

Meeting of Jan. 22, 2018

January Employees of the Month Honored

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

Resolutions were presented to:

- Bernard Lopez, Coach Operator
- Antonio Gallegos, Maintenance
- Ross Lew, Administration

2018 Board Strategic Initiatives Announced

Chair Lisa Bartlett introduced the 2018 board initiatives that will help OCTA focus on delivering transportation solutions for all Orange County residents. The six initiatives outline specific projects that are targeted for completion by the end of the year.

The strategic initiatives and specific projects include:

- **Delivering capital projects**
 - Advance construction on I-5 and I-405 projects, kick off OC Streetcar project construction and commission into service OCTA's first hydrogen fueling station.
- **Maximizing funding opportunities**
 - Execute the OC Streetcar New Starts grant agreement, seek fair distribution of SB 1 funding to Orange County projects and award Measure M grants to community-based transit services.
- **Developing sustainable transportation plans**
 - Finalize the Long-Range Transportation Plan, set a long-term vision through the countywide Transit Master Plan and complete the first countywide active transportation plan.
- **Strengthening regional partnerships**
 - Collaborate with LA Metro on regional plans and update the SR-91 Implementation Plan with Riverside County Transportation Commission.
- **Modernizing transit services**
 - Launch OC Flex service pilot projects, integrate hydrogen fuel-cell buses into fleet mix and complete installation of bus mobile ticket readers.
- **Championing fiscal responsibility**
 - Update the 20-year comprehensive business plan, approve a collective bargaining agreement for coach operators and ensure success of Measure M Next 10 delivery plan.

CEO Provides End-of-Year Action Plan Update

CEO Darrell Johnson gave an end-of-year report based off his 2017 Action Plan. The action plan consisted of his ten initiatives, implemented through 57 programs and monitored by 89 milestones.

Some major milestones in 2017 include:

- The completion of the \$663 million OC Bridges Program, which included seven bridges and underpasses to eliminate waiting for railroad crossings along the BNSF rail line through Anaheim, Fullerton and Placentia.
- Progress on the I-405 improvement project by executing a \$1.2 billion design-build contract with the OC 405 partners. The project also secured a \$629 million loan from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the contractor was granted full notice to proceed.
- Obtained Federal Transit Administration approval to enter engineering phase of the OC Streetcar, submitted a Full Funding Grant agreement application to the FTA for nearly \$150 million and released the invitation for bids for construction on the project.
- Work with the Riverside County Transportation Commission to extend the 91 express lanes from Orange County to interstate 15 in Riverside County, the project added two express lanes and one general-purpose lane in each direction.
- Increased ridership by almost 20 percent on routes that were improved through OC Bus 360°.
- Selected a firm to prepare the plans for the SR-55 improvement project from the I-405 to I-5, adding new lanes for approximately six miles.
- Continued study of the transit master plan, by identifying opportunity corridors that would integrate bus, rail and paratransit services by connecting them to major transit hubs, as well as identify future potential transit corridor studies and recommend changes to existing transit service.
- Awarded construction management contract for the I-5 HOV project from SR-55 to SR-57, which will add a second carpool lane next to the existing one.