

Meeting of Oct. 28, 2024

October Employees of the Month Recognized

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

The honors went to:

- Lee Diep, a coach operator, was recognized for achieving 21 years of safe driving. Lee's reliability, customer service and commitment to safety help ensure a great experience for OC Bus passengers.
- Rafael Luna, a maintenance employee, was recognized for his keen attention to detail that has led to solutions that help ensure the OC Bus fleet continues running safely and efficiently.
- Kriss Garbowski, an administrative employee who leads the digital communications team, was recognized for her can-do spirit and strong initiative that has helped enhance OCTA's digital presence.

OCTA Reaching a Diverse Orange County through Outreach Efforts

The board received an update on OCTA's efforts to connect and engage with Orange County's diverse communities through multilingual communications and targeted outreach.

During the past year, OCTA has significantly increased the frequency of outreach activities by participating in more cultural festivals, resource fairs and business events. OCTA has also extended outreach to senior centers, mental wellness organizations and other groups that serve diverse communities to engage the public and increase awareness and understanding of OCTA and its programs, projects and planning studies.

Updates from the past year include:

- OCTA participated in 125 community events, cultural festivals and resource fairs, reaching more than 87,000 people.
- OCTA attended 63 conferences, workshops, mixers and other events to share procurement opportunities, reaching more than 15,000 diverse business owners.

OC Streetcar Construction Nearly 90% Complete

OCTA's board received an update on the OC Streetcar, which is nearly 90% complete.

The OC Streetcar will be Orange County's first modern electric streetcar, running along a 4.1-mile route between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center and Harbor Boulevard in Garden Grove. The

project will improve transit connectivity and accessibility, increase transit options, relieve congestion and provide benefits to the community and traveling public.

The OC Streetcar will offer an additional affordable and convenient transit option, connecting with several of the busiest OC Bus routes and Metrolink commuter rail, in one of the nation's most densely populated areas, while producing zero emissions.

Recent progress on the project includes:

- The bridges over the Santa Ana River and Westminster Avenue are complete
- Installation of the tracks and the overhead contact system are complete
- Canopies, lighting and customer information center cabinets are installed at all station platforms
- All eight vehicles are complete and in storage

More information about the project is available at www.OCStreetcar.com.