



***June 16, 2022***

**To:** Legislative and Communications Committee

**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** Accessible Transit Advisory Committee Annual Update and Member Appointments

***Overview***

The Accessible Transit Advisory Committee, formerly Special Needs Advisory Committee, was formed to advise the Orange County Transportation Authority on the transportation needs of seniors and persons with disabilities. The member appointment status and a summary of the committee's activities during the past year is provided with this report.

***Recommendation***

Receive and file the Accessible Transit Advisory Committee status report.

***Background***

On January 13, 1992, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board), concurrent with approving the OCTA 1992 Complementary Paratransit Plan as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act, voted to establish a standing citizens' committee, the Accessible Transit Advisory Committee (ATAC), to advise OCTA on the transportation needs of senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

***Discussion***

The ATAC's mission is to advise OCTA on the promotion of integrated public transit services and to improve communication between OCTA and seniors as well as customers with disabilities. ATAC members also provide support for OC ACCESS service eligibility appeals. The ATAC, formerly Special Needs Advisory Committee, is comprised of 34 members appointed by the OCTA Board. Members serve staggered three-year terms and meet quarterly.

Beginning in February, Board Members and their staff were contacted with recruitment information, including existing ATAC members interested in reappointment and member resignations. The recruitment is now complete, and Board Members have either reappointed existing members or appointed new members to begin service on July 1, 2022 or have appointments pending (Attachment A).

To show OCTA's appreciation to members who will be leaving the committee, resolutions of appreciation have been prepared to thank them for their contribution.

During the past year, the ATAC met four times, three times virtually and once in person in April 2022, to review and provide feedback on a variety of OCTA programs and topics. Key presentation and discussion topics for this past year included:

- Transit service and OC Bus service
- Same-day taxi service
- Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Grant Program
- Service animal practices on OC ACCESS
- OC ACCESS eligibility and operations
- OC ACCESS designated stops
- Trapeze EZ Wallet
- OCTA's Senior Mobility Program and policies
- Long-Range Transportation Study
- Mobility Hub Study
- Making Better Connections Study

### ***Summary***

The ATAC continues to serve in an advisory and advocacy role on transit issues of importance for seniors and persons with disabilities throughout the year. ATAC members have contributed substantially to the work of OCTA in the past year. With the recruitment process for FY 2022-23 now complete, OCTA Board Members have either reappointed existing ATAC members or appointed new members. Members who are not continuing on the committee will receive resolutions of appreciation to thank them for their time and efforts.

***Attachment***

- A. Orange County Transportation Authority Accessible Transit Advisory  
Committee Roster Fiscal Year 2022-23

**Prepared by:**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine L. Byrne".

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