

Meeting of Aug. 27, 2018

July Employees of the Month Honored

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

Resolutions of appreciation were presented to:

- Heidi Johnson, Coach Operator
- Rogelio Gutierrez, Maintenance
- Kriss Garbowski, Administration

OC Streetcar Vehicle Designs OK'd for Public Input

The OCTA board reviewed four design concepts for the exterior of the OC Streetcar vehicles and coordinating streetcar stops and approved releasing the designs for public input.

The four design concepts are cohesive with OCTA's bus designs and other branding, featuring blue, orange and white, along with the recognizable OCTA logo. Design considerations also include ease of maintenance, visibility, longevity and adaptability for advertising.

OCTA staff will now seek public input on the design concepts and return to the OCTA board in the fall for a final recommendation. OC Streetcar construction is expected to kick off later this year, with testing and operations scheduled to begin in 2021.

Visit www.ocstreetcar.com/survey to weigh in on the designs.

Awareness of OCTA at an All-Time High

The results of a survey aimed at measuring the public's attitudes and awareness of OCTA show that 88.3 percent of Orange County residents are familiar with OCTA, the highest since the agency began tracking the information in 2004.

More than 2,500 adult Orange County residents responded to the survey, which is conducted about every three years to measure the awareness and perceptions of OCTA and to gather input for the Long-Range Transportation Plan.

Survey results show that public awareness of OCTA increased by 4 percent since the last study in 2015. In addition, survey participants gave the agency high marks for its impact on the economy, its trustworthiness and for making transportation improvements.

Participants said they would like OCTA to prioritize fixing freeway bottlenecks, repairing roadways and potholes and synchronizing traffic signals. Other priorities include widening roads and expanding commuter rail service.

Early Career Academy Participants Recognized

The board recognized the 12 members of OCTA's first Early Career Academy, a professional career development program designed to grow and support the next generation of OCTA's leaders.

The Early Career Academy launched in May and targets OCTA professionals who are in the first five years of their careers. The six-month program focuses on enhancing technical skills, building relationships and practicing self-development.

In addition to skill-building workshops, participants hear from leaders inside and outside the agency and gain a broader perspective on OCTA through job shadowing. Their work will culminate with a group presentation on each of OCTA's divisions in October.