



**May 17, 2018**

**To:** Legislative and Communications Committee

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

**Subject:** Citizens Advisory Committee Annual Update and Member Appointments

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Citizens Advisory Committee was formed to provide feedback on significant transportation issues, help identify opportunities for community input, and serve as a public liaison for the Orange County Transportation Authority. A summary of the committee's activities during the past year and the new member appointment status is provided with this report.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file the Citizens Advisory Committee status report.

### **Background**

In its role as county transportation commission, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) is required by the Public Utilities Code (PUC) 130105 to appoint a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to provide input on transportation projects, programs, services, and outreach activities. The PUC states that the commission shall "appoint...a citizens advisory committee, which membership shall reflect a broad spectrum of interests and all geographic areas of the county." The CAC is structured such that each OCTA Board of Directors (Board) member appoints two citizens to serve, creating a 34-member committee representing diverse interests and geographic areas of Orange County.

To carry out the CAC's mission, ongoing responsibilities include:

- Commenting on significant transportation issues, suggesting possible solutions, and making recommendations when appropriate;
- Identifying opportunities for community input;

- Recommending mechanisms and methodologies for obtaining public feedback on specific transportation issues;
- Serving as a liaison between the public and OCTA.

In addition, the CAC has formed a Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee, which meets quarterly to review items and issues related specifically to active transportation, and a Technology and Innovation Ad Hoc Committee, which meets as needed to review new ideas focused on technological advances and innovations that could help improve Orange County's transportation system.

### ***Discussion***

As an advisory body, members' comments and suggestions help shape OCTA's services and communications to be responsive and user-friendly to the public. The wide range of viewpoints and interests represented by the membership also provides OCTA with an added sounding board for prospective programs and initiatives. Board Director Gregory T. Winterbottom attends meetings, providing guidance and sharing his insights with the committee.

CAC input is communicated to the Board in a variety of ways. Members' feedback on projects and initiatives is incorporated as programs develop, which is often noted in project staff reports. As direct appointees of the Board, CAC members are also encouraged to communicate directly with their appointing Board Member. Additionally, Director Winterbottom relays CAC feedback to the Board as appropriate. In addition, the CAC chairman is invited to share the committee's activities and recommendations with the Board annually.

During the past year, the CAC met four times to review and provide feedback on a variety of OCTA programs and topics. Key activities for this past year included:

- Acting as the stakeholder working group for the Transit Master Plan (OC Transit Vision) and Long Range Transportation Plan;
- Commenting on OCTA's state and federal legislative platform;
- Discussing the progress of OC Streetcar and I-405 Improvement Project;
- Providing feedback on the Measure M Next 10 Plan and Central Harbor Boulevard Transit Corridor Study;
- Reviewing Senate Bill 1 and how it affects OCTA's budget and projects
- Receiving updates on sales tax forecasts and from OCTA's Office of Innovation;
- Following up on the outcome and completion of the OC Bridges projects and OC Bus 360 efforts to grow bus ridership;
- Supporting the development of OC Go, Measure M2's new external branding identity.

### CAC Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee

During the past year, the CAC Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee met three times to give feedback on ways to better incorporate bicycle commuting as an alternative mode of transportation, and to emphasize the need to consider bicycle lanes and cyclist and pedestrian safety when making transportation improvements throughout Orange County.

The subcommittee reviewed and provided feedback on a variety of capital projects, including South County Interstate 5 (I-5) Improvements (Avenida Pico to San Juan Creek Road), State Route 91 (SR-91) Improvement Project (State Route 57 to State Route 55 {SR-55}), Interstate 605/Katella Avenue Interchange Project, I-5 Improvement Project (Interstate 405 {I-405} to SR-55), I-405 South Improvement Project (I-5 to SR-55), SR-55 Improvement Project (I-5 to SR-91), and the San Juan Creek Bridge Replacement Project. Additional items reviewed by the subcommittee include marketing activities and campaigns (e.g. Rideshare Week, Play It Safe, and Bike Month), planning studies (OC Active Plan, Active Transportation Counts Study, etc.), recent and upcoming grants, and Southern California Association of Governments Go Human events.

### Technology and Innovation Ad Hoc Committee

During the past year, the Technology and Innovation Ad Hoc Committee met once. The ad hoc committee discussed the role of autonomous vehicles, provided feedback on the I-405 Improvement Project Interactive Map, and reviewed the goals, market research, and technology for OCTA's micro transit pilot (OC Flex).

### Member Appointments

CAC members serve staggered two-year terms from July through June, so each year every Board Member has one CAC member whose term expires on June 30. Committee members can serve unlimited terms. In February, each committee member with an expiring term was contacted to see if they were interested in continuing to serve. In addition, announcements were made seeking potential applicants by including articles on OCTA's blog, posting videos and application information to Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and sending information to media, city contacts, and local organizations to publish and include in their newsletters.

The opportunity to reappoint interested members for an additional term, along with resignations, was presented to each Board Member and their staff beginning in April. The recruitment is now complete, and Board Members have

either reappointed existing members, appointed new members to begin service on July 1, 2017, or have appointments pending (Attachment A).

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

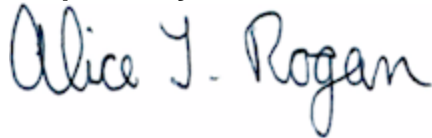
***Summary***

The CAC plays a vital role in OCTA's efforts to incorporate public feedback into the agency's transportation decision-making process. CAC members have contributed substantially to the work of OCTA in the past year. With the recruitment process for fiscal year 2018-19 now complete, OCTA Board Members have either reappointed existing CAC members or appointed new members. To thank members who are not continuing on the committee, resolutions of appreciation are being prepared.

***Attachment***

- A. Orange County Transportation Authority Citizens Advisory Committee Roster Fiscal Year 2018-19

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