

Meeting of Feb. 24, 2020

February Employees of the Month Recognized

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

The honors went to:

- Jose Garcia, coach operator
- Curt Molenda, maintenance
- Sue White, administration

OCTA to Roll Out Zero-Emission Buses

OCTA is developing a plan to transition to a 100 percent zero-emission bus fleet by 2040 to comply with state law.

The California Air Resources Board's Innovative Clean Transit regulation requires transit agencies to begin purchasing zero-emission buses in 2023, with the goal of transitioning to full zero-emission bus fleets by 2040.

OCTA will be testing different types of zero-emission technology over the next few years to help make informed decisions about which technology works best for the agency. Earlier this year, OCTA unveiled 10 hydrogen fuel-cell electric buses, along with the largest hydrogen fueling station in the nation for transit. The agency will also begin procuring 10 battery-electric buses later this year.

The OCTA board is expected to consider a draft zero-emission bus roll-out plan in May before submitting the plan to CARB by July 1.

OCTA Working with Local Businesses During OC Streetcar Construction

The OCTA board approved an agreement with two downtown Santa Ana business associations that will provide additional resources to help draw visitors during OC Streetcar construction.

The OC Streetcar is the county's first modern electric streetcar and will run about 4 miles between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center and Garden Grove. The planned route serves Santa Ana's thriving downtown and dense employment areas, including county and local government offices and courthouses in the Civic Center area.

Construction began last year and OCTA has been working with businesses along the alignment to provide information related to construction and offer marketing and promotional assistance. OCTA has also provided signage throughout the downtown area directing visitors to free parking options.

The agreements, \$100,000 each for two consecutive years, will help the business associations plan events and expand their marketing efforts to help promote downtown Santa Ana.

