



MINUTES

Legislative and Communications Committee Meeting

Committee Members Present

Laurie Davies, Chair
Lisa A. Bartlett, Vice Chairwoman
Michael Hennessey
Gene Hernandez
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
Olga Prado, Assistant Clerk of the Board
Cassie Trapesonian, Assistant General Counsel
OCTA Staff and members of the General Public

Committee Members Absent

Barbara Delgleize

Call to Order

The October 17, 2019 regular meeting of the Legislative and Communications (L&C) Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Davies at 9:01 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Committee Chair Davies led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Comments

There were no public comments received.

Special Calendar

2. Conference Call with State Legislative Advocate Moira Topp

Moira Topp, Sacramento Advocate, reported on the following:

- On October 13th, the 2019 California State Legislature session concluded and was the last day Governor Newsom had to sign, or veto bills the Legislature passed on or before September 13th.
- Governor Newsom vetoed more bills than speculated, and the Governor kept former Governor Brown's theme of fiscal prudence.
- The following bills were monitored:
 - Senate Bill (SB) 277, introduced by Senator Beall, related to a SB 1 program focused on incentivizing self-help counties, and how the funds should be allocated that are supported by Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). The bill was vetoed by the Governor.
 - The Governor's SB 277 veto message is that the State has a role in allocating those resources, and the benefits bring additional competitive funds to rural communities.

2. (Continued)

- SB 127, introduced by Senator Weiner, proposed to use transportation funding to meet environmental goals through investment of active transportation projects. The bill was vetoed by the Governor.
 - The Governor felt SB 127 was problematic because it had prescriptive requirements.
- In January 2020, the Legislature returns for the second part of the two-year session.
- In late September 2019, an Executive Order was released by the Governor about climate change.
- The transportation funding portion of the Executive Order leaves a lot of questions, notes redirecting \$5 billion in transportation funding to fewer road projects, and calls for reducing vehicle miles traveled.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- The Orange County delegation is interested on how the Executive Order impacts Orange County.
- The State Transportation Agency Secretary, David S. Kim, issued a press release about the Executive Order and SB 1.
- The Governor has opinions about leveraging SB 1 funds to ensure cities follow the Housing Element and Regional Housing Need Allocation mandate.

Ms. Topp also reported on the California High-Speed Rail (CHSR) as follows:

- Orange County and Los Angeles County delegations question the current proposal and want to review of all segments including the Anaheim to Burbank segment.
- Assembly Member Daly has been vocal at public hearings and in the legislation about spending the CHSR funds for larger populations such as Southern California.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- SB 50, introduced by Senator Weiner, proposes to allow developers to upzone and develop further in “transit-rich” areas, especially within half-mile of a rail station. The legislative leadership has been soliciting feedback about SB 50, which will return in February 2020.
- At the Monday, October 28th OCTA Board of Directors (Board) meeting, Moira Topp will provide, in person, a report to the Board.
- The Governor’s Executive Order, at this point, does not harm any SB 1 funds for OCTA projects in construction or about to go into construction.



2. (Continued)

- Staff will monitor the California Transportation Commission adoption of new guidelines for the next SB 1 call for projects.

Consent Calendar (Items 3 and 4)

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Hennessey, and declared passed by those present, to approve the minutes of the Legislative and Communications Committee meeting of August 15, 2019.

4. Agreement for Transportation Needs Assessment

A motion was made by Director Hernandez, seconded by Director Hennessey, and declared passed by those present, to:

- A. Approve the selection of Moore and Associates, Inc., as the firm to conduct a transportation needs assessment.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-9-1505 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Moore and Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$426,558, to provide a transportation needs assessment for an 18-month term.

Regular Calendar

5. Federal Legislative Status Report

Dustin J. Sifford, Senior Government Relations Representative, reported on the following:

- A budget deal was reached between the President and Congress; however, there have been no funding bills that have made it through the legislative process.
- A continuing resolution was signed through November 21st. The House and Senate have both drafted versions of transportation funding bills; however, differences between the two bills have not been resolved. Staff will keep the L&C Committee and Board apprised on the updates.

5. (Continued)

- An update and discussion on the Safer Affordable Fuel Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule was provided as follows:
 - Part one of the SAFE Vehicles Rule is now in the federal register;
 - Revoked the legal authority for California's Clean Air Act preemption waiver;
 - Did not specifically invalidate the air quality model;
 - Different set of statutory and regulatory grace periods depending on Part Two of the SAFE Vehicles Rule, and the next step will be a challenge;
 - On November 27th, the 60-day comment period ends;
 - Staff has been working with California Association Councils of Governments and Southern California Association of Governments about OCTA's concerns;
 - The California lawsuit about the SAFE Vehicles Rule complicates matters even further; and
 - The new Secretary of Transportation, David S. Kim, is aware of the concerns.
- Last month, there were two House hearings in Washington, D.C.:
 - At one of the hearings, Representative Rouda reported, with pride, on how he worked with OCTA, and also discussed the streamlining of the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act.
 - Stephanie Wiggins, Metrolink CEO, discussed, at a hearing, the need for continued implementation of positive train control, safety equipment, and the need for Metrolink to receive additional federal funding.

No action was taken on this receive and file information item.

6. **Draft Revisions to Orange County Transportation Authority's 2019-20 State and Federal Legislative Platforms**

Lance M. Larson, Executive Director of External Affairs, provided opening comments, and Dustin J. Sifford, Senior Government Relations Representative, reported on the following:

- The section on Transportation Development Act funding was streamlined and highlighted in bullets in order to efficiently administer the transit dollars.
- A section was added to ensure self-help counties can deliver on promises made to the taxpayers, without State interference, when implementing local sales tax measures.
- Included a section to ensure that OCTA staff can efficiently work with the California Department of Motor Vehicles to streamline the hiring process.

6. (Continued)

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Director Hernandez, and declared passed by those present, to authorize staff to integrate the recommended revisions to the Orange County Transportation Authority's 2019-20 State and Federal Legislative Platforms and seek further feedback from the Board of Directors, internal staff, and advisory groups, with subsequent drafts to be brought forward in November for final consideration and adoption.

Discussion Items

7. Orange County Transportation Authority Marketing Update

Lance M. Larson, Executive Director of External Affairs, provided opening comments, and Stella Lin, Manager of Marketing and Customer Engagement, provided a PowerPoint presentation for this item as follows:

- Sun & Fun Pass – Bus;
- Sun & Fun Pass Sales and Ridership Results;
- “Your City, Your Ride” Targeted Ridership Promotion;
- College Pass Program;
- October Service Change Ridership Marketing;
- OC Flex – New Ridership Campaign;
- Metrolink Weekend Promotions;
- Rideshare Week 2019;
- Vanpool Marketing, Outreach and Sales; and
- OC Streetcar Brand Video (a short video was shown).

A discussion ensued regarding:

- Staff can provide the Board Members a marketing “tool kit” to use online or for social media, as well as provide a link to the video.
- Staff was complimented for a great marketing job, and the College Pass Program is an example of how the marketing has been successful.
- Today, the video will be shown at annual Santa Ana State of the City event.
- Committee Chair Davies asked if the presentation can be shown at next week's 5th District Mayor's Forum.



8. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, reported on the following:

Beach Boulevard Corridor Study (Study) -

- OCTA is in the final round of collecting public feedback for the Study.
- Comments can be submitted online now through October 26th at **octa.net/beachstudy**.
- The Study will be completed in February 2020.

State Route (SR) 55 Public Hearing -

- Last night, OCTA hosted a Public Hearing, along with the California Department of Transportation, to solicit feedback on the proposed improvements to the SR-55 freeway between Interstate 5 and SR-91.
- Approximately 75 people attended and OCTA collected good feedback.

American Public Transportation Association (APTA) -

- Earlier this week, he was in New York for the annual APTA conference.
- The keynote speakers and attendance were highlighted.
- Senator Jim Beall was recognized by APTA.
- Next year, OCTA will host the annual APTA conference in Orange County.

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 9:42 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 21, 2019**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room - Conference Room 07, Orange, California.

ATTEST

Laurie Davies
Committee Chair

Laurena Weinert
Clerk of the Board