

**SCOPE OF WORK
FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATES**

I. General

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is seeking a federal legislative advocate team (Consultant) to address a series of issues described in and will be organized around the federal goals and objectives of the OCTA Legislative Platform. The primary issues and objectives are summarized as follows:

1. Secure a stable and reliable long-term transportation reauthorization bill, and annual appropriations bills in accordance with current Legislative Platform and Board of Directors (Board)-approved project requests.
2. Advocate at the Congressional and Executive Branch levels for federal funding for OCTA capital projects, including fixed-guideway projects.
3. Advocate on behalf of OCTA's position on Goods Movement.
4. Seek to maximize funding for all OCTA modal programs, but especially restoration of a well-funded bus discretionary program, in the next transportation reauthorization bill.
5. Seek to streamline and accelerate the delivery of federally funded projects with minimal federal requirements.
6. Advocate for funding of compliance costs for any new federally mandated requirements.
7. Advocate for federal intercity passenger rail funding in the San Luis Obispo - Los Angeles - San Diego Rail Corridor.

II. Coalition Activities

The Consultant shall build and sustain a strong federal coalition in support of OCTA.

1. OCTA Legislative Platform
 - 1.1 Provide input to and implement OCTA-developed funding strategies for transportation projects described in the Information and Issues discussion and Legislative Platform, including bus, highway, intelligent transportation systems projects, and any other projects which may be appropriate to achieve OCTA legislative goals.

1.2 Recommend appropriate activities for OCTA Board Members and local elected officials at various stages of the legislative process.

1.3 Provide general political and advocacy advice to OCTA.

2. Legislation, Regulations, and Policy

2.1 Notify OCTA of anticipated, newly introduced, or amended federal legislation, regulations, and administrative policy actions which could impact OCTA and provide a legislative analysis on how such action(s) may affect the interest of OCTA.

2.2 Work with OCTA to develop positions and tactics which implement OCTA's strategy objectives regarding the upcoming reauthorization of the transportation program.

2.3 Provide information and advice regarding upcoming legislative hearings which may impact policies and programs of OCTA.

2.4 Attend hearings and other public sessions of interest to OCTA.

2.5 Assist in the preparation of testimony before congressional committees and represent OCTA before such committees, including, but not limited to, the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the Senate Committee on Banking and Urban Affairs, the Senate Commerce Committee, and the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

2.6 Assist in drafting legislative language and other written materials deemed to be of interest to OCTA to ensure that the goals and objectives of OCTA are fulfilled.

2.7 Assist in drafting responses to Federal Register notices and other federal public comment announcements.

2.8 Assist in the preparation of appropriate written materials supporting OCTA legislative goals, including letters, talking points, bill summaries, and position papers.

3. Liaison and Advocacy Activities

3.1 Orange County Congressional Delegation

3.1.1 Maintain frequent formal and informal contact with the Orange County delegation members and staff to represent and advocate OCTA policies and positions.

3.1.2 Recommend when OCTA Board Members should be in direct contact with members of the Orange County delegation or their key legislative staff.

3.2 House and Senate

3.2.1 Maintain direct and frequent contact with key members and staff of appropriate Senate and House Committees to represent and advocate OCTA policies and positions.

3.2.2 Arrange meetings between key legislation members and OCTA personnel as appropriate in Washington, D.C. or Orange County. Provide logistical support for Washington, D.C. visits.

3.2.3 Recommend timing and nature of contacts with the Orange County delegation and other legislation members in Washington, D.C.

3.3 Executive Branch

3.3.1 Meet with and arrange meetings with appropriate White House officials and staff, as necessary, to represent and advocate OCTA policies and positions.

3.3.2 Meet with and arrange meetings with appropriate Department of Transportation officials and staff, and other federal agencies, as necessary, to represent and advocate OCTA policies and positions.

III. **Administrative Coordination**

The Consultant shall continuously coordinate with OCTA Board, Chief Executive Officer and staff.

1. Coordination

1.1 Coordinate all activities with the OCTA State and Federal Relations Manager and Executive Director, Government Relations as appropriate.

1.2 Coordinate with members of the OCTA Board, as appropriate.

1.3 Coordinate with other OCTA consultants, as appropriate.

2. Other Activities

- 2.1 Preparation of materials, conference calls, oral reports, written reports, and additional assignments.
- 2.2 Participate via teleconference with the Manager of Grants and Federal Relations, other OCTA staff, and other consultants as necessary.
- 2.3 Provide on-site and in-person oral reports to the Board and meet with appropriate OCTA staff at the OCTA headquarters in Orange, California, as needed. The number of on-site reports is not expected to exceed four per year.
- 2.4 Submit a written monthly activity and status report, including key advocacy activities undertaken on behalf of OCTA during each month.
- 2.5 Undertake additional assignments that have been mutually agreed upon by both parties and are necessary to accomplish OCTA's objectives in Washington, D.C.