



**June 19, 2025**

**To:** Legislative and Communications Committee  
**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
**Subject:** Citizens Advisory Committee Annual Update and Member Appointments

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee was established to provide feedback on significant transportation studies and projects, help identify opportunities for community input, and serve as a public liaison for the Orange County Transportation Authority. A summary of the committee's activities during the past year and the new member appointment status is provided with this report.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file the Citizens Advisory Committee status report.

### **Discussion**

In its role as the county transportation commission, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is required by the Public Utilities Code (PUC) 130105 to appoint a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide input on transportation projects, programs, services, and outreach activities. The PUC states that the commission shall "appoint...a citizens advisory committee, which membership shall reflect a broad spectrum of interests and all geographic areas of the county." Each member of the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) appoints two citizens, creating a 34-member committee that embodies diverse community perspectives.

To carry out the CAC's mission, ongoing responsibilities include:

- Commenting on significant transportation studies and projects, suggesting possible solutions, and making recommendations when appropriate
- Identifying opportunities for community input

- Recommending mechanisms and methodologies for obtaining public feedback on specific transportation issues
- Serving as a liaison between the public and OCTA

As an advisory committee, members' comments and suggestions help shape OCTA's services and communications to be responsive and user-friendly to the public. The wide range of viewpoints and interests represented by the membership also provides OCTA with an added sounding board for prospective programs and initiatives.

CAC input is communicated to the Board in a variety of ways. Members' feedback on projects and initiatives is incorporated as programs develop, which is often noted in project staff reports. As direct appointees of the Board, CAC members are also encouraged to communicate directly with their appointing Board Member.

#### Committee Activities – Fiscal Year Highlights

During the past fiscal year, the CAC met four times to review and provide feedback on a variety of OCTA programs. Topics included:

- Interstate 5 South County Improvements Project
- Coastal Rail Resiliency Study
- OCTA's Fiscal Year 2025-26 Budget
- Interstate 405 Express Lanes
- 2028 Olympics
- OC Streetcar
- Proposed New Fare Media
- Active Transportation
- Measure M2 Next 10 Delivery Plan
- Measure M2 Ten-Year Review

The CAC also participated in facilitated discussions regarding the following studies:

- OC Transit Vision
- OC Transportation Demand Management

### Bicycle and Pedestrian Active Transportation Subcommittee

In 2011, the CAC formed a Bicycle and Pedestrian Active Transportation Subcommittee, which meets to review items and issues related specifically to active transportation.

This subcommittee met twice over the past year to review projects and provide feedback on integrating active transportation into the broader mobility network, with a focus on safety for both adults and youth.

Topics reviewed included:

- OCTA's Active Transportation Program
- Bikeways Connectivity Study
- I-605/Katella Avenue Interchange Project

### Member Appointments

CAC members serve staggered two-year terms from July through June, with each Board Member appointing one new or returning member annually. Members may serve unlimited terms.

In February, members with terms expiring on June 30 were contacted regarding their interest in continuing to serve. In March, OCTA staff provided Board Members with details on current members seeking reappointment and any open vacancies.

The recruitment process for fiscal year 2025–26 is now complete. Board Members have either reappointed existing CAC members, appointed new members to begin service on July 1, 2025, or have appointments pending (Attachment A).

### **Summary**

The CAC plays a vital role in OCTA's efforts to incorporate public feedback into the agency's transportation decision-making process. Over the past year, CAC members have provided meaningful input on a range of transportation topics. With the upcoming term appointments now finalized, the committee is well positioned to continue supporting OCTA's mission through community engagement and advocacy.

***Attachment***

- A. Orange County Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee Roster Fiscal Year 2025-26

**Prepared by:**



Marissa Espino  
Section Manager II,  
Public Outreach  
(714) 560-5607

**Approved by:**



Maggie McJilton  
Executive Director,  
People and Community Engagement  
(714) 560-5824