



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

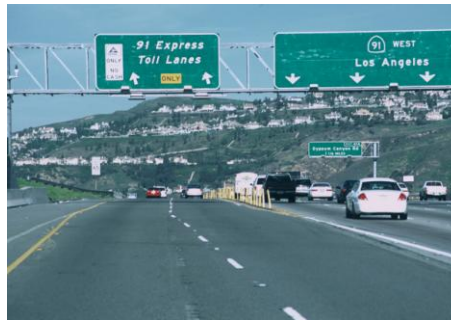
Meeting of Nov. 14, 2011

OCTA Teams Up With Riverside to Extend 91 Express Lanes

OCTA and Riverside County Transportation Commission are working on a joint operation agreement to extend the 91 Express Lanes from where it now ends at the county line into Riverside County.

Expansion is expected to enhance traffic and increase revenue on the 91 Express Lanes because of traffic anticipated to increase between the counties.

The objective of the agreement is to operate the 91 Express Lanes in both counties so that customers will experience a seamless transition between the two facilities.



Once complete, each agency will be responsible for its own segment of the 91 Express Lanes. Although each will have its own toll policy and schedules, the intention is to maintain reasonably consistent toll pricing for the convenience of drivers.

Cofiroute USA, the current 91 Express Lanes operator, will also manage the lanes in Riverside County. The cost of operating and maintaining the toll-related facilities will be equally shared between OCTA and RCTC.

The final negotiated agreements between OCTA and RCTC will be presented to the board for final approval at the end of December.

O.C. Bridges Grade Separation Program Presents Updates



The nearly \$600 million program that will separate street traffic from trains is under construction at two locations and getting ready for construction at five others.

Known as the O.C. Bridges Program, the projects will eliminate the need for drivers to waste time idling at rail crossings, waiting for trains to pass.

OCTA is working to improve traffic flow and safety at seven crossings

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along the Burlington North Santa Fe rail line in Anaheim, Fullerton and Placentia by building a series of bridges – both underpasses and overpasses – to separate car traffic from trains.

The following is an update on each of the seven crossings:

- Raymond Avenue: Design phase is near completion, construction is anticipated to begin in mid 2013.
- State College Boulevard: Design phase is near completion, construction is anticipated to begin in mid 2013 to coincide with Raymond Avenue.
- Placentia Avenue: The Placentia Avenue undercrossing project has been contracted out to Flatiron West for \$23.7 million. This amount is 30 percent below engineer estimates. The project is currently under construction.
- Kraemer Boulevard: The Kraemer Boulevard undercrossing project has been contracted out to Atkinson Contractors for \$32.6 million. This amount is 9 percent below engineer estimates. The project is currently under construction.
- Orangethorpe Avenue: Final design is expected to be completed by the end of this month, with project advertisement for construction anticipated for spring 2012. Construction is expected to begin in late 2012.
- Tustin Avenue/Rose Drive: Design phase is completed. Project advertisements are anticipated in spring 2012, with construction beginning in late 2012.
- Lakeview Avenue: The design for the project is 95 percent complete. Project advertisement is scheduled for spring 2013 with construction anticipated to begin in mid 2013.

Nearly 70 trains a day travel along the BNSF rail line through Anaheim, Fullerton and Placentia and that number is anticipated to increase more than 45 percent by 2030 – meaning every 10 minutes a train will be blocking each intersection.

For more information, visit: www.octa.net/ocbridges.

Capital Programs Division Gives Update

The Capital Programs Division is responsible for delivering all 2011 Strategic Plan projects on time and within budget. This includes the development and delivery of highway, grade separation, rail and facility projects from the environmental phase to completion.

Milestones of the division's first quarter include:

- The M2 project to extend the carpool lanes on the San Diego Freeway (I-5) in San Clemente has been divided into three segments in order to facilitate acceleration in completing the project compared to the existing single project schedule.
- The Placentia Avenue Railroad Grade Separation Project construction contract was awarded to Flatiron West and the Kraemer Avenue Railroad Grade Separation Project was awarded to Atkinson Contractors, LP.
- The Orange Metrolink Station Parking Expansion project forecasted



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construction date is now two months ahead of schedule because of increased availability of Proposition 1B and federal funding.

The division also is responsible for providing quarterly Metrolink reports on ridership, revenue and on-time performance. This year saw a 3.9 percent ridership increase and a 13.5 percent increase in revenue on Orange County Metrolink lines compared to the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

Board Discusses High-Speed Rail Plans

On Nov. 1, the California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) released a draft of the 2012 business plan, *Building California's Future*. The plan for the high-speed rail includes an extended timeframe for completion from 2020 to 2033 and a \$98.5 billion budget. Initial construction is anticipated to take place on the 130 mile route from Fresno to Bakersfield.

The draft is open for public review and comment before the final plans are released in January 2012. The OCTA board discussed the business plan at the meeting and decided to provide comments on it to the High-Speed Rail Authority. The board is expected to provide its official comments and recommendations at the Dec. 12 board meeting.

Board Recognizes Employee of the Month



Laura Scheper, administrative employee of the month, is being recognized for her outstanding work as media relations specialist as part of the External Affairs Division. Scheper demonstrates the highest level of integrity and professionalism in her work, resulting in providing members of the media and public with accurate and timely information. Scheper consistently goes above and beyond her duties, as most recently seen when she took the lead in providing the public, media, staff and board with critical information during a significant power outage in Orange County. Scheper's can-do attitude and desire to excel have named her OCTA administrative employee of the month.