

Meeting of March 22, 2021

March Employees of the Month Recognized

The Orange County Transportation Authority's board of directors recognized three employees of the month for March.

The honors went to:

- Tolga Efe, a coach operator working out of the Santa Ana base. Tolga has been driving for OCTA since 1998 and achieved 20 years of safe driving in May of last year. He frequently volunteers to help with the annual Roadeo competition and was a member of the 2007 and 2008 Roadeo teams.
- Eduardo Ramos, a journeyman mechanic who joined OCTA in 1991. Eduardo is a key mechanic working on the contingency and active fleet at the Garden Grove bus base. He is one of the top mechanics on the day shift and completes some of the most demanding tasks in a timely manner.
- Jennifer Beaver, a Senior Public Information Specialist who joined OCTA in 2013. Jennifer writes and edits copy for a wide range of projects throughout the organization. She is the writer and content manager for the award-winning OCTA blog, "On the Move."

Construction Contract Awarded for Anaheim Canyon Metrolink Station Improvements

The OCTA board awarded a \$13.5 million contract to Stacy & Witbeck, Inc. for the construction of the Anaheim Canyon Metrolink Station Improvement Project.

The project will add a second platform and extend the existing platform, install shade structures, benches and ticket vending machines. It will also add more than a half mile of secondary track and will improve two railroad crossings on Tustin Street and on La Palma Avenue.

The project is funded through the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program with additional funds from Measure M, Orange County's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

Through an agreement approved by the OCTA board in 2014, OCTA will lead the construction of tracks, structures and other improvements, while Metrolink leads on the construction of signals, communications and positive train control facilities.

Board Calls for Bids for Battery-Electric Bus Chargers

The OCTA board approved the release of invitation for bids for chargers to support the agency's 40-foot plug-in battery-electric buses, another important step in the agency's ongoing efforts to convert to a zero-emission fleet.

Last year, the board approved the purchase of 10 battery-electric buses. Two of the buses are set to arrive as early as August.

To charge the buses, OCTA is working with Southern California Edison to provide electrical infrastructure at the Garden Grove bus base. To supplement this infrastructure, OCTA will need 10 battery chargers.

The chargers will provide power to 10 charging stations, and will allow each bus to be intelligently charged in a way that is adjusted according to the power and logistical needs of each bus.

The project is funded through the state's Low Carbon Transit Operations Program.