

MINUTES

Board of Directors' Meeting

Call to Order

The Monday, July 12, 2021, regular meeting of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and affiliated agencies was called to order by Chairman Do at 9:00 a.m. at the OCTA Headquarters, 550 South Main Street, Board Room – Conference Room 07-08, Orange, California.

Roll Call

The Deputy Clerk of the Board (DCOB) conducted an attendance Roll Call and announced a quorum of the Board of Directors (Board) as follows:

Via Teleconference:

Andrew Do, Chairman
Mark A. Murphy, Vice Chairman
Doug Chaffee
Barbara Delgleize
Katrina Foley
Brian Goodell
Patrick Harper
Michael Hennessey
Gene Hernandez
Steve Jones
Joseph Muller
Tam Nguyen
Vicente Sarmiento
Tim Shaw
Harry S. Sidhu
Donald P. Wagner

Directors Absent:

Lisa A. Bartlett
Ryan Chamberlain, District Director – Caltrans District 12

Staff Present:

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Gina Ramirez, Clerk of the Board Specialist, Senior
Allison Cheshire, Clerk of the Board Specialist, Senior

Via Teleconference:

James Donich, General Counsel

Invocation

Director Shaw gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Director Nguyen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Calendar

There were no Special Calendar items.

Consent Calendar (Items 1 through 14)

1. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to approve the Orange County Transportation Authority and affiliated agencies' regular meeting minutes of June 28, 2021.

2. Coronavirus Update

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to receive and file as an information item.

3. Orange County Transportation Authority Investment and Debt Programs Report - May 2021

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to receive and file as an information item.

4. Orange County Transportation Authority State and Federal Grant Programs - Update and Recommendations

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to:

- A. Approve schedule delay requests from the cities of Irvine, La Habra, Santa Ana, and the County of Orange.
- B. Approve amendment requests from the City of Brea contingent upon partial funding award through Cycle 5 of the Active Transportation Program or any subsequent program augmentations.

4. (Continued)

- C. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments to the Federal Transportation Improvement Program and execute any required agreements or amendments to facilitate the recommendations above.

5. Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabled Grant Program Call for Projects

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to:

- A. Approve the guidelines for the Orange County Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabled Grant Program call for projects.
- B. Direct staff to issue the Orange County Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabled Grant Program call for projects using up to \$4 million in local funding.

6. Amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to:

- A. Conditionally approve the following amendments to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways:

City of Brea and County of Orange

- 1. Delete Tonner Canyon Road between Brea Canyon Road and the future extension of Valencia Avenue; and
- 2. Delete Valencia Avenue between Carbon Canyon Road and the future extension of Tonner Canyon Road.

Cities of Yorba Linda and Anaheim

- 3. Reclassify Yorba Linda Boulevard between La Palma Avenue and the State Route 91 westbound off-ramp from a primary (four-lane, divided) arterial to an asymmetric major (seven-lane, divided) arterial;
- 4. Reclassify Yorba Linda Boulevard/Weir Canyon Road between the State Route 91 westbound off-ramp and the State Route 91 eastbound on-ramp from a primary (four-lane, divided) arterial to a major (six-lane, divided) arterial;
- 5. Add Savi Ranch Parkway between Pullman Street and Old Canal Road as a primary (four-lane, divided) arterial; and

6. (Continued)

6. Add Old Canal Road/Pullman Street as a divided collector (two-lane, divided).

Each of the proposed amendments will become final, contingent upon the Orange County Transportation Authority receiving documentation confirming that the respective agency or agencies have amended their general plans accordingly and have complied with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

If a general plan is not updated within three years to reflect the proposed Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment, the contingent amendment will expire, but can be returned to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors for reconsideration and action.

If the proposed Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment is modified as a result of the California Environmental Quality Act and/or general plan amendment processes, the modified Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment shall be returned to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors for consideration and action.

- B. Approve the amendment to the Master Plan of Arterial Highways to reclassify Santa Ana Canyon Road between Roosevelt Avenue and Weir Canyon Road from a major (six-lane, divided) arterial to an asymmetric primary (five-lane, divided) arterial.
- C. Direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act in support of the Master Plan of Arterial Highways amendment.

Orange County Transit District Consent Calendar Matters

7. OC Flex Microtransit Service Pilot Program Update

Director Foley inquired about the OC flex Microtransit Service Pilot Program.

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), responded that this program was set up as part of OCTA's bus 360 transit redo that staff started several years ago. OCTA has identified seven zones previously for consideration, and the board selected two. They do tend to cross-city boundaries in both instances. And OCTA anticipates that in the future, OCTA will continue to have what staff calls the Orange Zone, which is around the Laguna Niguel/Mission Viejo Metrolink station. And that we will be bringing forth for consideration through the transit committee and then to the board, a second zone that will be implemented sometime later next year.

7. (Continued)

Director Foley requested that Mr. Johnson, CEO, provide a brief overview of the program.

Mr. Johnson, CEO, provided an overview of the program in the context of the bus system. OCTA has 40-foot transit buses with high-frequency in specific parts of the County, and then there are community circulators through the Project V program. OCTA has station link projects or buses that connect to Metrolink trains at all the Metrolink stations. The concept here was to leverage technology that OCTA saw in society with Uber, Lyft, and others. On-demand service through a personal device and technology that bridges the gap between traditional bus service and on-demand individual rides. These are group rides, and they are on what staff would call the outer core of where standard bus service may or may not work well. That is the concept, and he noted that it's still a pilot program established by the Board. It was a pilot program with specific goals and measurements that would be tracked and measured, like, um, ridership and productivity operating capital costs, the subsidy per boarding number or percentage of shared rides, and, um, customer satisfaction.

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to receive and file as an information item.

Chairman Do discussed that OCTA is slowly getting back to full speed. OCTA employees are back in the office at 50 percent capacity, and by September 7th, all staff will be back in person at 100 percent capacity. There have been 904 OCTA employees that have taken advantage of the vaccine incentive payment. He also noted that bus ridership increased 7 percent from May to June, and even more impressive is the access ridership is up 17%. It's still below average, but the staff is starting to see trends coming back. Over the last 15 months, OCTA has done close to 120 Board and Committee meetings via Zoom or teleconference. And overall, these meetings have gone very well. Mr. Johnson would undoubtedly like to get feedback from the Directors so don't hesitate to contact him directly.

Chairman Do stated with all the different coronavirus variants; OCTA is still closely monitoring the situation while taking direction from County Health Officer Dr. Clayton Chau. He also noted OCTA wants to be very careful while keeping in mind. Staff will adjust the Board meetings in terms of in-person while being mindful of what the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) may dictate. That may be the primary driving determination as far as in-person meetings and workforce accommodations.

Once OCTA hears from CalOSHA in early August, then at that point, Chairman Do will sit down with Vice Chairman Murphy and Mr. Johnson to discuss coming up with options for the Board to consider.

8. Award of Sole Source Agreement for the Purchase of Bus Engines

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Purchase Order No. C-1-3417 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Cummins Pacific, LLC, in the amount of \$12,525,823, for the purchase of 173 Cummins L9N, 8.9-liter, compressed natural gas-powered engines.

9. August 2021 Bus Service Change

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to receive and file as an information item.

10. Consultant Selection for the Preparation of Plans, Specifications, and Estimates for the State Route 57 Northbound Improvement Project Between Orangewood Avenue and Katella Avenue

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to:

- A. Approve the selection of Parsons Transportation Group Inc., as the firm to prepare the plans, specifications, and estimates for the State Route 57 Northbound Improvement Project between Orangewood Avenue and Katella Avenue.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-1-3298 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Parsons Transportation Group Inc., for the preparation of plans, specifications, and estimates for the State Route 57 Northbound Improvement Project between Orangewood Avenue and Katella Avenue.

11. Contract Change Order for the Interstate 405 Improvement Project from State Route 73 to Interstate 605

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Contract Change Order No. 99 to Agreement No. C-5-3843 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and OC 405 Partners, a joint venture, in the amount of \$470,000, to design and construct intersection and sidewalk improvements at the intersection of Garden Grove Boulevard and the Interstate 405 northbound off-ramp.

12. Cooperative Agreement with the Southern California Regional Rail Authority for the Irvine Station Improvements Project

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Cooperative Agreement No. C-1-3425 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and the Southern California Regional Rail Authority for the preliminary engineering and environmental phase of the Irvine Station Improvements Project.

13. Consultant Selection for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Services for the Irvine Station Improvements Project

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 14-0 to:

- A. Approve the selection of AECOM Technical Services, Inc., as the firm to provide preliminary engineering and environmental services for the Irvine Station Improvements Project.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-0-2604 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and AECOM Technical Services, Inc., for preliminary engineering and environmental services for the Irvine Station Improvements Project.

Due to the Levine Act, Directors Jones and Shaw did not participate in this item.

14. Measure M2 Community-Based Transit Circulators Program Project V Ridership Report

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Vice Chairman Murphy, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to:

- A. Receive and file Project V Ridership Report as an information item.
- B. Release contingency for the award of \$171,810 in M2 Project V capital funds for Dana Point's replacement vehicle.

Regular Calendar

15. Youth Ride Free Promotional Pass Expanded to Include 18 and Under

Ryan Maloney, Section Manager I, Marketing and Customer Service, provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Chairman Do noted the Transit Committee discussed this item at length and reviewed patterns regarding youth delaying driving; and the opportunity to introduce youth to bus service, especially in the Central County.

Director Muller supported the program and hoped to reach out to the Boys & Girls Club. He noted that many kids request bus passes to get to and from the Boys & Girls Club when they are out of school.

Director Harper echoed Director Muller's comments and inquired if it could be possible to extend this program through June 2022.

Mr. Johnson, CEO, responded that the one constraint with promotions beyond six months would be considered permanent and has different regulations. Funding for this type of pass is unrelated to school district funding for transportation.

Director Foley stated it is excellent that OCTA is expanding the age group eligible. Students are delaying getting their driver's license, and it is crucial for youth to get jobs and is helpful for families to create a public transportation culture for future generations.

A motion was made by Director Sarmiento, seconded by Director Foley, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 16-0 to:

- A. Expand the eligible age of the current "13 and Under Ride Free" youth fare promotion from six to 13 years old to include ages 14 to 18 years old.
- B. Authorize staff to make all necessary amendments, as well as execute any necessary agreements to facilitate the above recommendation.

16. OC Streetcar Project Quarterly Update

Jim Beil, Executive Director of Capital Programs, and Tresa Oliveri, Community Relations Specialist, Principal, provided a PowerPoint presentation on this item.

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

17. Contract Change Order for Exploratory Potholing Allowance for the Construction of the OC Streetcar Project

Ross Lew, Program Manager for the OC Streetcar Project, provided an update on this item and reported the following:

- The unknown utilities were found during the construction phase;
- Exploration before construction would have been very costly;
- Additional rounds of potholing were found to be necessary;
- Contract Change Order needs additional exploratory potholing, and
- Staff is making every effort to stay within budget moving forward.

A motion was made by Director Sarmiento, seconded by Director Foley, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 14-1 to:

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Contract Change Order No. 56.1 to Agreement No. C-7-1904 with Walsh Construction Company II, LLC, in the amount of \$1,100,000, for additional exploratory potholing allowance for the construction of the OC Streetcar project.

Director Sidhu was not present to vote on this item.

Director Wagner voted in opposition on this item.

Discussion Items

18. 2021 Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer Initiatives and Action Plan - Mid-Year Report

Chairman Do reported the 2021 Board and CEO's Initiatives and Action Plan was Board-approved in January 2021 and provided opening comments.

Darrell E. Johnson, CEO, highlighted the mid-year key milestones.

Chairman Do thanked Mr. Johnson and staff for getting OCTA through these difficult times. Chairman Do also thanked the Board for their support and adjusting to the virtual committee and Board meetings while continuing to allow meaningful public input and participation and provided closing comments.

19. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments received.

20. Chief Executive Officer's Report

South Orange County Projects Update –

- Staff are continuing to reach out to various stakeholders to keep them updated on our construction activity.
- On July 13th, staff will be updating the Mission Viejo City Council on the status of several South Orange County projects. OCTA has several projects under construction as well as proposed projects extending as far as the county line.
- Some of the projects that staff will be highlighting include:
 - The Interstate-5 Widening from the 73 to El Toro Road (currently under construction)
 - The proposed carpool extension on I-5 from Avenida Pico to the county line
 - The Ortega Highway Widening
 - The Los Patrones Parkway extension
 - The 405 Improvement Project
- Staff will also discuss the ongoing outreach efforts to keep drivers and residents informed about our construction activities.
- Staff is happy to provide these types of updates to any of your respective cities or constituencies, so if you are interested, please us know.

21. Directors' Reports

22. Closed Session

There were no Closed Sessions scheduled.

23. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Board will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 26, 2021**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Board Room - Conference Room 07-08, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

ATTEST:

Gina Ramirez
Clerk of the Board Specialist, Senior

Andrew Do
Chairman