

September 12, 2019

То:	Transit Committee

Jane Ofth

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: October 2019 Bus Service Change

Overview

The October 2019 bus service change consists of both major and minor schedule changes to bus routes which address summer demand, road construction, coach operator input, customer requests, and implement changes approved by the Board of Directors in July 2019.

Recommendation

Receive and file as an information item.

Background

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) implements schedule and route revisions to selected bus routes three times a year, in February, June, and October. The next bus service change is scheduled for implementation on October 13, 2019. The primary focus of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 Bus Service Plan is to grow ridership, increase productivity, and implement routing changes in preparation for the OC Streetcar construction. Three community meetings were held at various locations throughout Orange County in May 2019, and a public hearing was conducted at the OCTA Board of Directors' (Board) meeting on June 10, 2019. The Board approved the final service change recommendations on July 22, 2019, following public open houses and a public hearing. In addition to the changes included in the Bus Service Plan, there are minor changes to routes based on customer feedback and upcoming Metrolink schedule changes.

Discussion

Major changes to bus service will be implemented in FY 2019-20 with the October 2019 and February 2020 service changes as part of the comprehensive OC Bus 360° Program. The October 2019 bus service change includes adjustments to 24 OCTA bus routes designed to address seasonal demand, as well as improve connections, on-time performance, and system productivity.

October 2019 Bus Service Change

A summary of the changes planned for the routes included in the October 2019 bus service change is provided in Attachment A, and a map of affected routes is included as Attachment B. Overall the changes will decrease total annual revenue hours by 1,469, and peak weekday vehicles by five. Some of these resources will be used in upcoming service changes.

Service Change Highlights

- Extend Route 26 to Yorba Linda Boulevard and Imperial Highway (all days) and reduce peak frequency (weekdays).
- Extend Route 59 midday trips to The District (weekdays).
- Add one morning trip on Route 79 to address passenger loading to University of California, Irvine (weekdays).
- Eliminate two low ridership trips on Route 206 (weekdays).
- Eliminate Route 211 because of low ridership (weekdays).
- Reduce two low ridership trips and revise routing on Route 213 (weekdays).
- Eliminate Stationlink Route 462 in Downtown Santa Ana for OC Streetcar construction (weekdays).
- Implement new Route 862 during OC Streetcar construction (all days).
- Revise routing on routes 55 and 83 in Santa Ana Civic Center for OC Streetcar construction (all days).
- Improve frequency on Route 83 (all days).
- Remove summer schedules from routes 1 and 89.
- Adjust scheduling of four Stationlink routes based on upcoming changes to Metrolink schedules.
- Make minor schedule adjustments to routes 33, 37, 43, 57, 71, 76, 529, and 543 to improve connections and on-time performance.

Title VI and Environmental Justice Analyses

Title VI and environmental justice analyses were performed for the October 2019 bus service change because some of the changes were considered major per OCTA policy. The analysis accumulated impacts to minority and low-income communities by comparing the transit service levels before and after the route changes. Based on this analysis, it has been determined that the final FY 2019-20 Bus Service Plan recommendations, taken in their entirety, would not have a disparate impact on minority persons nor a disproportionate burden on low-income persons.

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Summary

The October 2019 bus service change consists of both major and minor schedule changes to bus routes which address summer demand, road construction, coach operator input, customer requests, and implement changes approved by the Board in July 2019. The changes are intended to increase productivity and ridership by reallocating resources. Several routing changes will also be made in preparation for the OC Streetcar construction and operations. Notification of the changes to customers is expected three weeks prior to implementation of the service change.

Attachments

- A. October 2019 Bus Service Change Summary
- B. October 2019 Bus Service Change System Map, Schedule and Route Adjustments

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