

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

# Meeting of Oct. 11, 2013

## **Board Approves Additional Funding for OC Bridges Program**



The board approved an additional \$33.5 million to fund the OC Bridges program. The State Proposition 1B Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement and Service Enhancement Account will cover approximately \$15.8 million in funds and Measure M2 will cover the remaining \$17.6 million.

The OC Bridges program is creating underpasses and overpasses to eliminate railroad crossings where cars get stuck waiting for trains to pass in North Orange County along the Orangethorpe corridor in the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton and Placentia. More than 70 freight

trains travel through this stretch on a daily basis and the number of trains is expected to increase to more than 135 each day in 2030. The seven projects will decrease delays in traffic, improve safety and increase mobility.

The estimated project cost is \$623.7 million and the projects are expected to be completed by 2016.

## **Board Receives Update on Motorist Services Activities**

The board received the annual report for Motorist Services for the 2012-13 fiscal year. The Motorist Services program aims to assist motorist, reduce traffic congestion, give information on highway conditions, provide funding for removing abandoned vehicles and manage taxicab enforcement. Program services include call box systems, Freeway Service Patrol, southern California 511 travelers' information system, the service authority for abandoned vehicles and the Orange County Taxicab Administration Program.

Program activities and accomplishments for the year include:

- FSP assisted 64,851 motorist with disabled vehicles
- The FSP program recorded 1,300 customer comments, 99 percent of the comments were from callers satisfied with the service
- The 511 voice response team received 298,859 monthly calls, a 15 percent increase from last year
- Abandoned vehicle reports decreased by 27 percent
- The Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies operated 637 call boxes, a 10 percent decrease from last year

### **Towing Company Selected for Freeway Service Patrol Services**

The board approved a \$4 million contract with California Coach Orange, Inc. to provide Freeway Service Patrol services for service areas 2 and 10 from March 2014 to November 2018.

The FSP is a partnership between OCTA, Caltrans and CHP designed to manage traffic congestion by rapidly removing disabled vehicles and debris from traffic lanes after an accident occurs.



OCTA received six proposals. A committee reviewed the proposals and evaluated them based on the project work plan, staffing and project organization, firm qualifications and cost.



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#### **Board Honors Employees of the Month**



Jose Chin was named coach operator of the month for achieving 14 years of safe driving. Chin shows a high level of dedication to his job and maintains an excellent work record. His safe driving, reliability and attention to detail have earned him respect from his supervisors, fellow coach operators and passengers.



Russell Travis was named maintenance employee of the month for his expertise as OCTA's only machinist. He has been with OCTA for 22 years and was recognized this month for his safety and commitment. Travis is always willing to solve a problem and is a critical member of the maintenance team.



Ryan Romeos was selected as the administrative employee of the month for excelling in his duties as an associate community relations specialist. Romeos displays an outstanding work ethic and his outreach efforts for the Santa Ana (I-5) Freeway have helped to increase public involvement and awareness. His ability to quickly identify problems and implement solutions has earned him recognition for the month of October.