




June 23, 2025

To: Members of the Board of Directors

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: Measure M2 Taxpayer Oversight Committee New Member Recruitment and Lottery

Overview

The Renewed Measure M Ordinance No. 3 calls for a committee to oversee implementation of the program of transportation improvements. Each year, new committee members are recruited and selected to fill vacancies left by expired terms. The recruitment process for the Measure M Taxpayer Oversight Committee has been completed for 2025, and a public lottery is now required to appoint members to fill vacancies in the First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

Recommendation

Pursuant to the Renewed Measure M Ordinance No. 3, conduct a public lottery to finalize the selection of new Taxpayer Oversight Committee members. One name each representing the First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts should be drawn from the list of recommended finalists submitted by the Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County.

Background

The Renewed Measure M (M2) Taxpayer Oversight Committee (TOC) is required by the Renewed Measure M Ordinance No. 3 (M2 Ordinance). The TOC is an independent committee representing all five supervisorial districts in the County and is responsible for ensuring the transportation projects in M2 are implemented according to the M2 Investment Plan approved by the voters. The 11-member committee has a balanced representation of all supervisorial districts, with ten private citizens plus the Orange County Auditor-Controller. The TOC meets quarterly to review progress on the implementation of the M2 program.

Each year, as terms of appointed members on the TOC end, a recruitment process is conducted to fill vacancies. As outlined in the M2 Ordinance, the recruitment process is conducted by the Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County (GJAOC). The GJAOC acts as an independent body serving in the interest of Orange County citizens. In its role, the GJAOC appoints a five-member selection panel (Panel) to conduct the recruitment process.

Since the inception of Measure M in 1990, the Panel has managed this recruitment process. The first lottery was held on November 15, 1990, with appointed members beginning service in January 1991. Since then, members have been appointed annually to three-year terms on a staggered basis.

Discussion

On June 30, 2025, the terms of four members of the TOC will expire. The current membership roster is attached (Attachment A). The schedule for the recruitment process for this year began in late January to fill vacancies in the First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts (Attachment B).

The Panel concluded the recruitment process to fill the four vacant positions in mid-May (Attachment C). An online application form was used for recruitment purposes (Attachment D). Announcements were distributed to more than 7,500 people by sending an email to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) database. Digital advertisements were also placed in the Orange County Register, Người Việt, and El Clasificado, and an article was included in the American Automobile Association Westways magazine. In addition, postings were made on OCTA's social media pages and targeted Facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Nextdoor advertisements were used to notify residents in the First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts. Announcements were sent to the media, cities, and elected offices, and flyers were dropped off at community centers and libraries. Information was sent to local civic organizations and professional associations (Orange County Business Council, Orange County Taxpayers Association, Chambers of Commerce, etc.) to include in their newsletters and social media accounts. Also, information was sent to Orange County universities and colleges (California State University, Fullerton, Chapman University, Santiago Canyon College, and University of California, Irvine) to share with graduate students, alumni, and veterans' services centers.

The Panel reviewed 60 applications, evaluating each candidate's background in community service, transportation issues, analytical skills, commitment to the TOC, involvement in community organizations, and knowledge of government operations. Per the M2 Ordinance, individuals holding elected or appointed

public office or with financial conflicts of interest are prohibited from serving. Applicants are required to submit an “intent to resign” form to be eligible for consideration.

Following the initial screening process, 47 interviews were conducted by the Panel to gain as much insight as possible into the most qualified candidates.

The Panel is recommending 17 candidates for possible membership on the committee: three from the First Supervisorial District, five from the Third Supervisorial District, four from the Fourth Supervisorial District, and five from the Fifth Supervisorial District (Attachment E).

At the June 23, 2025 OCTA Board of Directors meeting, the Chair will select four names by lottery to fill the vacant positions. The four new members will begin serving their terms in July 2025. Each representative will serve a three-year term.

During the lottery process, the first name drawn from each supervisorial district will be the selected committee member. The remaining names will be drawn from each supervisorial district to establish a contingency list. Should a vacancy occur, finalists would be called upon to serve on the committee in the order in which the names were drawn.

Resolutions for Outgoing Members

Participation on the TOC requires dedication, time, and commitment. The volunteers who serve on the TOC provide expertise and insight, resulting in thoughtful discussions regarding the implementation and oversight of M2. In recognition of this contribution to the citizens of Orange County, resolutions of appreciation will be given to the following TOC members who have completed their terms: Naresh D. Patel – First Supervisorial District, Kirk Watilo – Third Supervisorial District, Tim Benson – Fourth Supervisorial District, and Mark W. Eisenberg – Fifth Supervisorial District.

Summary

The Panel has completed its recruitment for four open positions on the TOC for the First, Third, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts. A lottery will be conducted to appoint new members, and outgoing members will receive resolutions of appreciation.

Attachments

- A. Measure M2 Taxpayer Oversight Committee Members Fiscal Year 2024-25
- B. Measure M2 Taxpayer Oversight Committee 2025 Recruitment Schedule Supervisorial Districts One, Three, Four, and Five
- C. Grand Jurors' Association of Orange County Taxpayer Oversight Committee Selection Panel 2025
- D. 2025-26 Taxpayer Oversight Committee Application
- E. Measure M2 Taxpayer Oversight Committee 2025 Finalists

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