

Meeting of Feb. 10, 2020

2019 Employees of the Year Honored

The Orange County Transportation Authority's board of directors recognized three employees of the year for 2019.

The honors went to:

- Cuong Dang, maintenance
- Martin Lubus, coach operator
- Johnny Dunning, administration

Cuong Dang joined OCTA in 2008 as a bus mechanic and is currently assigned to the Garden Grove Base as an automotive mechanic. His skills and can-do spirit in performing all facets of vehicle maintenance have earned him the respect of his coworkers. Dang is being recognized for 11 years of perfect attendance and an excellent safety record.

Martin Lubus joined OCTA in 1979 and is a coach operator currently assigned to the Garden Grove Base. He has achieved 40 years of service at OCTA and 34 years of safe driving by always taking initiative to make passenger and customer safety a priority.

Johnny Dunning joined OCTA in 2017 as the department manager of scheduling and customer advocacy in the operations division. Dunning is the project manager for the OC Flex microtransit service, where he leads a multi-divisional team responsible for the planning, operation, marketing and data collection of the pilot program.

Rotation Program Participants Recognized

The board also recognized three employees who recently completed OCTA's first job rotation program:

- Michael Le, contract administration
- Christina Perez, human resources
- Olivia Salters, health, safety and environmental compliance

The three participants spent the last year rotating through OCTA's six divisions to learn new skills and gain experience working in different departments, including human resources, planning and government relations. The program allowed participants to expand their professional opportunities within OCTA by experiencing multiple aspects of the organization each day.

Measure M Signal Synchronization Keeping O.C. Moving

The board received an update on OCTA's signal synchronization program, which provides competitive funding to cities and the county to time traffic lights on long stretches of streets to improve traffic throughout the county.

Since 2008, OCTA has funded 79 projects that have synchronized more than 2,700 intersections across 705 miles. The projects have improved travel times, reduced congestion and increased the number of continuous green lights drivers see during their daily commutes. The program has also helped Orange County drivers save money, consume less fuel and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

OCTA is currently allocating \$50.3 million to fund an additional 29 signal synchronization projects that are either planned or underway. Once completed, these projects will synchronize an additional 1,000 traffic signals over 250 miles of roadway.

The Regional Traffic Signal Synchronization Program is part of Measure M, Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements, also known as OC Go.