



June 18, 2025

To: Transit Committee
From: Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer
Subject: August 2025 OC Bus Service Change

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Darrell Johnson", is written over the "From:" line of the header.

Overview

The proposed August 2025 OC Bus service change implements changes consistent with the Making Better Connections final service plan. These changes will reduce wait times and improve overall service quality and reliability. Minor adjustments to bus schedules in response to customer comments and coach operator feedback are also included.

Recommendation

Receive and file as an information item.

Background

In late 2022, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) completed a comprehensive study of the bus transit system, known as the Making Better Connections (MBC) Study. The MBC Study assessed emerging travel trends and recommended optimizing the transit network to better serve Orange County residents, workers, and visitors. The Board of Directors approved the final service plan that emerged from the MBC Study in October 2022. The MBC Study strives to improve bus service on high-ridership routes, reduce wait times, and simplify route structures. OCTA continues to implement these improvements steadily through the service change process.

OCTA implements regular schedule and route revisions to selected OC Bus routes four times a year (February, May, August, and November). The proposed bus service changes discussed herein are scheduled for implementation on August 10, 2025.

Discussion

OCTA regularly monitors OC Bus performance and makes adjustments as needed to improve the service. These adjustments consider changes in traffic conditions, school schedules, land-use changes, customer comments, current ridership demand, and coach operator feedback. The changes are intended to improve the performance of individual bus routes and transit service overall.

The proposed changes for August 2025 will primarily focus on improvements to service quality and reliability. These changes focus on the following enhancements/modifications:

- Frequency improvement on Routes 47, 64, 66, 90, and 123;
- Minor schedule adjustments to address customer feedback on Routes 43, 53, 55, 57, and 59;
- Schedule adjustments to improve on-time performance on Routes 1, 25, 33, 35, 50, 54, 56, 59, 70, 83, 89, 123, 167, and 177;
- Extend seasonal transition of the summer schedule until November 2025 for Route 1 to improve Saturday/Sunday on-time performance.

The proposed August 2025 changes are detailed in Attachment A and represented in Attachment B.

The proposed changes would result in an increase in bus service levels of approximately 31,000 revenue vehicle hours annually. System-wide service levels would increase to about 1.59 million annual revenue vehicle hours.

Summary

The proposed August 2025 OC Bus service change will result in several adjustments to OC Bus service. These adjustments include improvements to service quality and reliability, frequency changes, and the transition from the seasonal summer schedule to regular schedules on select routes. Customers will be notified of the changes three weeks prior to implementation.

Attachments

- A. August 2025 OC Bus Service Change: Recommendations by Route
- B. August 2025 OC Bus Service Change: Bus Route Recommendations

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