

Orange County Transportation Authority Cap-and-Trade Principles

- Support the continuation of existing Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund investments in transit capital and operations programs, such as the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program and the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program. Oppose any proposals that would divert existing funding away from effective regional use.
- Encourage use of cap-and-trade revenues to help meet state zero-emission vehicle mandates for transit.
- Support efforts to reduce the administrative complexity of cap-and-trade programs to ensure timely and predictable distribution of funds. Streamlined processes help agencies deliver projects more efficiently and minimize overhead.
- Support a dedicated increase in cap-and-trade funding for capital projects of regional significance, with a focus on connectivity and bookend rail investments that strengthen both local and interregional infrastructure.
- Increase formula-based transit operations funding to aid in the recovery, stabilization, and expansion of transit and rail services.
- Support adjustments to the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program to ensure transportation projects receive consideration.
- Maximize formula-based distribution of cap-and-trade revenues for transportation purposes to support regional transportation needs and support locally-driven solutions to serve communities effectively.
- Support dedicated allocations of cap-and-trade revenues for projects related to climate adaptation, such as transportation projects along the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor, particularly those addressing coastal erosion, sea-level rise, and extreme weather impacts.