



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

## Meeting of November 9, 2012

### Winterbottom Reappointed to OCTA Board



Vice Chairman Gregory T. Winterbottom was reappointed to serve as one of two public members on the OCTA board of directors.

Winterbottom has been a member of the OCTA board since 1993 and was chairman in 2004. He is currently the vice chairman of the Transit Committee and chairman of the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee.

Winterbottom works as an independent consultant, helping ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities. He has more than 25 years of involvement in transportation issues including serving as the executive director to the Orange County Consolidated Transportation Services Agency, an agency that provided paratransit service to persons with disabilities and one of the agencies consolidated into OCTA in 1991.

Winterbottom's four-year term will begin Jan. 11, 2013.

### Fuel Crisis Contingency Plan Update

OCTA staff provided the board with an update on the revised fuel crisis contingency plan. Demand for transit services that offer a reasonable alternative to driving could rapidly increase if fuel prices continue to rise. The revised plan outlines actions that can be taken if there is a large increase in passengers, such as adding up to 50 surplus Metrolink railcars to selected trains and allowing increased passenger loads on the bus.

The plan takes into account numerous elements including:

- Monitoring service capacity
- Reactivating the multi-disciplinary Fuel Crisis Task Force
- Promoting alternative travel modes and work plans throughout the region
- Adding service into the system

To ensure plans are current, staff continually monitors ridership trends that may suggest the need for additional capacity.

### OCTA To Purchase New Articulated Buses

The board authorized the replacement of 20 articulated buses that have met the Federal Transit Administration threshold for retirement.

The 20 articulated buses OCTA is retiring have been in service for more than 12 years or logged 500,000 miles.





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The 60-foot buses can accommodate up to 50 passengers and are used along OCTA's busiest routes. The buses will be similar in design and components to the buses OCTA purchased in 2007.

Approximately \$17 million in grant funding from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality and Regional Surface Transportation Program will be used to purchase the vehicles.

### **Measure M2 Quarterly Progress Report**

The board received an update on the progress of the M2 Transportation Investment Plan for the period between July and September. The report included the status and summary of Measure M2 freeway projects such as SR-57 northbound widening project, which is currently 55 percent complete.

Other highlights from the quarter include:

- The preparation of the environmental document to widen the I-405 between the I-605 and Euclid Street
- Continued progress on the O.C. Bridges program, which is to building seven grade separations along the Orangethorpe Corridor to separate car traffic from trains
- The development and completion of the M2020 Plan that outlines the expedited M2 projects and programs