



Citizens Advisory Committee
550 S. Main Street, Orange CA, Room 07
April 15, 2025 | 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- 1. Chairman's Remarks** Karalee Darnell, *Chair, CAC*
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance** Jim Cunneen, *Vice Chair, CAC*
- 3. Approval of January Minutes**
Action Item
- 4. Measure M2 Ten-Year Review**
(10 min) Presentation Rose Casey, *Planning*
Chris Boucly, *Public Outreach*
- 5. Coastal Rail Emergency Projects**
(10 min) Presentation Chris Boucly, *Public Outreach*
- 6. 405 Express Lanes Update**
(10 min) Presentation Kirk Avila, *Express Lanes General Manager*
- 7. Update Reports**
(5 min each)
 - Long Range Transportation Plan Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
 - Capital Improvements Projects Chris Boucly, *Public Outreach*
 - Government Affairs Clara Brotcke, *Government Relations*
 - Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee Paul Adams, *Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee*
 - Marketing Ryan Maloney, *Marketing & Customer Engagement*
 - Staff Liaison Marissa Espino, *Public Outreach*
- 8. Public Comments**
- 9. Committee Member Comments**
- 10. Adjournment / Next Meeting:**
July 15, 2025

Agenda Descriptions

The agenda descriptions are intended to give notice to members of the public of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the OCTA at (714) 560 5611, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

*Public Comments: At this time, members of the public may address the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the CAC, provided that no action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person, unless different time limits are set by the Chairman, subject to the approval of the CAC.



**Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes
January 21, 2025
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
550 S. Main Street, Orange, CA**

Members Present

Adam Zibell, *Fullerton Resident*

Brendon Moeller, *Orange Resident*

Carah Reed, *Santa Ana Resident*

Damon Tordini, *Engineers w/o Borders/ Santa Ana*

David Wheeler, *Laguna Hills City Council*

Hui Rorabaugh, *La Habra Resident*

Jeff Thompson, *Building Industry*

Jim Cunneen, *Fountain Valley City Council*

Jose Castaneda, *Fullerton Resident*

Karalee Darnell, *Yorba Linda Resident*

Mario Alvarado, *Santa Ana Resident*

Mary Ann Remnet, *Rossmoor Resident*

Paul Adams, *Santa Ana Resident*

Roy Shahbazian, *California Community Colleges*

Samara Ali-Ahmad, *Newport Beach Resident*

Tyler Holst, *Civil Engineer*

Members Absent

Alex Rounaghi, *Laguna Beach Resident*

Dan Kalmick, *Huntington Beach City Council*

Frank Murphy, *Orange Resident*

Jamie Valencia, *City of Fullerton - INRAC*

Jennifer Rosales, *Laguna Beach Resident*

John Kinney, *Laguna Niguel Resident*

Kristen Jasko, *Cal State Fullerton*

Kunal Mittal, *Civil Engineer*

Linda Nguyen, *Garden Grove Resident*

Lorena Vidaurri, *Santa Ana Resident*

Manuel Chavez, *Costa Mesa City Council*

Mark Paredes, *Garden Grove Resident*

Randy Styner, *Garden Grove Resident*

Reza Hosseini, *Irvine Resident*

Steve Kozak, *Tustin Planning Commission*

Susan Klaren, *Anaheim Resident*

1. Chairman's Remarks

Karalee Darnell, Chair, called the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting to order.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Jim Cunneen led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Approval of July Minutes/Attendance Report

A motion was made by Jim Cunneen and seconded by Damon Tordini to approve the October 15, 2024, CAC Minutes/Attendance Report. Motion carried.

4. M2 Next10 Delivery Plan

Francesca Ching, Measure M Program Manager, presented the plan. <This presentation is available upon request.>

Committee Member Comments:

A community member asked how much debt is associated with the \$14 billion program. Francesca Ching responded the majority of the debt lies within the Freeway Program, which is less than \$500 million.

A committee member asked if M2 is considered eligible to provide help for the rail line in Southern Orange County. Francesca Ching responded yes as the promise to voters is for Metrolink service. We are actively seeking and have brought in significant amounts of funding from the state. Dan Phu, Planning, responded that some of it can be helped by Measure M2, but the majority of identified improvements and those identified in the future will require external State and Federal funding sources.

A committee member asked how much of the money is already allocated to existing programs and is there room to insert options for future planning. Francesca Ching responded that it is dependent on what you are looking at; the Freeway projects are already committed; Streets and Roads funding is available on a competitive basis along with a formula funding aspect of that program; on the Transit side, Metrolink is already set for funding operations to the end of M2. There are differing pots of money per program that have some flexibility within.

A committee member asked if the spending is broken down between capital verses operations, what is that percentage, and how does that compare to M1. Francesca Ching responded she did not have that specific information and would get back to them.

A committee member asked how far along the Authority is into the program of improving the 100 busiest bus stops. Francesca Ching responded there have been three rounds of funding provided for that, Project W, and not all of them have been completed yet. They will be gauging local jurisdiction interest in future calls on eligible stops and the variables that would affect them.

A committee member asked how likely is it that they saturate the 100 stops and not be able to spend more money on stops – would the OCTA Board be able to expand on that. Francesca Ching responded yes, as part of guideline revisions, they could assess that on a go-forward basis.

A committee member asked for clarification of what the fiscal sustainability of M2 ending around 2037 means. Francesca Ching responded that it was for the Metrolink Rail Service.

A committee member asked if that correlated with the end of M2. Francesca Ching responded overall on the remaining programs they would be able to deliver on their promises to end of 2041 which is the sunset of Measure M2.

A committee member asked if staff have assessed any new revenue generating opportunities for the Metrolink portion of OCTA funds. Francesca Ching responded they are always looking for external funding opportunities. They have been able to infuse the program with about \$125 million from state funding. There is Federal funding that goes directly into the program every year.

5. 2028 Olympics

Dan Phu, Planning, presented the update. <This presentation is available upon request.>

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked if there were any applications in respect to event sites. Dan Phu responded that the sites have not been set in stone. There is speculation that surfing would be in Huntington Beach and OCTA is closely watching for events in Orange County.

A committee member asked if the possible retirement of the 20 buses was a give way. Dan Phu responded they would be on loan and the ultimate disposition is still to be determined.

A committee member asked if the gap between the Norwalk station and Orange County is being looked at along with all the transit plans or conceptual designs with the consideration that individuals do not want to take more than two transfers. Dan Phu responded they have looked at the 1984 Olympic Planning and the key is looking at where it makes sense to have key mobility hubs in Orange County. How to get individuals from Norwalk to Orange County will be looked at. It is early in the planning process and as more information is available it will be used in planning.

Committee members commented that the opportunity to increase ridership from the low ridership areas should be fostered and that the momentum related to mobility hubs and increased collaboration between agencies should be kept up. Dan Phu commented that they do want these to be legacy projects but funding does have to be considered.

A committee member asked if they would have staff actually take buses between Los Angeles and Orange as part of the research. Dan Phu responded yes, they do have members of the Transit Planning Team that are riders.

6. E-Bike Best Practices

Peter Sotherland, Active Transportation Coordinator, presented the item. <This presentation is available upon request.>

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked where they were getting the medical data and the data where bikes were being used. Peter Sotherland responded the medical data is being gathered by a partner agency, Orange County Healthcare Agency along with hospitals and law enforcement. The challenge is how the data from differing sources is presented so it can be correlated correctly. For rider location data, there is a Bicycle Counts Program where counts are taken at multiple sites throughout the county.

A committee member asked if there was any indication in the data that E-bikes were impacting long-term transit planning. Peter Sotherland responded they have not looked specifically at that and it tends to be an either/or situation, either E-bike or Transit. E-bikes are a good secondary option to compliment the bus system.

A committee member complimented OCTA staff's recent attendance at a community event and asked if there could be a speaking piece that could be developed to take into the schools like PTA (Parent Teacher Association) meetings as the information is very helpful to give to parents. There was no staff response.

A committee member asked how police and law enforcement were enforcing E-bike policies. Peter Sotherland responded they will do targeted enforcement where the police wait in known areas where there are riders. They do not issue a ticket but give a citation that can later be expunged from their record by attending a weekend class with their parent.

A committee member asked to see numbers on crashes and fatalities. Peter Sotherland responded he is hesitant to put numbers on as crashes and incidents may not be reported as E-bike, but simply a bike. They are still working on getting good reliable data and do not want to misreport.

A committee member commented that this method of transportation needs to be accepted and promoted as it is a popular and affordable method of transportation and to not demonize it with negative terminology or restrictions. Peter Sotherland said they recognize it as an asset and the emphasis is on safety and education.

A committee member asked about E-bikes on sidewalks where there are bike lanes on streets where the speed limit is 55 mph. Peter Sotherland said it is ideal when

there are speed differentials to have them separated by different facilities, but that is not always the case due to space, funding and other factors.

Sidewalks are under local jurisdiction and they are working with local jurisdictions to find out, work with, and work toward comparative rules between jurisdictions to help eliminate confusion.

7. Proposed New Fare Media

Sam Kaur, Revenue Administration, and Amelia Hsu, Marketing, presented the item.
<This presentation is available upon request.>

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member asked if the contactless card payment method would preclude the current swiping method for debit/credit cards. Sam Kaur responded yes. The validators will not have a swipe strip, customers with debit/credit cards can tap them as many already have that capability.

A committee member commented that the magnetic swipe cards will no longer be available after July. Sam Kaur responded correct; they will be replaced with the new WAVE card.

A committee member asked if revenue loss was expected due to the new Fare Capping policy. Sam Kaur responded based on analysis of historical trans data based on usage of the passes they initially estimate a loss of \$2 million dollars a year.

A committee member asked if the personal data on the app would be sold to a third party. Sam Kaur responded they are contracting with a company that provides a gateway, and in that system not all the customer details are stored, only minor details. It is a very secure system and meets all the standards of PCI compliance (Payment Card Industry Compliance).

A committee member commented that the list of retailers should include more ethnic retail locations and a brand ambassador. There was no staff response,

A committee member asked what systems the WAVE card will be accepted on. Sam Kaur responded the WAVE card will be accepted on OCTA Fixed Route System, the future OC Streetcar, and they are working with Metrolink to see if the card can be used on that system.

8. Update Reports

Planning Studies – Marissa Espino, Public Outreach, presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

There were no member comments.

Government Affairs – Clara Brotcke, Government Relations, presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

A committee member commented it would be nice if the committee were included in making recommendations on positions taken. Clara Brotcke responded they do try to come to them before but it is not always possible due to time constraints and how bills are moving through legislation.

A committee member commented that OCTA has a legislative platform that is used to provide guidance on the positions taken. Clara Brotcke responded yes.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee – Paul Adams, Chair, Bike/Ped Subcommittee, presented the update. *The next meeting will be March 18, 2025.*

Committee Member Comments:

There were no member comments.

Marketing – Amelia Hsu, Marketing, presented the update. <This presentation is available upon request.>

Committee Member Comments:

There were no member comments.

Staff Liaison – Marissa Espino, Public Outreach, and Allison Imler presented the update.

Committee Member Comments:

There were no comments

9. Public Comments

There were no comments.

10. Committee Member Comments

A committee member commented the meeting presented new, fresh viewpoints that were expressed.

A committee member expressed support for Metrolink and commented that public transit needs to grow and needs more marketing.

11. Adjournment/Next Meeting

Chair Karalee Darnell adjourned the meeting. The next CAC meeting will be April 15, 2025.

**Citizens Advisory Committee
Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Attendance Record**

● = Present

⊙ = Absent

R = Resigned

MEMBER	7/16/24	10/15/24	1/21/25	4/15/25
Mary Ann Remnet	●	●	●	
Linda Nguyen	●	●	⊙	
Jim Cunneen	●	●	●	
Paul Adams	●	●	●	
Randy Styner	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Mark Paredes	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Jose Castaneda	●	●	●	
Manuel Chavez	●	●	⊙	
Brendon Moeller	⊙	●	●	
Jeff Thompson	●	●	●	
Carah Reed	⊙	●	●	
Damon Tordini	●	●	●	
Kunal Mittal	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Steve Kozak	⊙	●	⊙	
Samara Ali-Ahmad	●	⊙	●	
Reza Hosseini	⊙	●	⊙	
Karalee Darnell	●	●	●	
Roy Shahbazian	⊙	●	●	
Daniel Soper	⊙	⊙	N/A	
Lorena Vidaurri	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Jamie Valencia	●	⊙	⊙	
Adam Zibell	●	●	●	
John Kinney	●	●	⊙	
Tyler Holst	●	●	●	
David Wheeler	●	●	●	
Alex Rounaghi	⊙	⊙	⊙	
Frank Murphy	●	●	⊙	
Kristen Jasko	⊙	●	⊙	
Dan Kalmick	⊙	●	⊙	
Mario Alvarado	●	●	●	
Susan Klaren	●	⊙	⊙	
Jennifer Rosales	⊙	●	⊙	
Hui Rorabaugh	N/A	●	●	