

## Meeting of March 24, 2025

### March Employees of the Month Recognized

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors recognized three outstanding employees for the month of March:

- Jose Chin, a coach operator at OCTA since 1999, recently reached a major milestone, achieving 25 years of safe driving. In addition to his outstanding safety and attendance records, Jose also serves as a behind-the-wheel trainer and is known for his excellent customer service.
- Kiet Tran, the maintenance employee of the month, joined OCTA in August 2024 and has played a key role in ensuring compliance with state regulations and maintaining the reliability of the OC Bus fleet. Kiet's enthusiasm and proactiveness make him a valued member of the team.
- Charvalen Alacar, the administrative employee of the month, oversees the local programs for Measure M, Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation. Her leadership has been instrumental in guiding all 34 cities and the county through the Measure M grant process, ensuring the successful allocation of more than \$40 million annually to transportation projects that keep Orange County moving.

### OCTA to Enhance OC Bus Service in May

OCTA will implement improvements to OC Bus schedules beginning May 11 to improve reliability and better meet the needs of riders.

Changes will include:

- Extending **OC Bus Rapid Route 553** from its current northern terminal at the Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center to the Disneyland Resort, traveling via Katella Avenue and Harbor Boulevard.
- **Additional bus trips** on Routes 473 and OC Rapid Route 553.
- **Service improvements** to Route 71 on Sundays.
- **Adjustments to schedules** to improve on-time performance on Routes 26, 30, 33, 38, 43, 54, 56, 57, 71, 72, 86, 143, 150-151, 178, 473, 480, 529, 543 and 553.
- **Seasonal summer schedules** on Routes 1, 29, 47 and 89 to accommodate increased beach traffic.
- **Minor schedule adjustments** to address passenger feedback on Routes 35, 60 and 129.

Passengers will be notified about the improvements before they launch on May 11. For more information, please visit [www.OCBus.com](http://www.OCBus.com).

## **OCTA Holds Public Hearing for Proposed Wave Pass**

The OCTA Board held a public hearing to gather input on the proposed Wave Pass, following an extensive outreach effort that revealed strong community interest in expanded payment options for OC Bus fares.

The hearing is part of the process to introduce a new fare media that would enhance accessibility and affordability for OC Bus riders.

From January to late February 2025, OCTA collected more than 6,000 survey responses on the proposed rider validation system, set to launch in late summer 2025. The surveys were available in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Key findings from the survey include:

- More than 80% of respondents expressed support for the new payment options
- 58% said they would use the Wave card or Wave mobile app
- 27% said they would use a credit/debit card or digital wallet
- 15% indicated they would continue to use cash

All public feedback will be incorporated into the proposed new fare media plan, which will be considered by the OCTA Board on May 27.

To learn more, visit [octa.net/Wave](https://octa.net/Wave).