



Committee Members Present

*Shawn Nelson, Chairman
Al Murray, Vice Chairman
Laurie Davies
Barbara Delgleize*

Staff Present

*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

*Lisa A. Bartlett
Michael Hennessey
Tim Shaw
Gregory T. Winterbottom*

Call to Order

The May 18, 2017 regular meeting of the Legislative and Communications Committee was called to order by Committee Chairman Nelson at 9:45 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Davies 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, provided an update on the following:

- Governor Brown's proposed budget trailer bill language will help some of the programs in Senate Bill 1, such as trade corridors and state local partnerships.
- The cap-and-trade program is in Governor Brown's January budget and he reiterated it in the May revision to reauthorize it with a two-third's vote.
- There are a number of proposals that have come out within the last couple of weeks from the legislator, including competing proposals that have removed transportation from its plan. This will change as to where the dollars will go for the transportation sector, including the greenhouse gas emissions.



2. (Continued)

Committee Chairman Nelson commented that the Air Quality Management District (AQMD) is trying to stay away from the climate change argument; as they are mandated to get specific toxic items out of the atmosphere.

Ms. Topp stated that this is the first time the legislation is starting to combine greenhouse gas reductions cap-and-trade with “gluten” criteria.

Consent Calendar (Item 3 and 4)

All items on the Consent Calendar are to be approved in one motion unless a Committee Member or a member of the public requests separate action or discussion on a specific item.

3. Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2017

Due to lack of quorum, no action was taken on this item.

The March 16, 2017 minutes will be brought forward to the next Legislative and Communications Committee meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes – April 20, 2017

Due to lack of quorum, no action was taken on this item.

The April 20, 2017 minutes will be brought forward to the next Legislative and Communications Committee meeting.

Regular Calendar

5. State Legislative Status Report

Kristin Essner, Manager of State and Federal Relations, provided an update on the state legislation report. Ms. Essner recommended an oppose position on Assembly Bill (AB) 302. She stated that the AQMD could potentially require the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) to adopt zero emissions buses or new technology into the fleet before the buses have reached their useful life. In addition, she also stated that other agencies and the trucking industry also oppose this bill.

A discussion ensued regarding AB 302; as follows:

- If the bill passed, there is no time frame and the bill could take effect immediately.



5. (Continued)

- Other transportation agencies, including OCTA, are taking proactive measures by adding buses into the fleet that are zero emission.
- Sue Zuhlke, Director of Maintenance and Motorist Services, stated that that OCTA is currently repowering 98 buses with near-zero emission engines, and the buses are certified with .01 grams per brake horse power NOx emission.

Ms. Essner also reported on the support positions for AB 1282, AB 1454, and Senate Bill 768.

Due to lack of quorum, no action was taken on this item, and it was forwarded to the May 22, 2017, Board of Directors' (Board) meeting.

6. Federal Legislative Status Report

Kristin Essner, Manager of State and Federal Relations, provided an update on the following:

- The Omnibus Appropriations bill for fiscal year 2017-18 in which President Trump signed.
- Maintaining the capital investment grants program which includes the New Starts Full Funding Grant program at \$2.41 billion dollars and within that amount, the OC Streetcar for \$50 million.
- Continue funding for the highway programs at the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act authorization levels; continue authorization for the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan program, and the bus facilities program.
- The Omnibus Appropriations bill continues to support the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery program. However, OCTA has not been successful under that program.
- A letter was sent from the Orange County delegation to Secretary Elaine L. Chau in support of the TIFIA financing for Interstate 405 project.
- A hearing entitled, "Infrastructure Project Streamlining" took place in the Senate and Public Works committee.



6. (Continued)

Director Nelson commented on his recent trip to Washington, D.C., on behalf of the AQMD. He stated that the entire advocacy trip was focused on getting transportation projects funded. Director Nelson encouraged the Legislative and Communications Committee to connect with the AQMD, especially when there is crossover with joint efforts.

After a discussion ensued, no action was taken on this receive and file informational item, and it was forwarded to the May 22, 2017 Board meeting.

Discussion Items

7. Fiscal Year 2017-18 Budget Workshop Follow-up

Director Nelson reported that the AQMD has funded the new Tier IV Metrolink locomotives, but they are not being used. He stated that since it is a part of Metrolink's budget, they are working to correct the design specs in order to put the new locomotives in service.

8. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Ken Phipps, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, reported on the following:

- On Wednesday, May 17, 2017, OCTA hosted an elected officials' workshop to provide an overview of the Long Range Transportation Plan and the state of transportation in Orange County. He stated there were about 32 attendees.
- The Angels Express was in service on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 with 488 boardings, and to date, there were 12,061 boardings which is lower than last year.
- Since May is Bike Month, OCTA hosted its annual bike rally on Thursday, May 18, 2017. There were 40 cyclists riding from Orange Metrolink Station to the OCTA Headquarters' building. Mr. Phipps thanked Director Murray for participating in the event.

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 9:45 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2017**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room - Conference Room 07, Orange, California.

ATTEST

Shawn Nelson
Committee Chairman

Sahara Meisenheimer
Deputy Clerk of the Board