



Orange County Transportation Authority . 550 South Main Street . P.O. Box 14184 . Orange, California 92863-1584 . 714-560-OCTA (6282)

Meeting of Oct. 24, 2011

Millions Go To Reducing Transportation Barriers To Employment

The Job Access Reverse Commute Grant Program (JARC) awarded \$4.7 million to five projects providing transportation for low-income residents to get to and from work.

The JARC program allows local agencies, non-profit organizations and transportation providers the opportunity to meet special employment-related transportation needs. The \$4.7 million is expected to provide more than 445,000 trips to 2,900 individuals.



The projects include an OCTA program to provide developmentally disabled individuals with transportation to occupational training and work programs offered by Vocational Visions in Mission Viejo.

The Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Valley, Women Helping Women, Abrazar Inc. and the UCI Anteater Express also received funding. The scope of the projects include:

- Parents enrolled in English language proficiency and jobs skill courses
- Students and welfare recipients traveling to key employment sites and training programs
- Victims of domestic abuse seeking job skills training and career placement services

OCTA awarded more than \$8 million in JARC funding to 10 projects in 2009. Funding for the projects continues through Sept. 2013.

For more information, visit: <http://bit.ly/vc6Tvb>

Transit System Study Recommendations Given

The Transit System Study is an analysis of Orange County's transit system that focuses on finding long-term ways of providing cost-effective transit service over the next decade.

Preliminary service concepts were developed in June and shared with the public, local officials and transit advocates who provided feedback on ways to best serve the needs of Orange County residents. Proposed recommendations are listed below as part of a 10-year implementation plan:

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- Station vans connecting Metrolink stations to employment centers
- Flex routes that deviate from an established route (within existing service zones)
- Freeway express buses to improve travel times between origins and destinations
- Expanded midday taxi services

No immediate changes to existing transportation will be taking place until a pilot program has been conducted and community hearings have been held. Implementation and funding plans for the pilot projects, expected to start next year, are expected to go to the board in December.

Between 2008 and 2010, OCTA was forced to reduce bus service by approximately 20 percent because of a decline in state transit funding, historic drops in sales tax revenue and reduced ridership as a result of record unemployment. OCTA launched the Transit System Study in response to those service reductions as a way to explore options to maximize the system's efficiency.

For information on the proposed recommendations or to comment online, please visit: www.octa.net/TSS.

Tustin Metrolink Structure Opens For Commuters

A new 823-space Metrolink parking structure is now open for business.

Serving approximately 800 daily passengers, the station has enhanced its parking facilities to account for anticipated future growth. The parking lot previously accommodated 300 vehicles and was at capacity.



The five-level structure features energy efficient LED lighting, solar panels on the roof to power the facility and electronic signage at the entrance to display where parking spots are available.

The parking garage was funded with \$8.25 million from Measure M2 and an additional \$9.35 million from the state. The structure

was built by Bomel Construction Company, Watry Design and Griffin Structures who collaborated on the project. The structure came in 13 percent under budget for a total cost of \$15.4 million.

Construction began October 2010 as part of the Metrolink Service Expansion Program between Fullerton and Laguna Niguel. Metrolink has experienced increases in ridership with a 9.5 percent increase in ridership from September 2011 as compared to September 2010.



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For more information on the Tustin Metrolink Station parking structure, visit:
www.octa.net/tustinparking.

Jingle Pass Offers Unlimited Rides This Holiday Season

OCTA is offering an unlimited-use bus pass this holiday season to get riders where they need to go for half the cost. The Jingle Pass is valid for 600 buses and bus stops on 3,600 trips daily within Orange County.

The Jingle Pass is being sold for \$39.99 and is valid from Nov. 15 through Dec. 31 on all local OCTA buses. Quantities are limited and there is a limit of two passes per household.

In addition, OCTA is teaming up with the Second Harvest Food Bank to stuff buses non-perishable food at malls throughout the county from Nov. 3 through Nov. 7. Enter for a chance to win a free Jingle Pass when donating non-perishable food items to the Second Harvest Food Bank during the food drive.

For more information on the Jingle Pass or food drive drop-off locations, visit:
www.octa.net/jingle.

Board Recognizes Employees of the Month

The board recognized Gregory Pulliam as coach operator of the month for his outstanding work as an employee of OCTA. Pulliam maintained an impeccable work record throughout his career and earned 31 years of safe driving in September. Pulliam is an active participant in OCTA's commitment to support healthy employees by running in the first OCTA 10K marathon, as well as four other marathons throughout his career.

Jesus Cerda was recognized as maintenance employee of the month for his enthusiasm and commitment to bettering himself as an employee of OCTA. Cerda takes every opportunity to improve his technical knowledge by attending maintenance short subject training. Cerda's dedication to his duties and desire to excel has earned him respect and recognition among his peers.

