



Orange County Transportation Authority . 550 South Main Street . P.O. Box 14184 . Orange, California 92863-1584 . 714-560-OCTA (6282)

## Meeting of January 27, 2014

### Chairman Nelson Unveils 2014 Initiatives to Keep Orange County Moving

Newly selected OCTA Chairman Shawn Nelson unveiled his strategic initiatives for the year, placing the focus on delivering freeway projects, advancing active transportation programs and maximizing funding and regional planning opportunities.

Each of Nelson's eight initiatives targets specific projects for completion by the end of the year.



The strategic initiatives include:

- Deliver freeway improvements
- Provide efficient, customer-friendly bus service
- Optimize the street system
- Enhance rail transportation
- Advance active transportation programs
- Maximize funding and regional opportunities
- Develop sustainable transportation plans
- Cultivate organizational excellence

### Buses Headed to La Habra for Community Circulator Service

The board approved the purchase of three 32-foot buses with Measure M2 Project V funds for a community bus circulator for the La Habra. The buses were purchased from Creative Bus Sales, Inc. for \$615,556. Two of the buses will be used for the city's service and one bus will be used as a spare.

Beginning in July, service will operate Monday through Friday between 6 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

### OCTA Board Submits Environmental Drafts for Public Review as Part of Measure M2

The board approved circulating for a 90-day public review the Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement on the Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program.

The draft plans were developed and completed by OCTA as a comprehensive way to offset the impacts from the 13 freeway improvement projects as part of the M2 half-cent sales tax program, which voters approved in 2006.

The drafts outline the long-term management requirements of the acquisition properties and identify conservation and mitigation measures. Within the next year a long-term expenditure plan will be developed for funds in Environmental Mitigation Program. The plan will be reviewed by the Environmental Oversight Committee and the Finance and Administration Committee before going to the board.

The M2 Environmental Mitigation Program will provide approximately \$300 million over the next 30 years to preserve and restore land throughout Orange County. For more information regarding OCTA's environmental program, visit [www.octa.net/environmental](http://www.octa.net/environmental).



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### **Board Receives an Update on the State Route 241/91 Express Lanes Connector**

Constructing a toll-to-toll connector between Foothill Transportation Corridor (SR-241) and the 91 Express Lanes is currently being explored by OCTA and the Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) to reduce congestion and to improve mobility in the region.

The connector is estimated to cost approximately \$180 million and would provide one lane in each direction from SR-241 north to the 91 Express Lanes eastbound and the reverse direction.

OCTA's initial analysis of the project has determined:

- The connector would serve central and south Orange County in the morning westbound market, similar to the 91 Express Lanes
- A toll policy would be critical to the success of the connector, as well as minimizing impacts to the SR-91 corridor and the 91 Express Lanes
- The project could not be funded entirely from toll revenue and additional resources from the TCA and OCTA would need to be found

The new connector would capture demand from the existing SR-241/SR-91 interchange connector ramps, the 91 Express Lanes and portions of SR-91.

### **OCTA Swears in Returning Board Member**



Director Matthew Harper was sworn in to continue his position on the board as a city member representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> district. His term will end December 2015.

Harper was elected onto the Huntington Beach City Council in 2010 and has served as mayor of Huntington Beach since December 2013. He also serves as a director for the Southern California Association of Governments. Prior to serving on the Huntington Beach City Council, Harper served three terms on the board of trustees for the Huntington Beach Union High School District.

### **Johnson Shares 2013 Chief Executive Officer's Initiatives and Action Plan End-of-Year Report**

CEO Darrell Johnson updated the board with an end of the year 2013 CEO Initiatives and Action Plan report. The report highlighted notable accomplishments from Jan.1 to Dec. 31.

In 2013, the CEO focused on nine initiatives with 57 division strategies and 94 milestones. The Action Plan supports the initiatives and strategic plan goal areas of mobility, public service, fiscal sustainability, stewardship and organizational excellence.

Some major accomplishments for the year included:

- New Riverside Freeway (SR-91) lanes opened in February adding a six-mile general purpose lane in each direction between the Orange Freeway (SR-55) and Foothill Transportation Corridor (SR-241)





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- In March, a contract was awarded to MV Transportation to operate OCTA's ACCESS paratransit service
- In June, BRAVO!, a limited-stop service on Route 543, was launched between the Fullerton Transportation Center and MacArthur Boulevard
- Construction contracts were awarded to four OC Bridges projects, which are separating roads from the train tracks in Fullerton, Anaheim and Placentia
- A Bikeways Strategy was released in July that identifies 11 potential regional bikeways corridors that connect to major activity centers throughout Orange County