

Meeting of June 9, 2014

OCTA Board Approves \$1.1 Billion Balanced Budget

The Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors approved a balanced \$1.1 billion budget for the coming year during its meeting on Monday.

The 2014-15 budget encompasses all services, projects and programs that are administered by OCTA. Major initiatives for the budget include sustaining bus and rail service levels, closing out Measure M1, continuing Measure M2 improvements and operating the 91 Express Lanes.

Funding allocation for the budgets include:

- \$429 million for bus operations
- \$297 million for streets and roads improvements
- \$176 million for freeway projects
- \$121 million for Metrolink service, rail and station projects in Orange County
- \$11 million for motorists and taxi services

This balanced budget reflects OCTA's mission to deliver long-term sustainable transportation solutions for residents and businesses of Orange County.

For more information, visit <http://atb.octa.net/AgendaPDF/9561.pdf>

Boards Receives Update on Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program

The board was updated on OCTA's Measure M2 Freeway Environmental Mitigation Program, which provides funds to purchase open space and finance habitat restoration projects to offset impacts of 13 freeway projects. The program provides higher value environmental mitigation and expedites permitting for the freeway projects.

Since the program got underway, OCTA has acquired more than 1,150 acres of open space from willing sellers. Properties include Ferber Ranch, Hafen, Hayashi, O'Neill Oaks and Saddle Creek South.

Upcoming milestones for the mitigation program include continued property acquisition and restoration efforts, land management, determining funding priorities and the public release of the Natural Community Conservation Plan/ Habitat Conservation Plan, Draft Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement and the Resource Management Plans.

In an effort to improve land management for the Hayashi property, OCTA and the California Department of Parks and Recreation signed an interim operation agreement for \$325,000. As part of the mitigation program, this agreement will span five years with an option to add an additional year.

The M2 Environmental Freeway Mitigation Program, a comprehensive plan to preserve and restore open space throughout the county will fund \$300 million in projects over the life of Measure M For more information, visit www.octa.net/environmental.