



Citizens Advisory Committee Teleconference Notice

Committee Members:

Amelia Castro
Andrew Ramirez
Damon Tordini
Dan Kalmick
David Wheeler
Deepak Krishan
Derek McGregor
Dianne Thompson
Dirissy Doan
Frank Murphy

Javier Mejia
Jeff Thompson
John Kinney
John Taylor
Karalee Darnell
Kellie Aamodt Kunal Mittal
Laurel Reimer
Lisandro Orozco
Margaret Novak
Mark Paredes

Michael McNally
Min Chai
Nick Polichetti
Patrick Brenden
Paul Adams
Roy Shahbazian
Stephanie Klopfenstein
Steve Kozak
Theresa Harvey

Teleconference Sites:

Orange County Transportation Authority - Headquarters
550 S. Main Street
Conference Room 07
Orange, CA

Guidance for Public Access to this Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting:

Governor Gavin Newsom enacted Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 authorizing a local legislative body to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and make public meetings accessible telephonically or electronically to all members of the public to promote social distancing due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, and in order to ensure the safety of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) CAC Members and staff and for the purposes of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at public meetings of the OCTA will not be allowed during the time period covered by the above-referenced Executive Orders.

Instead, members of the public can listen to a live stream of the April 20, 2021 12p.m. Citizens Advisory Committee meeting by clicking this [link](#).

Public comments may be submitted for the upcoming April 20, 2021 Citizens Advisory Committee meeting by emailing them to publiccomments@octa.net. **If you wish to comment on a specific agenda item, please identify the committee name and item number in your email.** All public comments that are timely received will be part of the public record and distributed to the CAC. Public comments will be made available to the public upon request. In order to ensure that staff has the ability to provide comments to the CAC Members in a timely manner, please submit your public comments 30 minutes prior to the start time of the Committee meeting date.

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.



Citizens Advisory Committee

April 20, 2021

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Teleconference Meeting

Agenda

1. **Chairman’s Remarks** Jeff Thompson, *Chair, CAC*
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** Jeff Thompson, *Chair, CAC*
3. **Approval of October Minutes / Attendance Report**
Action Item
4. **Election of Chair and Vice Chair** Christina Byrne, *CAC Staff Liaison*
5. **State and Federal Policies Related to Climate Change**
(10 min) Presentation Kurt Brotcke, *Strategic Planning*
6. **Long Range Transportation Plan Update**
(15 min) Discussion Greg Nord, *Planning*
Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
7. **OC Streetcar Project Update**
(10 min) Presentation Jim Beil, *Capital Programs*
Tresa Oliveri, *Public Outreach*
8. **Environmental Sustainability Webpage**
(10 min) Presentation Jacqueline Moon, *Marketing and Customer Engagement*
Jennifer Beaver, *Marketing and Customer Engagement*
9. **Comprehensive Business Plan**
(10 min) Presentation Christina Moore, *Financial Planning & Analysis*
10. **Update Reports**
(5 minutes each)
 - Government Affairs Alexis Leicht, *Government Relations*
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Paul Adams, *Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee*
 - Marketing Stella Lin, *Marketing & Customer Relations*
 - 2021 Strategic Initiatives Lauren Sato, *Planning*
 - Staff Liaison Christina Byrne, *Public Outreach*
11. **Committee Member Comments**
12. **Adjournment / Next Meeting:**
July 20, 2021

Agenda Descriptions/Public Comments on Agenda Items

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**Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
January 19, 2021
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
550 S. Main Street, Orange, CA
Teleconference Meeting**

Members Present

Paul Adams, *Santa Ana Resident*

Patrick Brenden, *Huntington Beach Resident /
Councilmember*

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

Min Chai, *Irvine Resident*

Karalee Darnell, *Yorba Linda Planning Commission*

Dirissy Doan, *Orange County Realtors*

Theresa Harvey, *North Orange County Chamber*

Dan Kalmick, *Huntington Beach City Council*

John Kinney, *Laguna Niguel Traffic Commission*

Steve Kozak, *Tustin Planning Commission*

Derek McGregor, *Trabuco Canyon Advisory Comm.*

Javier Mejia, *Los Alamitos Traffic Commission*

Margaret Novak, *WTS Orange County*

Lisandro Orozco, *Historic Santa Ana*

Andrew Ramirez, *Santa Ana Resident*

Laurel Reimer, *American Planning Association: OC*

Roy Shahbazian, *Bus Rider, Transit Advocate of OC*

Dianne Thompson, *Huntington Beach Chamber*

Jeff Thompson, *Building Industry & Adjunct Professor*

Damon Tordini, *Engineers Without Borders / Santa Ana
Resident*

David Wheeler, *Laguna Hills Resident/City Council*

Members Absent

Kellie Aamodt, *UC Irvine/UPS*

Michael Franze, *Fullerton Bicycles*

Stephanie Klopfenstein, *GG Council/Neighborhood Assn.*

Deepak Krishan, *Anaheim Resident/Accountant*

Michael McNally, *UC Irvine*

Kunal Mittal, *Civil Engineer*

Frank Murphy, *Orange Resident*

Mark Paredes, *Garden Grove Resident*

Nick Polichetti, *American Society of Civil Engineers*

Randy Styner, *Garden Grove Resident*

John Taylor, *Mayor, City of San Juan Capistrano*

1. Chairman's Remarks

Chair Jeff Thompson welcomed everyone to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. He thanked staff for making the meeting happen on Zoom. Chair Thompson asked the staff liaison to read any public comments. Christina Byrne said there are no public comments. Christina read through the teleconference protocols.

Christina Byrne took a roll call of members present.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Jeff Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Approval of July Minutes

Chair Jeff Thompson asked if there are any corrections to the October 20, 2020 CAC Minutes/Attendance Report.

A motion was made by Theresa Harvey, seconded by Margaret Novak, and carried unanimously to approve the October 20, 2020 CAC Minutes/Attendance Report with one abstention by an absent member.

4. Coronavirus Update

Jennifer Bergener provided an update to the committee on the effects of Coronavirus on OCTA. She said on the operations side, OCTA is currently running at about 60% of the service that was offered pre-pandemic and there are about 52,000 daily riders (down from 120,000+ riders). Jennifer said OCTA completed the installation of protective shields for coach operators on all buses and moved the hand sanitizing stations and face mask dispensers to the front of the bus.

Jennifer said in capital projects, all projects continue to move along and some were able to take advantage of the slow down on the freeways to get ahead of schedule, but traffic volumes are starting to increase once again. On the I-405 Project, the contractor was able to provide 5,000 hours of work ahead of schedule due to the low traffic volumes. On the OC Streetcar project, OCTA was able to get much of the utility work done ahead of schedule since many of the businesses were closed in the early months of the pandemic. A big milestone for the streetcar project was with track installation in Santa Ana.

Jennifer said OCTA has been able to draw-down on federal CARES Act funds for nightly sanitizing of the buses, protective shields for coach operators and masks, etc. OCTA received \$157.5 million in CARES Act funds, but OCTA is starting to feel the pinch. OCTA has drawn-down \$77.8 million in CARES Act funds. She said these funds are monitored carefully. OCTA has been hit by a \$37 million loss in Measure M2 sales tax revenues for the fiscal year and \$33 million loss in bus revenues. Despite the losses OCTA continues to deliver on commitments. Jennifer said staff continues to effectively work remotely. Jennifer said coach operators will be able to get vaccinated as early as February. She said OCTA surveyed employees and found that 75% of administrative staff is willing to take the vaccine and 52% of the service workers are willing to take the vaccine. Jennifer said OCTA stands ready to help with delivery of the vaccine. OCTA can take folks to vaccination sites, or whatever the County needs.

Committee Member Comments:

Margaret Novak asked about the long-term effects of the pandemic. Jennifer Bergner said staff is working remotely. OCTA will continue to move forward with all projects that are currently underway. Jennifer said there will be a budget amendment coming to the OCTA Board in the near future.

David Wheeler asked about continuing to have staff work remotely to help with traffic and office overhead in the future. Jennifer Bergner said this is top-of-mind and OCTA will work on a robust plan for working remotely in the future. Although some things need to be done in-person in the future, she believes there will be a far more robust remote work environment in OCTA's future.

5. Next 10 Plan – Context and Options

Francesca Ching provided an update on Measure M2 Next 10 Plan – Context and Options. She provided background on the Next 10 Plan. She said OCTA is roughly about halfway through this plan. The current forecast for M2 revenue collections is down about \$1.8 billion from the previous 2019 forecast. She went over the advantages and challenges to Measure M2 due to the pandemic. The options are to maintain schedule, lower debt or a balance option. The OCTA Board opted for the balance plus option. <The full presentation is available online.>

Committee Member Comments:

There were no committee comments.

6. Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Introduction

Greg Nord said OCTA is kicking-off the development of the 2022 LRTP. Greg provided background on the LRTP. He said there are some issues that have occurred since the 2018 LRTP including the pandemic. Marissa Espino talked about the public outreach for the 2022 LRTP. She discussed the public engagement and said OCTA looks forward to face-to-face outreach in the future. The CAC is the stakeholder working group for the LRTP. Greg went over the milestone estimates for development of the plan. <The full presentation is available online.>

Committee Member Comments:

Jeff Thompson asked where OCTA sees the CAC's input on the timeline provided. Greg Nord said there will be regular updates at each meeting. We will be asking for CAC input in the spring on the goals/objectives, in developing the scenarios in late 2021/early 2022 and then on the selection of the final recommendations.

Andrew Ramirez asked if there are any rolling comparisons of what was expected with the last LRTP and what happened due to the pandemic. Greg Nord said OCTA does not do a formal comparison. He said OCTA will likely highlight the changes since 2018, but typically OCTA would not do a side-by-side comparison. This document is more of a living document that continually changes.

Damon Tordini asked if the 2022 LRTP will be looked at as a modification of the 2018 LRTP or a fresh start. Greg Nord said it is typically looked at as a modification. He said there are a lot of commitments already in place with Measure M2, so through 2045 OCTA already knows much of what will happen. He said OCTA can look at new strategies for moving forward as well.

7. FY 21/22 Comprehensive Business Plan – Bus Program Assumptions

Sean Murdock discussed the revenue and costs assumptions for the bus program in the Comprehensive Business Plan (CBP). He provided background on the plan. He said the pandemic has had a significant impact on the long-term sustainability of the bus program. Sean showed the operating revenue assumptions and actuals for the bus program along with CARES Act funding help. He then talked about the impact on service levels. Next, Sean talked about paratransit trips which are running about 80% lower than pre-pandemic levels. If the paratransit levels increase too much it could be detrimental to fixed-route service. He then talked about revenue pressures. Sean showed the operating budget for all operating services. He said OCTA spends more operating funds than peers. He said some of these costs come from the need to replace the bus fleet with 100% zero-emission buses per regulations. Sean went over revenue assumptions. He said OCTA has not increased fares since 2013. He said that will not happen right now, but possibly in 2027. Sean said in the future, paratransit may need to be re-evaluated for cost savings. This includes looking at shrinking the service area, re-evaluating non-ADA services and re-evaluating the fare policy. <The full presentation is available online.>

Committee Member Comments:

David Wheeler said slide number nine begs for OCTA to meet with its peers to figure out why OCTA spends more on operating. David suggested working with colleagues. He said it would be a great thesis for a graduate student. Sean said OCTA does work with universities, but primarily on sales-tax forecasts. He said OCTA has the staff to look at all of this and knows some of the reasons. He said OCTA does more than what is required by the ADA.

8. I-405 Improvement Project Update

Jeff Mills provided background on the I-405 Improvement Project. He then provided an update of the project noting that the project is more than 50% complete, and OCTA received Board Authorization to explore a reset of the interest rate on the TIFIA Loan. Jeff said that three bridges are complete and more than half of the retaining walls/soundwalls needed for the Project are currently under construction or complete. He shared a look ahead at bridge openings and closings over the course of 2021. McFadden, Bushard and Slater bridges are completely open.

Jeff said there are some risks remaining in the second half of the year including archaeological discoveries, Covid-19, utility relocations and the design/build of the toll lane system. Chris Boucly presented an update of outreach efforts for 2020. He said OCTA has used virtual meeting, digital communications, and flyers. The virtual meetings have increased OCTAs communication to the public with more people attending these meetings or viewing the meetings later. Chris said 2021 will be busy with virtual neighborhood meetings, major work notifications and bridge completion milestones. He said OCTA continues to work with major stakeholders. <The full presentation can be found on OCTA.net>

Committee Member Comments:

David Wheeler asked about the status of El Toro Southbound offramp. Jeff Mills said that is not apart of the I-405 Project. He said his understanding is there is an effort with the three cities and Caltrans to come-up with a preferred alternative.

David Wheeler asked if the soundwalls are being designed to be anti-graffiti. Jeff Mills said studies have shown that people who like to do graffiti like a plain/smooth surface, so all the design helps with this and there is a film on the soundwalls to make them graffiti resistant.

9. Update Reports

Government Affairs – Lance Larson said the CARES Act funding was a supplemental funding bill to help with Coronavirus. He said OCTA is looking at an additional \$80+ in normal dollars, transit dollars and relief dollars. OCTA feels like we were successful in getting money to help get through the pandemic. Lance said on the state side OCTA has been successful in getting workers and coach operators elevated on the list for vaccines. He said there are new chairs in transit legislative committees and OCTA is getting them up to date on the state and federal side. Lance said OCTA is trying to show the new federal administrators how big Orange County is.

Committee Member Comments:

Roy Shahbazian thanked Lance Larson and the legislative staff for keeping everyone updated on everything before and during the pandemic including online sales tax information. He asked if there are any updates on the fare distribution of sales tax monies. Lance Larson said we continue to monitor this – it was pretty much solved before the pandemic.

Paul Adams asked about the enabling legislation with the change in administration. Lance Larson said on the federal side OCTA is not seeing much of a difference. He said the staff that runs many of these programs are career staff and keep things moving. Lance said there will be a big effort towards transit programs with the new administration.

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee – Paul Adams said in November updates were sent out. There is a new OC Active website. The next subcommittee meeting will be March 16 via Zoom.
- Marketing – Stella Lin presented the Coronavirus Safety Communication and Education Campaign Update. She showed some samples of materials used in this campaign. OCTA recently joined the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) National Health and Safety Commitment Campaign. Stella discussed the College Pass Program. Cypress College will join the program. <The full presentation can be found on OCTA.net>

- OC Streetcar – Christina Byrne said a lot of utility work has been completed on this project. Committee members received a video commemorating the track installation milestone on the project. This first track was laid down at Bristol and Santa Ana Boulevard. The maintenance and storage facility work continues. She said 25% of the poles for overhead wires have been installed.
- Staff Liaison – Christina Byrne said OCTA is planning for the next recruitment. Jared Hill will send you information if your term is expiring and please let him know if you would like to continue serving on the committee. Christina said the application is available online if you know of anyone interested in serving on the committee.

10. Committee Member Comments

Jeff Thompson congratulated Dan Kalmick on his election to the City of Huntington Beach City Council.

11. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Jeff Thompson thanked staff for putting this meeting together and adjourned the meeting. The next meeting will be April 20, 2021.

Citizens Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Attendance Record

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

MEMBER	7/21/20	10/20/20	1/19/21	4/20/21
Amelia Castro	●	●	●	
Andrew Ramirez	●	⊙	●	
Damon Tordini	●	●	●	
Dan Kalmick	●	●	●	
David Wheeler	●	●	●	
Deepak Krishan	●	●	⊙	
Derek McGregor	●	●	●	
Dianne Thompson	●	●	●	
Dirissy Doan	●	●	●	
Frank Murphy	●	●	●	
Javier Mejia	●	●	●	
Jeff Thompson	●	●	●	
John Kinney	●	●	●	
John Taylor	●	●	⊙	
Karalee Darnell	●	●	●	
Kellie Aamodt	●	●	⊙	
Kunal Mittal	●	⊙	⊙	
Laurel Reimer	⊙	●	●	
Lisandro Orozco	●	●	●	
Margaret Novak	●	●	●	
Mark Paredes	⊙	●	●	
Michael McNally	●	●	⊙	
Mike Franze	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Min Chai	●	●	●	
Nick Polichetti	●	⊙	●	
Patrick Brenden	●	⊙	●	
Paul Adams	●	●	●	
Randy Styner	●	●	⊙	
Roy Shahbazian	●	●	●	
Stephanie Klopfenstein	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Steve Kozak	●	●	●	
Theresa Harvey	●	●	●	