

## **Meeting of Jan. 13, 2020**

### **Steve Jones Selected as New OCTA Chairman**

Garden Grove Mayor Steven R. Jones was unanimously selected as the new chairman of the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors.

Jones served as the OCTA board's vice chairman last year and has held various leadership roles including serving on OCTA's Transit and Finance & Administration committees. He replaces outgoing Chairman Tim Shaw, a City Councilman from La Habra, who remains on the board representing Orange County's Fourth District.

Jones began serving on the Garden Grove City Council in 2007, and in 2016 was elected mayor. He has been on the OCTA board representing the First District since 2013.

Andrew Do was selected by the board to serve as vice chairman and is also Orange County's First District Supervisor.

Harry Sidhu, also Mayor of Anaheim, joined the board and returning directors Laurie Davies, Barbara Delgleize, Gene Hernandez and Steve Jones were sworn in to continue serving on the board.

### **OCTA Board Looks Back at Last Year's Accomplishments**

OCTA's board of directors received a progress report highlighting OCTA's accomplishments in 2019.

The progress report and accompanying video were guided by the six strategic initiatives established by the board at the beginning of last year to deliver on OCTA's mission of keeping Orange County moving.

Accomplishments include:

- Opening the Slater Avenue bridge, which was the first of 18 bridges completed as part of the I-405 Improvement Project.
- Finalizing design plans for the Anaheim Canyon Metrolink Station, expanding parking options for transit riders in Orange and revitalizing the Fullerton Transportation Center.
- Awarding more than \$8.5 million for regional capacity and signal synchronization projects to reduce traffic congestion through Measure M, Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements, also known as OC Go.
- Reaching an agreement on the 91/241 Express Connector with the Riverside County Transportation Commission, Transportation Corridor Agencies and Caltrans.
- Recording nearly 40,000 OC Flex boardings during the first year of the pilot program.

- Advancing the OC streetcar project, including completing the foundation and pier walls for a new bridge across the Santa Ana river.
- Expanding the College Pass Program to students at Golden West College and Fullerton College.

For the full list of accomplishments, visit [octa.net/2019accomplishments](https://www.octa.net/2019accomplishments). To watch the video highlighting OCTA's accomplishments, visit [octa.net/2019video](https://www.octa.net/2019video).

## **Board Reviews February Bus Service Changes**

The OCTA board received an update on OC Bus service changes that will be implemented on Feb. 9.

The changes to 24 OCTA bus routes primarily consist of minor adjustments to improve performance and consider road construction, coach operator input and riders' requests for improved connections. The changes were approved in 2019 and are part of OC Bus 360°, the agency's ongoing effort to better serve the county's bus riders.

February's service changes include:

- Launching Route 123, which will replace routes 21 and 24 with service from the Goldenwest Transportation Center to the Anaheim Canyon Metrolink Station via the Buena Park Metrolink Station.
- Extending all peak trips on Route 54 to the start of the route at Chapman Avenue and Valley View Street on weekdays.
- Improving frequencies on routes 56 and 72 during the weekend, and on Route 143 during weekdays.

Bus service changes are routinely made three times a year in February, June and October to ensure riders are getting the most efficient level of service.

For more information on the service changes, visit [ocbus.com](https://www.ocbus.com).

## **I-405 Improvements Continue into 2020**

The board received an update on the I-405 Improvement Project, which is nearing two years since OCTA broke ground on the project.

The final design of the project is about 95 percent complete and is anticipated to be completed this summer. Significant construction activities, including the installation of drainage systems, retaining and soundwalls, and paving operations began in 2019 and will continue through 2020.

After the opening of the Slater Avenue bridge in August, demolition and construction activities began on the Talbert Avenue and Bushard Street bridges, which are anticipated to open to traffic in early 2021.

The \$1.9 billion project will add one regular lane between Euclid Street and I-605, and a second lane in each direction in the center of the freeway from SR-73 to I-605 that will combine with the existing carpool lanes to form the 405 Express Lanes. The project is scheduled for completion in 2023.

For more information on the project, visit [octa.net/405improvement](https://octa.net/405improvement).