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August 21, 2017

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The Honorable Kevin de León
President Pro Tempore,
California State Senate
State Capitol Building, Room 205
Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Speaker,
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 219
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Support for Increased Cap-and-Trade Revenue Investment in Public Transportation

Dear President Pro Tempore de León and Speaker Rendon:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors respectfully requests that, as conversations continue about the use of cap-and-trade revenues, consideration be given to not only protecting existing investments in public transportation, but also seeking increased investment in those programs going forward. Both the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) and the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP) have provided critical investments for Orange County, allowing for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and increased connectivity and mobility options countywide, while also providing benefits to disadvantaged communities.

Existing law currently allocates five percent of overall cap-and-trade revenues to the LCTOP, and ten percent to the TIRCP, on an ongoing basis. OCTA has successfully received funding under both programs, allowing for investments in the OC Streetcar, implementation of limited stop bus service on Bravo! Route 560, mobile ticketing, installation of three-position bike racks, and discounted bus fares. Going forward, OCTA plans to seek funding to expand on these successful efforts, exploring opportunities for future limited stop bus service on additional routes, fare discounts, and other transit capital and operational improvements throughout the County. Increasing the investment in LCTOP and TIRCP will provide a means for not only delivering these future improvements, but also exploring additional efficiencies within Orange County's transportation system.

A support position on increasing cap-and-trade funding investments in public transportation is consistent with the principles included in the OCTA 2017-18 State Legislative Platform that state, "Support the eligibility of the transportation sector and inclusion of county transportation commissions as eligible recipients of any funding mechanism created for implementation of the state's greenhouse gas reduction initiatives, including the cap-and-trade program," and "Support the

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prioritization of transportation projects and programs that achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions for cap-and-trade funding.”

If you or your staff have any questions regarding OCTA's position on the use of cap-and-trade funding for public transportation purposes, please contact Kristin Essner, Manager, State and Federal Relations, at (714) 560-5754.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Hennessy", with a stylized, cursive script.

Michael Hennessy
Chairman

MH:ke

c: Members, Senate Budget Committee
Members, Assembly Budget Committee
Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Orange County State Legislative Delegation
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