

Meeting of July 13, 2015

OCTA's first Teen Council members recognized

Resolutions of appreciation were presented to the eight members of OCTA's first Teen Council.

OCTA's Teen Council is comprised of high school students from around the county that serve one-year terms. Members attend monthly meetings and this year, learned about active transportation planning, community outreach strategies, bus and bike marketing campaigns and more.

The teen council members recognized were:

- Duyen Nguyen
- Emily Yoo
- Ian Macdonald
- Jennifer Zambrano
- Michael Du Jiang
- Natalie Wang
- Shilpa Rajagopal
- Sydney Driscoll

The 2014-15 Teen Council members' terms expire in August. A new council will begin meeting in September.

OCTA moves forward with mobile ticketing

The OCTA board approved GlobeSherpa, Inc. as the firm to provide an automated fare collection and mobile ticketing system for all bus routes.

The system will integrate route maps, schedules and trip planning with fare purchase through a smartphone application.

The app will be implemented in three phases, each released as a new version, to allow for customer feedback and to incorporate enhancements. Mobile ticketing will first be offered for college passes, then express service and finally, a system-wide implementation.

The system is expected to begin operation late this year.

Streetcar project hits next milestone

The streetcar project in Santa Ana and Garden Grove marked its latest milestones as the OCTA board agreed to a memorandum of understanding with the city of Santa Ana, outlining the roles and responsibilities associated with the development, implementation, operations and maintenance of the project.

The streetcar is planned to operate along a route just longer than 4 miles. It's intended to provide easy connections for people traveling from trains and buses to employment, retail and recreational areas.

Highlights in the MOU include:

- OCTA is responsible for the design and construction of the project and the operations, maintenance and ownership of the streetcar system once operational.
- OCTA is responsible for securing and administering the project funding.
- OCTA is responsible for project procurements and right-of-way acquisition activities with the city's assistance.
- Both OCTA and the city of Santa Ana will develop and participate in a public outreach program for the project.

The streetcar is expected to move into the design phase later this year with construction planned to begin in 2017. On the current schedule, the streetcar would begin running in 2019.