

# Proposed New Fare Media

## Background

- Current fare payment options
  - Cash/coin onboard
  - Magnetic stripe passes
  - Mobile tickets scanned on validators





- October 23, 2023 Board of Directors (Board) approved the implementation of a new Rider Validation System (RVS)
- November 25, 2024 Board approved Fare Policy amendments to implement fare capping and a free two-hour transfer period
- The new RVS is scheduled to be implemented in summer 2025

## Key Features and Architecture of the RVS

- Contactless smart card compatible
- Stored value/account based
- Improved mobile ticketing
- Improved retail network
- Credit and debit card payments
- Accepts cash/coin

## **Contactless Smart Card Benefits**

Initial Cost of smart card \$2.00-\$4.00

Fare Capping Functionality

- Pay-per-ride Always get the best fare
- No upfront cost for monthly passes
- Daily and Monthly Fare Caps
  - After reaching the daily or monthly cap, passengers ride free for the rest of the day or month

Free two-hour transfer period

Add funds via the OCTA Website, mobile application (app), retail network, or OCTA Store

**Balance Protection** 

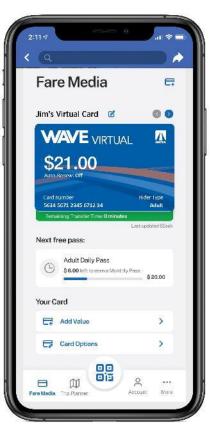


OCTA – Orange County Transportation Authority

## Mobile Application Upgrade

The new mobile app will also offer fare capping to any rider with a smartphone

- Download mobile app from iPhone Operating System/Android app stores
- Create an account and add a "virtual card" for free
- Load funds with debit/credit card
- Can load with cash at retail locations
- Good option for unbanked or underbanked riders



### **Retail Network Expansion**

- The new network includes 400+ retail locations (compared with 100+ currently)
- Increased access to purchase/reload accounts using a familiar "gift card" model

FAMILY DOLLAR.

Can reload mobile app with cash



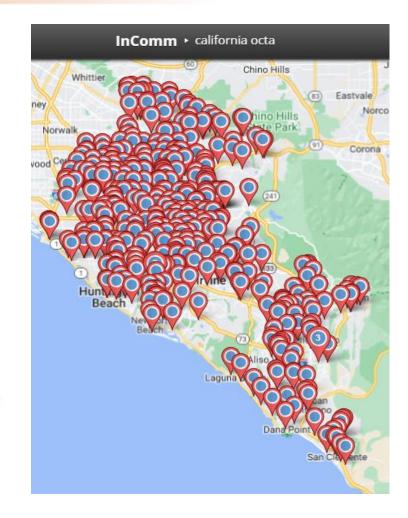












## Credit and Debit Card Payments

- Supports any contactless credit/debit card
- Supports Apple/Google/Samsung mobile wallets
- No pre-loading of fares or media required
- Tap-to-pay on each trip
- Pay-as-you-go with fare capping

Open Payments provide daily fare capping to customers using the same payment method









MOBILE DEVICE
Pay with your digital wallet

### **Phased Approach: Timeline for Outreach and Rider Engagement**

	Title VI Outreach & Public Involvement	Comprehensive Awareness & Education	Launch Campaign & Promotion
Purpose	<ul> <li>Ensure compliance with Title VI</li> <li>Engage underserved populations</li> <li>Gather public feedback</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Prepare riders with clear information about system changes to ensure a smooth transition</li> <li>Build excitement</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Drive adoption         through incentives         and promotional         efforts to establish         the system</li> <li>Customer support</li> </ul>
Focus Excludes	<ul> <li>Marketing or system promotion</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Advocacy or promotional efforts</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Addressing equity or compliance</li> </ul>
	JANUARY 13 - MARCH 24	APRIL - JULY	STARTING IN JULY

#### Phase 1: Title VI Outreach & Public Involvement Plan

#### **Purpose of the PIP**

- Required by FTA's Title VI for implementing new fare media
- Aligns with Board-approved "Strategies and Methods for Promoting PIP" (adopted September 9, 2023)
- Encourages input from the community, focusing on low-income individuals, minority populations, and those with limited English proficiency

#### **Campaign Details**

- Duration: Ten-week campaign from January 13, 2025 to March 24, 2025
- **Conclusion:** Public Hearing on March 24, 2025
- Objective: Gather public input to fulfill Title VI requirements
- Note: Separate from the subsequent comprehensive awareness and education communications before the system launch in July 2025

PIP - Public Involvement Plan FTA – Federal Transit Administration

### **Public Involvement Plan: Background**

#### **Guiding Principles**

- Broad community outreach
- Prioritize engagement with current/former bus riders
- Implement multiple feedback collection methods
- Provide both in-person and virtual opportunities for direct feedback

#### **Key Audiences**

- General public
- Existing, former, and non-riders
- Schools, colleges and universities
- Employers
- Senior and disabled riders
- Social service agencies

The PIP aims to ensure the new fare media meets community needs through inclusivity, transparency, and equity.

#### PIP: Communication Channels and Materials

#### **Communication Channels**

- Bus Advertisements
- Print Collateral (brochure/survey)
  - Onboard buses
  - OCTA Store
  - Outreach events
  - Transportation centers
- Print Ads in local newspapers
   (OC Register, El Clasificado, Người
   Việt, Việt Báo, Viet Dong)

#### **Digital Platforms**

- Website with online survey
- Email blasts
- Social media ads
- Digital toolkit
- In-App notifications
- Digital alerts at stops

#### **Multilingual Materials**

Available in English, Spanish,
 Vietnamese; others upon request

### **PIP: Community Outreach Activities**

#### **In-Person Rider Outreach**

- Bus ride-alongs on high-demand routes
- Pop-up events at transportation centers
- Customer roundtable focus group
- Community engagement

#### **Attend Cultural Events**

- Pop-up events in diverse areas
- Partner with ethnic chambers, organizations, and social service agencies

#### **Community Meetings**

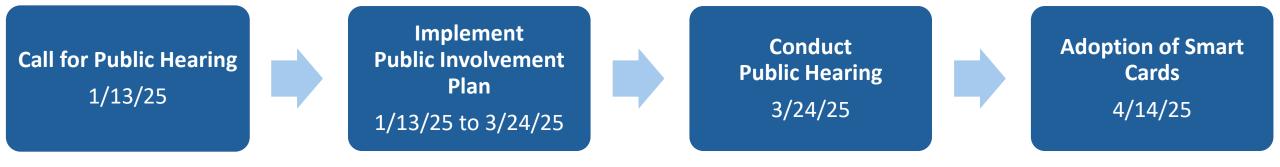
- In-Person (with interpreters)
  - Costa Mesa February 11, 2025
  - Laguna Hills February 12, 2025
  - Fullerton February 13, 2025
- Virtual (English, Spanish, Vietnamese)
  - February 4-5, 2025

#### **Additional Outreach**

- Schools, local jurisdictions, media
- Engage OCTA advisory committees

**Public Hearing:** Scheduled for March 24, 2025

### **Next Steps**



Phase 2: Comprehensive Awareness & Education - April to July 2025

Phase 3: Launch Campaign & Promotion - Starting in July 2025



# Thank You