



Committee Members Present

Via Teleconference

Lisa A. Bartlett, Chairwoman
Gene Hernandez, Vice Chairman
Barbara Delgleize
Michael Hennessey
Mark A. Murphy
Harry Sidhu
Donald P. Wagner

Staff Present

Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Sahara Meisenheimer, Deputy Clerk of the Board
Allison Cheshire, Interim Deputy Clerk of the Board

Via Teleconference

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
James Donich, General Counsel

Committee Members Absent

None

Call to Order

The April 15, 2021 regular meeting of the Legislative and Communications (L&C) Committee was called to order by Committee Chairwoman Bartlett at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

The Deputy Clerk of the Board conducted an attendance Roll Call and announced there was a quorum of the L&C Committee.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Murphy 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, State Legislative Advocate, reported on the following:

- Next week is the deadline for all fiscal bills (bills that have a cost) to move out of their policy committees.
- Overview of the following bills that the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has taken a position on:
 - Assembly Bill (AB) 1499 (Daly, D-Anaheim) – which extends sunset on design-build authority for highway projects. The original legislation allowed the use of design-build for the construction of the Interstate 405 Improvement Project. It is headed to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

2. (Continued)

- Senate Bill (SB) 623 (Newman, D-Fullerton) – Related to toll agencies: to clean up the statutes related to privacy. The bill does have opposition from consumer groups, but will go to the Senate Judiciary Committee next week.
- SB 261 (Allen, D-Santa Monica) – Completely changes the SB 375 (Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) program. OCTA took an oppose unless amended position. The bill is headed for the Senate Transportation Committee.
- The budget subcommittees have been quiet the last few weeks and the Governor's May revision will come out on May 14, 2021.
- The budget proposal released yesterday highlights "build-back-boldly." The idea that there is a unique opportunity to invest funds that have not been seen before.
- Some of the proposals include: \$20 billion towards homelessness for the next five years, expansion to Medi-Cal, reducing deductibles, broadband expansion, increases in education funding, and libraries.
- Not much has been heard on the transportation side, except a half billion dollars to be used towards electric vehicles.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- The federal stimulus money does flow directly to the cities. Some homelessness money proposed by the State could potentially be directed to local governments.
- Gas tax revenue projections in the state budget. Staff responded they will look at this more closely when the numbers in the May revision comes out.

Consent Calendar (Items 3 and 4)

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Director Wagner, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to approve the minutes of the Legislative and Communications Committee meeting of March 18, 2021.



4. Amendment to Agreement for Public Outreach Services for the OC Streetcar Project

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Director Wagner, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 7 to Agreement No. C-6-1526 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Katz & Associates, Inc., to exercise the one-year option term for continued public outreach services in the amount of \$465,634. This will increase the maximum obligation of the agreement to a total contract value of \$1,790,102.

Regular Calendar

5. Agreement for Public Communications and Community Outreach Consultant Services for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5

Chris Boucly, Section Manager of Capital Projects Outreach, reported on the following:

- Summary of public outreach playing a vital role during the previous phases of the State Route 55 (SR-55) Improvement Project and how it will be critical as the project moves into construction.
- The timelines for the future and starting the construction phase one year in advance.
- Overview of the procurement process and selection of Costin Public Outreach Group to provide community outreach and support for the SR-55 Improvement Project.

Committee Chairwoman Bartlett stated this item was continued from the last meeting and she appreciates staff doing extra research to answer questions.

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Committee Vice Chairman Hernandez, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 6-1, to:

- A. Approve the selection of Costin Public Outreach Group, as the firm to provide public outreach consulting services for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5.



5. (Continued)

- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-0-2104 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Costin Public Outreach Group, in the amount of \$1,684,990 for a five-year initial term, effective through September 30, 2025, with an option term of up to 36 months, to provide public outreach consulting services for the State Route 55 Improvement Project between Interstate 405 and Interstate 5.

Director Wagner voted in opposition.

6. Agreement for Customer Information Center Services

Ryan Maloney, Section Manager of Marketing and Customer Relations, reported on the following:

- Summary of the Customer Information Center and the type of services the center provides.
- Overview of the procurement process and selection of Alta Resources Corp. as the firm to operate the Customer Information Center.
- Alta Resources Corp. indicated that they were able to reduce costs by approximately 17 percent due to the revised agreement pricing structure and by utilizing new customer communications channels.

A motion was made by Director Murphy, seconded by Director Delgleize, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to:

- A. Approve the selection of Alta Resources Corp. as the firm to operate the Customer Information Center.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-0-2698 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Alta Resources Corp., in the amount of \$2,980,440, for a three-year initial term, effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, with two, two-year option terms.

7. State Legislative Status Report

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

- Overview of SB 339 (Wiener, D-San Francisco) which is supported by a variety of transportation stakeholders, including OCTA. The bill proposed the extension of the Road User Charge Technical Advisory Committee and the creation of a voluntary pilot program to test revenue collection.
- OCTA has taken a support position on SB 623 by Senator Newman. This position is consistent with a principle in OCTA's state legislative platform which supports efforts to facilitate interoperability between toll facilities and helping to improve the customer experience without infringing on privacy.
- Updates were made to the following:
 - California High-Speed Rail Authority Business Plan for 2020. Reference was made to statements at legislative hearings on the business plan that cited the infrastructure needs on the rail system in Southern California that could be complimentary and the increased funding needs.
 - A rulemaking procedure that the California Air Resources Board is undertaking requiring the transition of locomotives to zero-emission technology.

Committee Chairwoman Bartlett commented on SB 339 and the continuation of Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee until 2027 making sense. She stated that SB-1 (Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) is not going to collect enough revenue to meet the expanding needs of the State since it is a declining revenue source. Committee Chairwoman Bartlett stated she is in favor of creating a voluntary pilot program to collect revenue through a road usage charge.

A motion was made by Committee Vice Chairman Hernandez, seconded by Director Hennessey, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 7-0, to adopt a SUPPORT position on SB 339 (Wiener, D-San Francisco), which would extend the operation of the Road User Charge Technical Advisory Committee and create a pilot program to test the collection of revenue for a road charge program.

8. Federal Legislative Status Report

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

- Overview of the \$2.3 trillion infrastructure package, including:
 - The definition of infrastructure;
 - The broader policy goals that Congress will be pursuing; and
 - How cross subsidization within the Highway Trust Fund will affect transportation investments.
- Overview of Community Project Funding, the new name for what used to be known as earmarks, and the unknowns associated with this funding.
- Referenced Attachment A of the Staff Report to outline OCTA's project funding needs.

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

Discussion Items

9. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, reported that in March, the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) unveiled its draft of the Climate Action Plan, also known as CAPTI, for Transportation Infrastructure. The draft CAPTI was developed through collaboration with many different state agencies and the draft plan details how the state recommends investing billions of discretionary transportation dollars to combat and adapt to climate change. Next week, the California Transportation Commission is hosting two public workshops to review the plan and OCTA staff will be monitoring both workshops. CalSTA expects to adopt a final version of CAPTI no later than July 15, 2021.

10. Committee Members' Reports

There were no Committee Members' reports.

11. Closed Session

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.



12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting on this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2021**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

ATTEST

Gene Hernandez
Committee Vice Chairman

Sahara Meisenheimer
Deputy Clerk of the Board