



**Committee Members Present**

Shawn Nelson, Chairman  
Michael Hennessey, Vice Chairman  
Laurie Davies  
Barbara Delgleize  
Al Murray  
Tim Shaw  
Gregory T. Winterbottom

**Staff Present**

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
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**

None

**Call to Order**

The August 16, 2018 regular meeting of Legislative and Communications Committee was called to order by Committee Vice Chairman Hennessey at 9:03 a.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Director Murray 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, reported on the following:

- The Legislature session will adjourn on August 31<sup>st</sup> at midnight for the second year of its two year session.
- No surprises for any transportation related items in August.
- Updates on Suspense File bills (bills with a fiscal impact):
  - Senate Bill (SB) 1119 – Relates to challenges with how existing statutory language is written in regards to disadvantaged communities.
  - Assembly Bill (AB) 1912 - Improvements of the bills are expected in regards to the retroactive application and eliminating strict liability.
- There are 700 bills pending in the Suspense File in both Houses, and today is the determination of what major bills will move forward.



**2. (Continued)**

- California's reaction to the online sales tax case ruling, *South Dakota v. Wayfair, Inc.*:
  - California did an audit per the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) request for online sales and sales tax collection.
  - Many tax policy experts are consumed by California's complex sales tax allocation.
  - The Supreme Court just issued a new decision related to online sales tax and the new Department of Tax and Fee Administration is having a hard time understanding what the decision means.
  - The Brown Administration discussed a legislative change in order to take advantage of the Supreme Court's decision, and this bill will more than likely be a 2/3 vote for the online sales tax and discussions at the state level are occurring.

**Consent Calendar (Items 3 and 4)**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Director Davies, seconded by Director Murray, and declared passed by those present, to approve the minutes of the Legislative and Communications Committee meeting of July 19, 2018.

Committee Chairman Nelson was not present to vote on this item.

**4. 2018 Title VI Plan Triennial Report**

A motion was made by Director Davies, seconded by Director Murray, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Review, approve, and direct staff to submit the 2018 Title VI Plan Triennial Report to the Federal Transit Administration's Regional Office of Civil Rights on or before October 1, 2018.
- B. Review and approve the results of the Service Standards and Policies monitoring in Section 5 of the 2018 Title VI Plan Triennial Report.

Committee Chairman Nelson was not present to vote on this item.

## **Regular Calendar**

### **5. Federal Legislative Status Report**

Kristin Essner, Manager of State and Federal Relations, reported on the following:

- Appropriations Update:
  - Senate took action to approve a “minibus” appropriations bill which included a transportation element.
  - Senate transportation funding bill would provide \$2.55 billion for the Capital Investment Grants and the OC Streetcar.
  - Congress may pass an appropriations bills before the October 1<sup>st</sup> fiscal year deadline.
- Chairman Shuster of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, released a draft Infrastructure proposal which includes a 15 cent gas tax increase and removes the exemption of fuel taxes for transit agencies.
- The draft Infrastructure proposal would do the following:
  - Create a commission to research the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.
  - Seek a one-year extension of the current authorization bill and include project streamlining and financing tools.
  - Include the One Federal Decision policy and authorize the use of funds to guarantee loans through the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program.
  - Be considered “dead on arrival” since this will be Chairman Shuster’s last year as chairman and new proposals may be released.
- The House Judiciary Committee hosted a hearing entitled, “Examining the *Wayfair* Decision and its Ramifications for Consumers and Small Businesses,” to examine ways in which Congress could respond to the decision.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- A potential tax on bicycle tires since cycling is considered a mode of transportation.
- No real reactions have been made in regards to Chairman Shuster’s proposal.

Following the discussion, no action was taken on this receive and file information item.

**6. OC Streetcar Vehicle Exterior Design**

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), provided opening comments and introduced Stella Lin, Department Manager of Marketing and Customer Engagement, who presented a PowerPoint presentation as follows:

- Background of OC Bus and Bravo!;
- Vehicle Model;
- OC Streetcar: Vehicle Layout;
- Examples of Streetcars from Various Transportation Agencies;
- Streetcar Exterior Design Considerations;
- OC Streetcar: Designs 1 – 4 without Advertisement;
- OC Streetcar: Designs 1 – 4 with Advertisement;
- OC Streetcar: Designs 1 – 4 Without Advertising – Includes Stop and Location Setting;
- OC Streetcar: Designs 1 – 4 With Advertising – Includes Stop and Location Setting;
- OC Streetcar: All Designs Without Advertising;
- OC Streetcar: All Designs With Advertising; and
- Next Steps.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Modifications to Design 1 included a redesign for the ease of maintenance purposes.
- Director Delgleize favors Design 3 and complimented the color and artistry of the stops.
- No limitations as far as the designated locations for ads on the streetcar vehicle.
- Director Murray stated that this item was discussed at the August 9, 2018, Transit Committee meeting, to consider the possible operational and maintenance challenges, and described previous issues with the City of Irvine's white colored police vehicles.
- Director Davies concurred with Director Murray and stated that there are safety and visibility concerns with Design 4.

A motion was made by Director Winterbottom, seconded by Director Murray, and declared passed by those present, to authorize staff to conduct public outreach to seek feedback and return to the Board of Directors with a recommendation.

## Discussion Items

### 7. Attitudinal and Awareness Survey Results

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, provided opening comments and introduced Dr. Tim McLarney, President of True North Research, who presented a PowerPoint presentation as follows:

- Purpose of Study;
- Methodology of Study;
- Most Important Issues;
- Comparison of Issues;
- Awareness of OCTA;
- Overall of Opinion of OCTA;
- Statements about OCTA;
- Long-Range Transportation Plan Priorities;
- Carpool Lane Strategies; and
- Key Findings.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Referenced Slide 4 and surveying renters and owners.
- The breakdown of “favorable” and “unfavorable” opinions of OCTA as referenced in Slide 7.
- Explanation on the type of questions asked that would result in a “no opinion” category.
- A paragraph was set up to explain carpool lanes before having interviewers answer a question on the survey.
- The comparison of issues as seen in Slide 5 and those issues ranking higher in the future.
- Explanation on how the statement in Slide 11 that states OCTA is a trusted agency was set up.
- Carpool lane strategies mirrors the qualitative discussions in public outreach.
- Mr. Johnson, CEO, stated the survey results display an outstanding record for OCTA, traffic congestion concerns is not a surprise, and it gives OCTA direction for the future.
- Committee Chairman Nelson requested to link the full draft report of the survey on the OCTA website.
- Important issues like homelessness and how issues shift.
- The survey asks how people prefer to be communicated to and how communication resources continue to evolve.
- High issues such as cost of real estate, housing, traffic congestion, and population overcrowding.



**8. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, reported on the following:

- On Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 p.m. until Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m., the Interstate 405 freeway will be fully closed for the McFadden Avenue bridge demolition. The closure will be from Beach Boulevard to Bolsa Avenue/Golden West Street in Huntington Beach and Westminster. The second full freeway closure will also be scheduled next Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup> to complete the demolition of the bridge.
- On Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m., there will be an open space hike at the Wren's View Preserve to give the public an opportunity to view the property. Wren's View Preserve is the 116-acre parcel located northwest of Rancho Santa Margarita in Trabuco Canyon.

**9. Committee Members' Reports**

Director Winterbottom asked for an update on the Angels Express, and Mr. Johnson, CEO, stated that ridership is up five percent from last year with 30,000 boardings. The OC Fair Express had approximately 80,000 boardings this year and the Laguna Beach Summer Breeze is slightly down from last year.

**10. Closed Session**

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 20, 2018**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room - Conference Room 07, Orange, California.

ATTEST

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Shawn Nelson  
Committee Chairman

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Sahara Meisenheimer  
Deputy Clerk of the Board