

## **Meeting of March 26, 2018**

### **March Employees of the Month Honored**

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

Resolutions were presented to:

- Julio Giraldo, Coach Operator
- Patrick Dawes, Maintenance
- Lydia Bilynsky, Administration

### **Firm Selected to Provide OC Flex Pilot Program**

The OCTA board of directors selected Keolis Transit Services to provide operation and maintenance services for the microtransit pilot program. The program will be offered in two zones, each that cover about six miles. One zone is in Huntington Beach and the other is in Aliso Viejo, Laguna Niguel and Mission Viejo.

The board approved the concept of a one-year microtransit pilot program last October to provide an on-demand, shared ride service with short wait times and curb-to-curb pickup and drop-off. The pilot program is part of the OC Bus 360° initiative to improve bus ridership and provide a range of transit services that best meet the needs of the public in different parts of Orange County.

The two areas in the pilot program were chosen based on a variety of factors, including transit usage, demographics and public input.

To gauge the success of the program, OCTA will measure productivity and cost-effectiveness, the number of shared rides and connecting transit trips, as well as customer satisfaction. The contract is in the amount of \$1.1 million for a one-year initial term with two one-year option terms to continue operations and maintenance services for the pilot program.

### **OCTA Awards Contract for Manufacturing and Delivery of Streetcars**

The OC Streetcar rolled forward with the board of directors approving the purchase of the streetcars from Siemens Industries that will carry passengers on the route through Santa Ana and Garden Grove.

The contract, in the amount of up to \$51.5 million, will provide eight streetcar vehicles and spare parts and tools. The OC Streetcar route will have six vehicles in operation and two spare cars that can be rotated into the system as needed.

The OC Streetcar will run between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center and a new transit hub at Harbor Boulevard and Westminster Avenue in Garden Grove. The purpose of the project is to improve

transit connectivity and accessibility and help relieve traffic congestion by providing another transit option.

The project is estimated to cost \$299 million, with funding coming from Measure M, the county's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements, and from federal and state sources.

Six streetcars will be in service at a time, with an additional two streetcars as spare vehicles that can be rotated into the system as needed. Ridership is expected to reach 7,300 passengers daily within the first year of operation.

Siemens has experience providing more than 300 streetcar vehicles of the same model to eight cities throughout the United States. The vehicles are 88 feet long and have 70 seats, carrying up to 180 passengers.

The vehicles will comply with Americans with Disabilities Act requirements and include double-width doorways and priority seating for passengers with disabilities. Likewise, the streetcars will have level boarding with no steps or ramps needed to board.

Construction on the OC Streetcar is set to start later this year.

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