

Meeting of Oct. 28, 2019

October Employees of the Month Recognized

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

The honors went to:

- Phillip Nguyen, coach operator
- Eduardo Ramos, maintenance
- Neepa Shah, administration

Measure M Expected to Bring in \$13.4 Billion

The OCTA board received an updated forecast for Measure M that shows a 2.2 percent increase in taxable sales compared to last year's forecast.

The long-term forecast for Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements has increased from \$13.1 billion last year, to \$13.4 billion this year, an increase of \$300 million through 2041.

OCTA contracts with MuniServices to forecast taxable sales growth rates for the first five years of the forecast period, and uses a blended forecast from Chapman University, UCLA and Cal State Fullerton for the remaining years. The MuniServices forecast shows an average annual taxable sales growth of 3.2 percent for 2020-24. The growth rate for the three universities showed an average annual growth rate of 3.7 percent for 2025-41.

Agreement Reached for 241/91 Tolled Connector

The OCTA board approved an agreement with the Riverside County Transportation Commission, Transportation Corridor Agencies and Caltrans that lays the groundwork for the construction of a tolled connector between the 241 Toll Road and the 91 Express Lanes.

The agreement is a result of several months of discussions and sets the stage for much-needed traffic relief, while ensuring the project smoothly integrates with others planned in Orange and Riverside counties, including the 91 Express Lanes/I-15 Connector and the SR-91 Corridor Operations Project.

The proposed project would connect the 241 Toll Road directly with the 91 Express Lanes, about 2 miles west of the Orange County border with Riverside County. Construction of the connector is expected to begin in 2023.