




June 1, 2026

To: Executive Committee

From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer 

Subject: Membership Appointments for the Measure M2 Environmental Oversight Committee

Overview

The Measure M2 Ordinance No. 3 requires the establishment of a 12-member Environmental Oversight Committee as part of the Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program. The committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors on the allocation of revenues for programmatic mitigation and for monitoring implementation. The three-year terms have expired for all members. Ten of the existing committee members have expressed a desire to continue to serve and replacements are recommended for two open seats.

Recommendations

- A. Approve the reappointment of ten current committee members serving on the Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program Environmental Oversight Committee for an additional three-year term beginning July 1, 2026.
- B. Appoint two committee members to replace outgoing members on the Measure M2 Environmental Mitigation Program Environmental Oversight Committee.

Background

Measure M2 (M2) includes a provision to provide comprehensive mitigation to offset environmental impacts of freeway improvement projects through the M2 Environmental Mitigation Program (Mitigation Program). In exchange, state and federal resources agencies, consisting of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), agreed to fast-track the permitting process and entered into a master agreement for the M2 freeway projects. The goal of the Mitigation Program is to deliver more

effective mitigation while supporting expedited delivery of M2 freeway improvements.

The Mitigation Program was launched in fall 2007 with the creation of the Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC). The EOC makes technical and policy recommendations to the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors (Board) related to the implementation of the Mitigation Program. M2 Ordinance No. 3 (M2 Ordinance) defines the role and composition of the EOC, a 12-member committee that includes two representatives of the Board, Director Mark Tetterer as EOC Chair and Board Chair Jamey M. Federico. The other members of the committee include one representative each from the California Department of Transportation, USFWS, CDFW, California Wildlife Conservation Board, Army Corps of Engineers, and the OCTA Taxpayer Oversight Committee. In addition, two public members and two members from a non-governmental environmental organization serve on the committee (Attachment A). The M2 Ordinance further stipulates the terms of service are three years with no term limits.

Discussion

The M2 Ordinance established the EOC and requires the Board to appoint the committee members. One public member has chosen not to seek reappointment to the EOC and a candidate is being recommended to fill the open position. In addition, the USFWS, which has a permanent seat on the EOC, recommended a new member.

In April 2026, a Board ad hoc committee was established to review the applicants and propose a recommendation to the full Board, as has been the case for all past recruitments. Chair Federico formed the Board ad hoc committee, which included Board Chair Federico and Vice Chair Fred Jung, and EOC Chair Tetterer. A total of 26 candidates who had backgrounds in environmental preservation, development, and civic services were considered for the public member open seat.

The Board ad hoc committee is recommending Janet Fordunski (Attachment B) to fill the open public member position. Ms. Fordunski is a retired civil engineer with 30 years of experience specializing in water resources, including planning, design, and permitting, and compliance for water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure projects. She has over 20 years of community service experience as an environmental volunteer, including ecological restoration, invasive species removal, and public outreach for organizations including the Newport Bay Conservancy and Orange County Parks.

The USFWS has recommended Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist Lauren Kershek as the new USFWS representative to serve on the EOC (Attachment C). Ms. Kershek has extensive experience managing complex, time-sensitive projects across diverse habitats, with expertise in Endangered Species Act implementation, regional conservation planning, and interagency coordination on large-scale infrastructure and habitat restoration efforts. In addition to her regulatory and partnership work, she leads recovery and conservation efforts for the federally endangered light-footed Ridgway's rail, including population monitoring and captive breeding programs in collaboration with regional partners.

The ten other EOC members have expressed their desire to continue serving on the committee for an additional three-year term. This term will begin on July 1, 2026. The proposed EOC roster is enclosed as Attachment D.

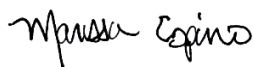
Summary

The three-year term for members of the M2 EOC has expired. Ten existing committee members have expressed interest in serving another term and are being recommended for reappointment, and replacements are recommended for two open seats.

Attachments

- A. Orange County Local Transportation Authority Ordinance No. 3 July 24, 2006 (pages B-5 through B-6)
- B. Janet Fordunksi, PE - Resume
- C. Lauren A. Kershek Biography
- D. Recommended Environmental Oversight Committee 2026 Roster

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