

## State Route 91 Advisory Committee Meeting

### **Committee Members Present**

#### **Via Teleconference**

*Bob Magee, RCTC, Chairman*  
*Gene Hernandez, OCTA, Vice Chairman*  
*Brian Berkson, RCTC*  
*Kevin Jeffries, RCTC*  
*Mark A. Murphy, OCTA*  
*Harry S. Sidhu, OCTA*  
*Karen Spiegel, RCTC*  
*Tim Shaw, OCTA*  
*Wes Speake, RCTC*  
*Donald P. Wagner, OCTA*

*Michael Beauchamp, Caltrans*  
*District 8, Ex-Officio*  
*Ray Marquez, SBCTA, Ex-Officio*

### **Committee Members Absent**

*Ryan Chamberlain, Caltrans*  
*District 12, Ex-Officio*

### **Staff Present**

*Darrell E. Johnson, OCTA, Chief Executive Officer*  
*Kirk Avila, OCTA, General Manager, 91 Express Lanes*  
*Allison Cheshire, OCTA, Interim Deputy Clerk of the Board*  
*Gina Ramirez, OCTA, Deputy Clerk of the Board*  
*OCTA and RCTC Staff*

### **Via Teleconference**

*Anne Mayer, RCTC, Executive Director*  
*Michael Blomquist, RCTC, Toll Program Director*  
*James M. Donich, OCTA, General Counsel*

## **Call to Order**

The March 5, 2021 regular meeting of the State Route 91 (SR-91) Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) was called to order by Committee Chairman Magee at 9:02 a.m.

## **Roll Call**

The Deputy Clerk of the Board conducted an attendance Roll Call and announced there was a quorum of the SR-91 Advisory Committee.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Committee Vice Chairman Hernandez led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **1. Public Comments**

No public comments were received.

### Special Calendar

#### 2. Election of New State Route 91 Advisory Chair

Committee Chairman Magee opened nominations for the office of Committee Chair.

A motion was made by Member Murphy, seconded by Member Shaw, and declared passed 10-0 by those present, to elect current Committee Vice Chairman Gene Hernandez as the Chairman for the State Route 91 Advisory Committee.

#### 3. Election of New State Route 91 Advisory Committee Vice Chair

Newly-elected Committee Chairman Hernandez opened nominations for the office of Committee Vice Chair.

A motion was made by Member Spiegel, seconded by Member Magee, and declared passed 10-0 by those present, to elect Member Brian Berkson as the Vice Chairman for the State Route 91 Advisory Committee.

### Consent Calendar (Items 4 through 7)

#### 4. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Member Sidhu, seconded by Member Murphy, and declared passed 10-0 by those present, to approve the minutes of the State Route 91 Advisory Committee meeting of October 2, 2020.

#### 5. 91 Express Lanes Status Reports

A motion was made by Member Sidhu, seconded by Member Murphy, and declared passed 10-0 by those present, to receive and file the 91 Express Lanes Status Reports for the months of September 2020 through January 2021.

#### 6. Orange County Transportation Authority Fiscal Year 2019-20 91 Express Lanes Fund Financial Statements

A motion was made by Member Sidhu, seconded by Member Murphy, and declared passed 10-0 by those present, to receive and file Fiscal Year 2019-20 Orange County Transportation Authority 91 Express Lanes Fund audited financial statements.

### **7. Fiscal Year 2019/20 Riverside County Transportation Commission 91 Express Lanes Annual Financial Statements**

A motion was made by Member Sidhu, seconded by Member Murphy, and declared passed 10-0 by those present, to receive and file Fiscal Year 2019-20 Riverside County Transportation Commission 91 Express Lanes Fund audited financial statements.

### **Regular Calendar**

There were no Regular Calendar items scheduled.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **8. Coronavirus Impacts to the 91 Express Lanes**

Kirk Avila, General Manager, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), 91 Express Lanes, and Michael Blomquist, Toll Director for Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item.

#### **9. 15 Express Lanes Opening**

Jennifer Crosson, Toll Operations Manager for RCTC, 91 Express Lanes, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item.

Member Speake inquired about the separation of pricing on both the 91 Express Lanes and the 15 Express Lanes. He also asked on how RCTC will communicate the pricing changes to the public.

Ms. Crosson responded that direct emails regarding the pricing changes has been sent to all account holders. The separation of pricing is due to the delay in posting the toll price at the entry of the lanes versus travel time along the lanes. Additionally, Ms. Crosson commented that the 91 Express Lanes will retain a toll policy based on volume and the 15 Express Lanes will be dynamically priced.

Michael Blomquist, Toll Director for RCTC, commented that the separation in toll pricing along the lanes is to also accommodate multiple destinations along the lanes and ease signage congestion.

Mr. Blomquist discussed analyzing usage data, maximizing the number of lanes used along the 15 Express Lanes as volumes increase, lane drops, and review if any improvements are needed.

### **10. General Manager's Report - Orange County Transportation Authority**

Kirk Avila, General Manager, OCTA, 91 Express Lanes, bid farewell to Michael Blomquist, Toll Director for RCTC, who has been critical to the success of the 91 Express Lanes in both Orange and Riverside Counties. Mr. Avila wanted to wish him the best and thanked him for all his hard work during the last 15 years on the 91 Express Lanes.

Anne Mayer, Chief Executive Officer of RCTC, thanked Mr. Blomquist for his service. She discussed the partnership between both Orange and Riverside Counties and how this was an integral part of the success of the 91 Express Lanes.

Member Spiegel thanked Mr. Blomquist for his service and leadership on the 91 Express Lanes project.

### **11. Toll Program Director's Report - Riverside County Transportation Commission**

Michael Blomquist, Toll Director for RCTC, thanked the Committee and staff for their sentiments. He echoed Ms. Mayer's comments on the partnership between the Orange and Riverside Counties while on the 91 Express Lanes.

### **12. Committee Members' Reports**

There were no Committee Members' Reports.

### **13. Closed Session**

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.



# **MINUTES**

## **State Route 91 Advisory Committee Meeting**

### **14. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 4, 2021**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

ATTEST

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Gene Hernandez  
Committee Chairman

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Allison Cheshire  
OCTA Interim Deputy Clerk  
of the Board