

**ITEM 2 – Appointment Consideration of a Public  
Member for the Board of Directors**

**LETTERS OF SUPPORT**

**FOR:**

- **GREGORY T. WINTERBOTTOM**
- **GEORGE WRIGHT**

January 25, 2017



Orange County Transportation Authority  
Lori Donchak, Chair Ad-Hoc  
Public Member Selection Committee  
550 South Main Street  
Orange, CA 92863

Dear Chair Donchak:

I am writing to express the support of the Dayle McIntosh Center for the Disabled for re-selection of Greg Winterbottom to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors. Mr. Winterbottom has been affiliated with the center since its inception in 1977 and chaired the original board of directors. Throughout his career, he has worked to improve the quality of life within the Orange County disability population.

As a businessman, Mr. Winterbottom has the ability to find the balance between the needs of customers and the cost of providing service. He is very familiar with the para-transit service from eligibility and operations, to reservations and ADA requirements. With such knowledge, as well as his personal experience as an individual with a disability, he is an asset to both the OCTA board and the disability community.

The complexity and costs of the ACCESS program are well known and in the coming years OCTA will be considering contracts relevant to this service. Important decisions will need to be made regarding how OCTA continues to meet ADA requirements and the transportation concerns of a growing population. Mr. Winterbottom is well versed in the needs of riders, who are disabled, as well as provisions under the Americans with Disabilities Act as they pertain to transportation. His breadth of knowledge, however, is not limited to these issues, but extends to all OCTA programs and projects.

The Dayle McIntosh Center is confident that Mr. Winterbottom will continue to be an outstanding representative of the disability constituency on the OCTA governing Board. For this reason, DMC strongly supports his reappointment as a Director.

Sincerely,



Paula Margeson,  
Executive Director

cc: OCTA Board of Directors

January 25, 2017

Orange County Transportation Authority  
Lori Donchak, Chair, Ad-Hoc Public Member Selection Committee  
550 South Main Street  
Orange, CA 92863

Dear Chair Donchak:

As the Treasurer and President of the Paralyzed Veterans of America California Chapter (PVA-CC), we have worked with Greg Winterbottom for many years. We are proud to support him for re-appointment as a Public Member to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).

Greg very well represents customers of OCTA's bus and paratransit system, many who are PVA-CC members. His years of experience in specialized transportation for individuals with disabilities is unparalleled. It is worth noting that Greg's involvement in this much needed service began long before the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) had been thought of. That is a long time to be associated with an important service that has evolved -- and will continue to evolve -- for OCTA's transit passengers.

While Greg is a fine representative of our community, he is also a strong advocate for the taxpayer. He is well aware of the costs of providing ACCESS and will continue to use his experience to ask the right questions and to make informed decisions that benefit the public -- OCTA transit customers and taxpayers alike. With important decisions to be made on ACCESS service provision, fare stabilization, and in addressing operational issues, Greg will help guide the OCTA Board, especially the four new Directors, to make great decisions for the public.

Again, we strongly support Greg's reappointment to the OCTA Board of Directors. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
//Raymond Monzon//

//Toki Katsuki//



cc: OCTA Board of Directors

# Keith Curry

40 Vienna, Newport Beach CA 92660  
949 644-0800  
keithcurry1@yahoo.com

March 21, 2017

Hon. Michael Hennessey, Chairman and Members of the OCTA Board of Directors  
500 S. Main St.  
Orange Ca 92868

*via e mail*

Dear Chair Hennessey and Members of the Board,

I understand the Board will consider the appointment of one of its public members on Monday, March 28.

I am very pleased to recommend Professor and Dean George Wright for your consideration. George is an expert in transportation economics and a strong and dedicated leader. I worked with George at Concordia University and he was a key member of the University's leadership. In addition, he brings decades of private sector corporate experience to this position.

You will find George to be a collaborative colleague and a dedicated public servant. I believe he will add an important perspective to the OCTA board and will be an asset to you in addressing the mobility needs of Orange County.

Thank you for your consideration of George. Please distribute this letter to the full board and feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

All the Best,

KEITH D. CURRY  
Mayor, Newport Beach, 2010, 2013

March 22, 2017

Mr. Michael Hennessey  
550 S. Main  
Orange, CA 92868

Dear Mr. Hennessey.

Several weeks ago I learned that George Wright was being considered for the position of Public Member of the Board of the Orange County Transportation Authority. Although I was out of town when I learned of this I immediately forwarded to the OCTA a letter of recommendation. That is how strongly I support the contribution he can make to the Board. I recently learned that consideration for this position is on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

As one who has served as a public member of an important body such as the OCTA as well as working for twenty years at Southern California Edison and ten years as a college professor, I can fully understand the contributions Mr. Wright will make at OCTA on several levels. His many years working at U.S. Borax and Chemical Corporation in a variety of capacities, including global information and technology issues, provide incredible experience and hands-on knowledge about business and issues critical to infrastructure needs. His long-term employment at Borax also indicates continual growth and in-depth knowledge in a vital field of business as well as business leadership.

Mr. Wright has translated those many years of business experience and acumen into teaching at the university level, impacting business students and helping them to achieve their career goals. With this transition, Mr. Wright is able to communicate often complex and technical information at all levels of learning, including university students. This skill is an excellent fit with the OCTA simply because it would provide an additional communication liaison between the general public and professionals in the field of transportation. Additionally, as a professor of business at Concordia University, Mr. Wright and a colleague developed a unique course which focused on transportation. In doing so, he called upon his wide range of experiences in visiting and researching transportation and other infrastructure projects in England, France, Spain and other countries as well as in Orange County, the Ports of LA and Long Beach and others. This academic creativity, combined with experience, would be a tremendous asset for the OCTA.

As one who has spent many years working in an essential infrastructure industry - electricity - I am well aware of the need for qualified and committed citizens who are willing to serve their communities in positions such as the public member on significant boards. Mr. Wright would bring outstanding experience, credibility, integrity and creativity to the OCTA as you continue to provide leadership on a myriad of transportation issues.

Mr. Wright not only would bring a fresh face to the Board, he is a regular passenger on the OCTA's bus service, traveling from his home in north Orange County to Irvine at least four days a week...a special kind of experience for this Board!

I highly recommend and encourage the Board of the OCTA to select Mr. Wright for this position.

With best regards,

Jo Ellen Chatham  
Director of Local Government Affairs - Retired  
Southern California Edison



March 24, 2017

Chairman M. Hennessey  
Board of Directors  
Orange County Transit Authority  
550 S. Main Street  
Orange, CA 92868

Dear Chairman Hennessey,

This is a letter of recommendation for Prof. George Wright, Dean of the School of Business, at Concordia University Irvine.

Prof. George Wright desires to be appointed as Public Member of the Board of Directors for the Orange County Transportation Authority.

I've known George for many years as a member of Concordia's faculty and most recently as the energetic and gifted Dean of our School of Business. George is a lifelong advocate of public transportation and through his background in economics, his experiences in corporate America and his academic research and teaching, he understands well the impact of transportation on the economic and environmental conditions of Orange County as well as the impact of transportation issues on individuals as they travel throughout the County.

At Concordia George has provided helpful and expert transportation advice to our Center for Public Policy and has taught several classes which explored transportation issues around the world including rail, light rail and bus systems in the US and abroad, particularly in England, France and Spain.

I believe George is uniquely qualified to serve as Public Member because of his blend of the academic, operational and strategic roles he's had in accounting, finance, economics and IT. In my opinion, his skills and experiences seem to mirror the attributes of the person who seeks to serve the Board as Public Member.

George is also a daily bus rider and frequent Metrolink rider, and his firsthand experiences with these transportation systems would be extremely valuable to deliberations and decisions made at the Board level.

I give Prof. George Wright my highest recommendation. He is intelligent, creative and energetic and, in my opinion, would make an excellent Public Member of the Board of Directors of the OCTA.

Sincerely,

Kurt Krueger, PhD  
President, Concordia University Irvine