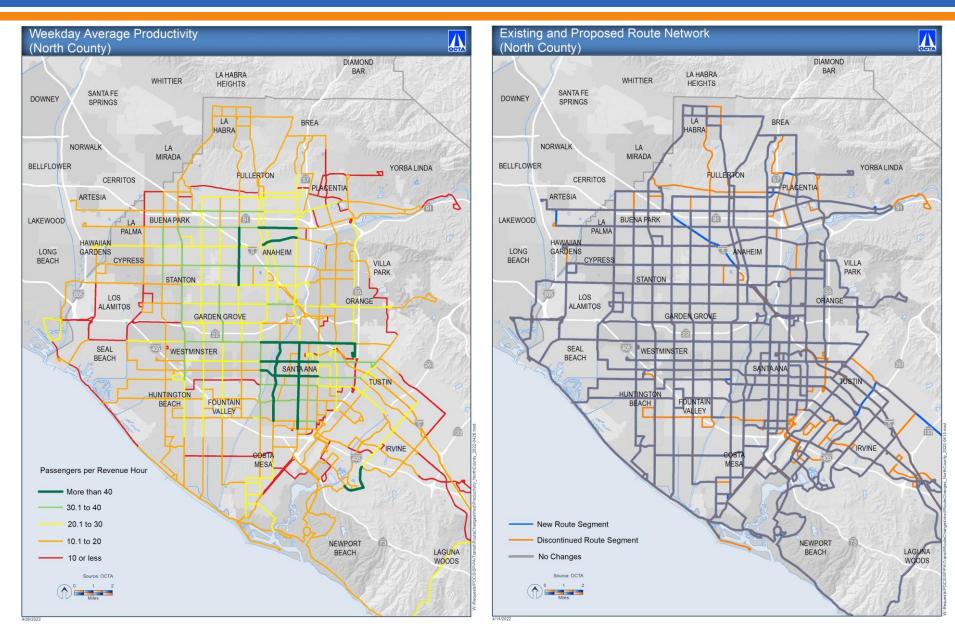
#### Summary of Proposed Modifications

- 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

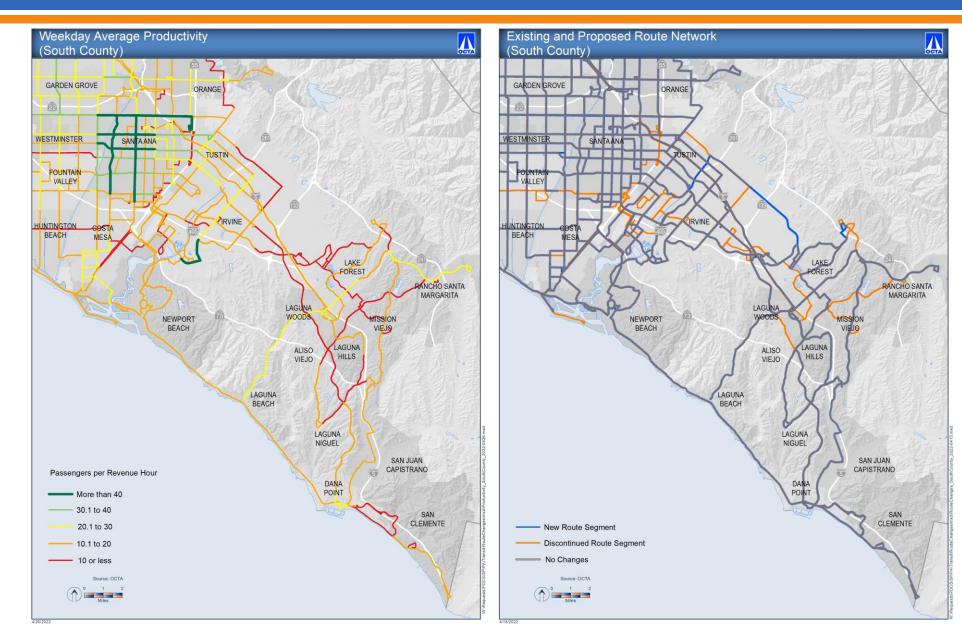
## Summary of Proposed Modifications (cont.)

- 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)



6

# **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	% Support	% No Opinion	% Oppose	Total 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 hours and/or weekend hours, includes alignment changes	56%	21%	23%	1,757
Changes to frequency and other adjustments, including weekday / 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	