



Citizens Advisory Committee
550 S. Main Street, Orange CA, Room 07
April 19, 2022 | 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1. **Chairman’s Remarks** Jeff Thompson, *Chair, CAC*
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** Jeff Thompson, *Chair, CAC*
3. **Approval of January Minutes / Attendance Report**
Action Item
4. **Election of Chair** Christina Byrne, *CAC Staff Liaison*
5. **Election of Vice Chair** Christina Byrne, *CAC Staff Liaison*
6. **Making Better Connections Study**
(15 min) Discussion Dan Phu, *Planning*
7. **Long Range Transportation Plan**
(20 min) Discussion Greg Nord, *Planning*
Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
8. **South Orange County Multimodal Transportation Study**
(20 min) Discussion Warren Whiteaker, *Planning*
Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
9. **SR-91 Comprehensive Multimodal Corridor Plan**
(10 min) Presentation Dan Phu, *Planning*
Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
10. **Update Reports**
(5 minutes each)
 - Government Affairs Lance Larson, *Government Relations*
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Paul Adams, *Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee*
 - Marketing Amelia Hsu, *Marketing*
 - I-405 Update Nicci Wright, *Public Outreach*
 - Staff Liaison Christina Byrne, *Public Outreach*
11. ***Public Comments**
12. **Committee Member Comments**
13. **Adjournment / Next Meeting:**
July 19, 2022

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.

*Public Comments: At this time, members of the public may address the Taxpayer Oversight Committee (TOC) regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the TOC, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person, unless different time limits are set by the Chairman, subject to the approval of the TOC.



**Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
January 18, 2022
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
550 S. Main Street, Orange, CA
Teleconference Meeting**

Members Present

Adam Wood, *Huntington Beach Resident / Building Industry*
Amelia Castro, *Anaheim Housing & Comm. Dev Comsn.*
Dale Soeffner, *Garden Grove Planning Commission*
Damon Tordini, *Santa Ana Resident*
Dan Kalmick, *Huntington Beach Resident*
Daniel Soper, *Cal State Fullerton*
David Wheeler, *Laguna Hills Resident/City Council*
Deepak Krishan, *Anaheim Resident/Accountant*
Dianne Thompson, *Huntington Beach Chamber*
Dirissy Doan, *Orange County Realtors*
Frank Murphy, *Orange Rotary*
Jeff Thompson, *Building Industry & Adjunct Professor*

Jim Cunneen, *Fountain Valley School District Board of Trustees*
John Kinney, *Laguna Niguel Traffic & Transportation Commission*
Karalee Darnell, *Cal State Fullerton*
Lisandro Orozco, *Historic Santa Ana*
Marie Laveaga, *La Habra Chamber*
Mark Paredes, *Garden Grove Planning Commission*
Meredith Chillemi, *LifeSTEPS*
Nick Polichetti, *American Society of Civil Engineers*
Paul Adams, *Fountain Valley Planning Commission*
Roy Shahbazian, *Bus Rider, Transit Advocate of OC*
Randy Styner, *Garden Grove Resident*

Members Absent

Derek McGregor, *Trabuco Canyon Advisory Comm.*
Eddie Marquez, *Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce*
Jamey Federico, *Dana Point Mayor*
Kellie Aamodt, *UC Irvine/UPS*

Kunal Mittal, *Civil Engineer*
Laurel Reimer, *Urban Planner*
Pete Hardin, *Costa Mesa Resident/Attorney*
Steve Kozak, *Tustin Planning Commission*

1. Chairman's Remarks

Chair Jeff Thompson welcomed everyone to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. Chair Thompson welcomed new member Jim Cunneen to the committee.

Chair Jeff Thompson asked the CAC staff liaison to read any public comments. Christina Byrne said there were no prior public comments. Christina read through the teleconference protocols, took a roll call of members, and found the CAC to have quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Welcome

OCTA CEO Darrell Johnson said he has worked in the industry for 31 years – largely in California with a few stops along the way. His background is in rail, transit, finance, and project delivery. Johnson has been CEO at OCTA coming up on nine years. He talked about the importance of OCTA's public committees to Orange County. He said the OCTA Board of Directors and staff appreciate the committee's input. He said the committee serves a critical role as a liaison between OCTA and your constituents. The feedback the committee gives to OCTA helps to give a voice on transportation issues that help guide OCTA's direction. Johnson said the past almost two years have been very challenging, but critical bus services has continued throughout the county. Johnson said OCTA tracks all positive Covid cases for all employees, contractors, and construction projects. Unfortunately, cases are at an all-time high. He said this is not a surprise when looking at the numbers statewide, but the surprise is that it is affecting OCTA across all modes and methods. OCTA is starting to lose production time on capital projects. On the I-405 Project Team (construction and administrative alike) there are more than 100 employees out with Covid. OCTA is seeing a similar hit on the OC Streetcar Project and Fixed Route Service. This is causing delays all around. There are currently 83 OCTA employees out with Covid during the first 14 days of 2022. Johnson said nearly 80% of the OCTA workforce is vaccinated and OCTA is offering financial incentives to those getting vaccinated and boosted. OCTA does not have a mandate and does not plan to have one but will continue to monitor mandates at the state and federal level. Johnson said it looks like a good agenda today and hopes the committee enjoys the presentations.

Committee Member Comments:

Chair Jeff Thompson observed it seems recovery may be quicker than it was last year when Covid hit hard. Darrell Johnson said this seems to be the general feeling. He said OCTA is asking employees to stay home if sick and get tested before coming back to work. Darrell said as of today, the cases at OCTA are still climbing and we have not seen a plateau yet. He said it also seems to be hardest hitting employees who cannot work remotely.

David Wheeler asked if OCTA can determine if employees are out sick due to Omicron or the common cold. Darrell Johnson said the information OCTA has is how many employees are Covid positive and not the variant. There is no information on where the employee contracted the virus. He said CalOSHA requires OCTA to report the positive cases. Darrell said there is no way of us knowing the variant and these numbers reported are Covid positive cases, not any other illness or injury.

4. Approval of October Minutes/Attendance Report

Chair Jeff Thompson asked if there were any corrections to the October 19, 2021, CAC Minutes/Attendance Report.

A motion was made by Dirissy Doan, seconded by Dianne Thompson, and carried unanimously to approve the October 19, 2021, CAC Minutes/Attendance Report with one abstention.

5. Public Comments

Christina Byrne opened the meeting to live comments from the public. There were no live comments.

6. Attitudinal & Awareness Survey Results

Dr. Tim McLarney of True North Research presented the results of the Attitudinal and Awareness Survey that was conducted a few months ago for OCTA. Dr. McLarney said there are further details on the survey in the full report. This survey is conducted every three years and provides information on the purpose of the survey and the methodology used to conduct the study. He said 2,564 interviews were conducted. Dr. McLarney discussed which issues are most important to those surveyed. He showed a comparison of issues over the years, awareness of OCTA, and overall opinion of OCTA. Dr. McLarney said those who use OCTA's service have a much more positive feeling for OCTA than non-riders. He discussed the vehicle trip and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reducing strategies and how they were mostly favorably received by interviewees. Next, he showed a graph of support for pricing and policy strategies. Dr. McLarney talked about capacity and infrastructure and widening freeways has gone down from previous years. Overall, the key takeaways are widespread support for reducing vehicle trips, mixed results for policy strategies to reduce congestion, and support for infrastructure repair/maintenance. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

David Wheeler said he liked the report and found it interesting and asked for a copy of the full written report. Christina Byrne said OCTA will make arrangements for access to the report.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

7. Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update

Marissa Espino presented the LRTP Update/Survey Results. She talked about highlights from the Fall Public Engagement. She shared a sampling and highlights from the community survey.

Greg Nord discussed the timeline for 2022 study. He said in the winter there will be development/analysis of the initial 2045 scenarios. In the Spring, there will be

engagement with local jurisdictions and scenario refinement. In the Summer, the draft LRTP will be prepared. In the Fall, there will be public engagement and the finalization of the LRTP. He talked about the sunset of OC Go (Measure M2) and the different scenarios that will be included in the public engagement and scenarios. Greg said there will likely be another facilitated discussion with the committee at the April meeting. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

David Wheeler asked for all of today's presentations. Christina Byrne said all committee presentations are posted on OCTA.net. David asked if the links could be sent as well.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

8. OC Streetcar Update

Ross Lew presented an update on the OC Streetcar Project. He provided background on the project and indicated the area that has rail already in the street. He said the construction is nearly 63% complete. Ross talked about the vehicle production, with the first vehicle being received by OCTA in April. Next, he talked about the project challenges and impacts. An update was provided on the proposed project budget and schedule. Currently, the project is anticipated to start revenue service in March 2024. The total cost of the project is \$509.54 million (including contingency funds). Ross shared the next steps including working with the various federal and state agencies and continuing to monitor the project costs and schedule.

Tresa Oliveri talked about the public outreach for the OC Streetcar. She said there have been several intersections closed in Santa Ana. The closures affected many business and government agencies and OCTA staff has been working hard to notify every one of the closures. She said project signage has been developed to communicate with public during construction. Staff continues outreach in the community including the Eat, Shop, Play Program and meetings with the Downtown Business Associations. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

Dale Soeffner said this project seems to be ending right at the border of Garden Grove. He asked if there are plans to extend it to the ARTIC Center or another place. Tresa Oliveri said the planning department will be bringing an item to the OCTA Board of Directors, with options to extend this project using Harbor Boulevard. Dale said the project seems to end in the middle of nowhere and asked if buses will connect to this terminus. Tresa said that Harbor Boulevard is one of OCTA's busiest transit corridors and OCTA runs the highest concentration of bus service on this street. She said there is a bus stop within walking distance of the terminus. Ross Lew also commented there are currently four bus stops near the area on Harbor Boulevard.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

9. M2 Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP)

Dan Phu provided the M2 EMP. He started with some background on the program which stems from biological offsets of impacts of the 13 freeway programs in OC Go (Measure M2). Dan talked about the components of the EMP and about OCTA's partners. He shared information on the conservation planning process and covered species. OCTA has acquired seven preserves, funded 11 restoration projects, and removed one dam as part of this program. Dan showed a map indicating the key components of the EMP, which shows how the efforts are spread throughout the county. Dan also provided an overview of the Conservation Plan Annual Report. He talked about the Environmental Oversight Committee and the different members. He talked about the Fire Management Plans. Dan said this program has been recognized federally as a standard for others to emulate. He said in next staff will be drafting the 2021 Conservation Plan Annual Report, complete the Fire Management Plans, monitor and provide updates on the endowment, and will begin the process of transferring the Preserves to a land management entity. Dan mentioned the docent led hikes and equestrian rides administered by Marissa Espino in OCTA Public Outreach. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

Dale Soeffner asked how people find out about the hikes. Dan Phu said OCTA has a website called PreservingOurLegacy.org and all the information can be found there. Marissa Espino provided this information to the committee members in the meeting chat.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

10. M2 Next 10 Delivery Plan

Francesca Ching provided an overview of the 2021 M2 Next 10 Delivery Plan. She discussed the history and implementation of the delivery plans. She shared the major accomplishments of Measure M2 within the Freeway, Streets and Roads, Transit, and the Environmental Components. She also discussed the financial framework of Measure M2. Francesca summarized the Next 10 Plan deliverables within each component. She then shared 14 freeway projects will be delivered in the Next 10 years along with nine other freeway projects in the construction phase. Francesca discussed the Measure M2 program cash flow. She outlined the potential risks, mainly with funding and regulatory issues. Francesca said the key takeaways are the recovery of Measure M2 revenue, inflationary increases, continued investment in all modes, and deliverable promises. She said OCTA will be distributing the updated Next 10 Plan to local jurisdictions and stakeholders, continue work with transportation partners and monitor risks associated with the changing environment. <The full presentation is available on OCTA.net.>

Committee Member Comments:

There were no committee member comments.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

11. Update Reports

- Government Affairs – Lance Larson said staff will be going to the OCTA Board of Directors Legislative Committee to provide an update on the governor's budget priorities. He said OCTA has been operating a pilot Youth Ride Free program on OCTA's transit services and OCTA is taking a sponsor bill to the delegation to extend the program. Lance said on the Federal side, OCTA will be following the infrastructure bill and regulatory actions. He said Congress still has not finished its long-term annual funding appropriations bill which expires in February.
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee – Paul Adams said there was not a meeting since the last full committee meeting. He said the next meeting of the committee will be on March 15, 2022. Paul said that Peter Southerland delivered the Biannual Active Transportation Update to the OCTA Board on November 1, 2021. The Aliso bikeway closure will be extended through the summer. Paul said the San Clemente City Council is looking to ban e-bikes on the pier and trails.
- Marketing – Amelia Hsu said the Youth Ride Free Program has generated over 623,000 boardings to date and the program will end on February 28, 2022, unless extended. OCTA is looking for feedback through the Making Better Connections Study, which kicks-off on January 24, 2022, with the final results anticipated in October. Amelia talked about the February return of Bravo 529 service – this specialty route only stops at transfer points and major destinations and travels from Fullerton to Huntington Beach.
- South County Multimodal Study – Warren Whiteaker said this study identifies future multimodal solutions for the South Orange County area. He said the focus is on equity, safety, and moving people rather than cars. OCTA is entering the final phase of the study and will be conducting the final outreach campaign in February/March 2022. There will be a final survey, a public webinar and it will all be publicized online, through social media and other OCTA communication channels.
- Staff Liaison – Christina Byrne encouraged everyone to check the chat for this meeting. Marissa Espino dropped the schedule for the docent-led hikes and the website. She said staff continues to monitor mandates regarding Covid-19 and will let the committee know when meetings will resume in-person. Currently, the assumption is meetings will continue to be virtual through the end of March 2022. Christina introduced Allison Imler. She has replaced Jared Hill and will be helping with the committee.

12. Committee Member Comments

Vice-Chair Lisandro Orozco asked to be notified regarding streetcar expansion. Christina Byrne said there will be an outreach effort on this project and it will be sent to all committee members.

13. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Chair Jeff Thompson said he hoped the April meeting will be in-person. The next meeting will be April 19, 2022.

Citizens Advisory Committee Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Attendance Record

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

MEMBER	7/20/21	10/19/21	1/18/22	4/19/22
Adam Wood	●	●	●	
Amelia Castro	⊙	⊙	●	
Ben Chapman	⊙	⊙	R	
Dale Soeffner	⊙	●	●	
Damon Tordini	●	⊙	●	
Dan Kalmick	●	●	●	
Daniel Soper	●	●	●	
David Wheeler	●	●	●	
Deepak Krishan	⊙	●	●	
Derek McGregor	●	●	⊙	
Dianne Thompson	⊙	●	●	
Dirissy Doan	●	●	●	
Eddie Marquez	N/A	⊙	⊙	
Frank Murphy	●	●	●	
Jamey Federico	●	●	⊙	
Jeff Thompson	●	●	●	
Jim Cunneen	N/A	N/A	●	
John Kinney	●	●	●	
Karalee Darnell	●	●	●	
Kellie Aamodt	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Kunal Mittal	⊙	●	⊙	
Laurel Reimer	⊙	●	⊙	
Lisandro Orozco	●	●	●	
Marie Laveaga	●	●	●	
Mark Paredes	⊙	⊙	●	
Meredith Chillemi	●	●	●	
Nick Polichetti	⊙	●	●	
Paul Adams	●	●	●	
Pete Hardin	●	●	⊙	
Randy Styner	⊙	⊙	●	
Roy Shahbazian	●	●	●	
Steve Kozak	●	⊙	⊙	