



Committee Members Present

Laurie Davies, Chair
Lisa A. Bartlett, Vice Chairwoman
Barbara Delgleize
Michael Hennessey
Gene Hernandez
Gregory T. Winterbottom

Staff Present

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Ken Phipps, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Laurena Weinert, Clerk of the Board
Sara Meisenheimer, Deputy Clerk of the Board
James Donich, General Counsel
OCTA Staff and members of the General Public

Committee Members Absent

Tim Shaw

Call to Order

The May 16, 2019 regular meeting of the Legislative and Communications Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Davies at 9:08 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Winterbottom led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Comments

No public comments were received.

Special Calendar

2. Conference Call with State Legislative Advocate Moira Topp

Moira Topp, Sacramento Advocate, reported on the following:

- The Governor released his May revision to the proposed budget last week which is \$213.5 billion and \$147 billion of it is a part of the general fund. The proposed budget focuses on:
 - Expansion to Medi-Cal program;
 - Increase in education funding;
 - Expansion of earned tax credit for low-income individuals; and
 - No changes in the transportation area.
- The April tax collection came in strong and is forecasting \$3.2 billion above the Governor's January projection.
- The sub-committees are meeting daily and will conclude their work next week and move to the budget conference committee.
- The Constitution requires the budget to be passed by June 15th.
- On the Legislative side, today is the last day for all bills to get out of their fiscal committees and those bills, with significant fiscal impact, will get held in the suspense file.



2. (Continued)

- Within a two-week period, Legislature will have over 1,500 bills to review.
- Senate Bill (SB) 498 which would reduce the trade corridor funding to short-line railroads and a discussion about the policy moving during the budget process.

A discussion ensued regarding the surplus being attributed to high income earners and an increase in collections on the cooperation side.

Consent Calendar (Item 3)

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Winterbottom, and declared passed by those present, to approve the minutes of the Legislative and Communications Committee meeting of April 18, 2019.

Committee Vice Chairwoman Bartlett was not present to vote on this item.

Regular Calendar

4. State Legislative Status Report

Dustin J. Sifford, Senior Government Relations Representative, reported on the following:

- An overview on SB 498, the budget process, and how the timing will affect the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).
- An overview on SB 732 which would authorize a South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) sales tax voting district, concerns on what is not included in the bill language, and how SB 732 exempts potential tax from county-wide transaction and use tax-caps.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Class III railroad construction is primarily taking place in the Central Valley, and Senator Hurtado likely sees this as available funding to use towards projects in the Central Valley.
- Senator Hurtado thinks the money available is excess money; however, OCTA and other agencies are relying on this funding's availability.
- OCTA talked with Hurtado's office about the issues pertaining to SB 498 and other transit agencies in southern California will also be opposing this bill, including Omnitrans.



4. (Continued)

- Assuming SB 732 is not heard today, then it will officially become a two-year bill.
- The SCAQMD is sponsoring SB 732; however, they need the authority and funding to comply with federal air quality mandates.
- The outreach for SB 732 was lacking in the beginning, but now many are interested to see if this is something the SCAQMD could move forward.
- Director Delgleize stated her concerns with SB 732.
- The regional Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Roundtable which includes Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, and four other county CEOs met with Wayne Nastri, SCAQMD Executive Director, to discuss the substance of the bill and questions were not adequately answered. Mr. Johnson wrote a letter to Mr. Nastri and asked him to meet and discuss the bill.
- Governor Newsom appointed David Kim as the nominee for the Secretary for the California State Transportation Agency.

A motion was made by Director Delgleize, seconded by Director Hernandez, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Adopt an OPPOSE position on SB 498 (Hurtado, D-Bakersfield), which would redirect project savings from the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund towards short-line railroads.
- B. Adopt an OPPOSE position on SB 732 (Allen, D-Santa Monica), which would create a special voting district in the South Coast Air Quality Management District jurisdiction in order to facilitate a ballot initiative to institute a transactions and use tax to help the region meet state and federal air quality standards.

Committee Vice Chairwoman Bartlett was not present to vote on this item.

5. Federal Legislative Status Report

Jaymal Patel, Associate Government Relations Representative, reported on the following:

- An overview on H.R. 1139: Transit Worker and Pedestrian Protection Act. The focus is providing incentives to ensure that transit agencies like OCTA can comply with the mitigation requirements.
- OCTA has taken a proactive approach to protect Coach Operators, such as testing protective barriers and on-board surveillance monitors, as well as, increasing Transit Police Services on key routes where assaults have occurred.



5. (Continued)

Dustin Sifford, Senior Government Relations Representative, continued the presentation and reported on the following:

- Overview on H.R. 2164: Green Bus Act of 2019 which would double the amount of competitive funding authorized for near-zero bus emission technology.
- By 2029, H.R. 2164 would require that any bus purchased using Federal Transit Administration funds be a zero-emission bus.
- Update on the proposed \$2 trillion infrastructure bill.

No action was taken on this receive and file information item.

6. Agreement for Public Communications and Community Outreach for the Interstate 5 Improvement Project from State Route 73 to El Toro Road

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, provided opening comments and introduced Fernando Chavarria, Community Relations Officer, who reported on the following:

- Highlighted the procurement process on selecting a firm to provide communication and outreach services for the Interstate 5 Improvement Project from State Route 73 to El Toro Road.
- All short-listed firms noted in the Staff Report have been previously retained and successfully performed work for OCTA.
- Explanation on why TRC Solutions, Inc., was selected as the highest-ranked firm.

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Delgleize, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Approve the selection of TRC Solutions, Inc., as the firm to provide public communications and community outreach for the Interstate 5 Improvement Project from State Route 73 to El Toro Road.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-8-2086 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and TRC Solutions, Inc., in the amount of \$771,410, for a six-year term, through June 30, 2025, to provide public communications and community outreach for the Interstate 5 Improvement Project from State Route 73 to El Toro Road.



Discussion Items

7. Fiscal Year 2019-20 Budget Workshop Follow-up

Victor Velasquez, Department Manager of Financial Planning and Analysis, referred to a handout provided at today's meeting, which listed questions and answers that resulted from the May 13, 2019 Board of Directors (Board) Budget Workshop, and offered one-on-one meetings to all Board Members.

Director Delgleize referenced question number four in the handout and asked about the small increase from last year. Mr. Velasquez explained that the costs in the table are actual expenses based on the number of vacancies and which health care plan the employee selects.

Vice Committee Chairwoman Bartlett asked what percentage of the health care premium does OCTA cover for employees and also, expressed her concerns on the employee looking at the base salary and not the total compensation.

Maggie McJilton, Executive Director of Human Resources and Organizational Development, responded that it depends on the employees' years of service and what health care plan is selected.

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, stated the employee picks up about five to 15 percent depending on the health care plan and if they are a part of a collective bargaining union or an administrative employee. In addition, Mr. Johnson stated that each employee also receives a benefits statement that summarizes their total compensation.

8. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, reported on the following:

- Due to the rain this morning, the annual bike ride and rally were rescheduled to Thursday, May 23rd at 7:30 a.m. from the Orange Metrolink Station to the OCTA Headquarters.
- Next week, OCTA will host a series of community meetings on the proposed bus service changes for October and February. The meetings are scheduled at the:
 - Brea Community Center on Tuesday, May 21st at 6:00 p.m.
 - Santa Ana Senior Center on Wednesday, May 22nd at 5:30 p.m.
 - Irvine Lakeview Senior Center on Thursday, May 23rd at 6:00 p.m.

There will also be a public hearing at the OCTA Board meeting on Monday, June 10th.



8. (Continued)

- The Beach Boulevard Corridor Study is currently underway, and this study is reviewing existing conditions along the 21-mile Beach Boulevard corridor and will propose alternative solutions to improve traffic congestion and other issues. Upcoming Beach Boulevard Corridor Study outreach will be held at the:
 - West Anaheim Youth Center on Saturday, May 8th at 9:00 a.m.
 - Bella Terra in Huntington Beach on Saturday May 18th at 12:00 p.m.

9. Committee Members' Reports

There were no Committee Members' reports.

10. Closed Session

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2019**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room - Conference Room 07, Orange, California.

ATTEST

Laurie Davies
Committee Chair

Sahara Meisenheimer
Deputy Clerk of the Board