



**Mitigation and Resource Protection Program Oversight Committee
Environmental Oversight Committee
Orange County Transportation Authority**

March 9, 2011

**Orange County Transportation Authority
600 S. Main Street, Orange CA**

**3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Room 154**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Approval of February 2, 2011 Minutes**
- 3. Call for Candidate Acquisition Properties**
 - Dan Phu, OCTA
 - Monte Ward, OCTA Consultant
 - A. Action Recommendation: endorse the ranking of the 36 candidate acquisition properties based on the OCTA Board-established acquisition, restoration, and management criteria.
 - B. Action Recommendation: recommend to the OCTA Board Committee and OCTA Board for approval of the three Group 1 properties to be considered along with the \$42 million approved by the Board in November 2010 for acquisition.
 - C. Action Recommendation: recommend appraisal of two of the three Group 1 properties and a comparable sales assessment for the third property.
- 4. Restoration Proposals Update**
 - Dan Phu, OCTA
 - Monte Ward, OCTA Consultant
- 5. Public Comments**
- 6. Committee Member Reports**
- 7. Next Meeting – Wednesday, April 6, 2011**
- 8. Adjournment**

Public Comments: The Agenda descriptions are intended to give notice to members of the public of a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. Members from the public wishing to address the Committee will be recognized by the Chairman at the time the Agenda item is to be considered. A speaker's comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the OCTA at (714) 560-5725, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

Environmental Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2011

Committee Members Present:

Chair Patricia Bates, OCTA Board of Directors
Vice-Chair Melanie Schlotterbeck, Measure M Support Groups
Nancy Jimeno, California State University, Fullerton
James Kelly, Measure M2 Taxpayers Oversight Committee
David Mayer, CA Department of Fish and Game
Adam Probolsky, Probolsky Research
Sylvia Vega, Caltrans
Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League
Jonathan Snyder, US Fish and Wildlife Services [attended closed session, but not public session]
Erinn Wilson, CA Department of Fish and Game

Committee Members Absent:

Veronica Chan, US Army Corps of Engineers
Dave Means, California Wildlife Conservation Board
Greg Winterbottom, OCTA Board of Directors

Orange County Transportation Authority Staff Present:

Marissa Espino, Senior Community Relations Specialist
Dan Phu, Project Development Section Manager
Monte Ward, Measure M2 Consultant

Members of the Public

Cindy Black, Banning Ranch Conservancy

1. Welcome

Chair Patricia Bates welcomed everyone to the meeting at 10:05 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She announced that Marissa Espino was recently named OCTA Employee of the Year and congratulated her.

2. Approval of Jan. 5, 2011 Minutes

Chair Patricia Bates asked if there were any additions or corrections to the November 3, 2010 Environmental Oversight Committee (EOC) meeting minutes. There were no additions or corrections. A motion was made by Melanie Schlotterbeck and seconded by Adam Probolsky to approve the Jan. 5, 2011 EOC meeting minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Call for Candidate Acquisition Properties

Dan Phu gave an update on the recently held Call for Candidate Acquisition Properties. He said a total of 36 applications were received. Approximately one-half of the applications were from property owners and the rest were from other people. Letters were sent on Jan. 26 to the owners of the properties submitted by others asking if they wanted to participate in the program. OCTA, the Wildlife Agencies, and Caltrans met and evaluated the owner submitted applications. Once the results from the letters sent on Jan. 26 are known, the other properties will be evaluated. By early March, the biological ranking for all the new applicant properties should be known.

Monte Ward observed there were a number of properties submitted which were less than five acres and this was used as a cutoff point previously and it will be a factor in the evaluations. Also, they are hopeful they will have the biological rankings done before the end of the month. Since the T2020 Committee will be meeting early in March, it may be necessary for the EOC to meet before the end of February to consider recommendations regarding the properties.

Dan Silver asked what this would mean in terms of spending the Board-authorized \$42 million for acquisition purposes. Dan Phu said there will be a discussion of this in Closed Session. Currently it is unknown if any of the new properties are ranked high enough in biological values to warrant being appraised but it is conceivable. Monte Ward said this is possible and more than likely with one or more of the new properties.

4. Restoration Proposals Update

Dan Phu gave a brief update on the restoration proposals. The OCTA Board authorized \$5.462 million for the funding of six restoration projects. They are close to executing the grant restoration agreements for four of the six projects. These agreements will be executed before March and staff will work with the cities on the timing of the legal agreements. The key document in all the grant agreements is the restoration plan. Currently OCTA is concurrent with the Wildlife Agencies on the content of the plans with four of the six projects.

Dan Phu said the OCTA Board consolidated the funding for the first two rounds for property acquisitions, but did not do this for the restoration properties. Therefore the next Call for Restoration Projects will start in fiscal year 2011/12 and will be for approximately \$5 million. Staff will start gearing up in the spring of 2011 for the next Call for Projects.

Monte Ward said staff is learning a great deal from comments and feedback on the restoration plans and the agreements such as the need to tailor the restoration plans appropriately for the sites and capabilities of the applicants. He believed this will help in some degree in how the next call for projects is structured. It will allow OCTA to be clearer and more specific and anticipate and address some of the issues that have surfaced in the process.

5. Public Comments

Cindy Black, Banning Ranch Conservancy, said they are currently in negotiations with the owners of Banning Ranch to produce a willing seller letter and will keep the EOC updated on the progress of the letter. They are also pursuing additional funding from other sources. They look forward to working with the EOC to accomplish the acquisition of Banning Ranch.

Monte Ward said this is one of the properties submitted for acquisition not submitted by the owners but by a community group working with the property owner.

6. Committee Member Reports

There were no Committee Member Reports.

7. Next Meeting – Wednesday March 9, 2011

Chair Patricia Bates said the next scheduled meeting of the EOC will be March 9, 2011 at 3 p.m. but there may be a special meeting of the EOC before the March meeting, sometime toward the end of February.

8. Closed Session

The regular EOC Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m. to go into closed session

2011 Acquisition Properties Evaluation (Biological Criteria)

Property Number	Property	Geographic Area	Acreage	General Biological Characteristics	
1	Aliso Canyon	Coastal	100	High quality habitat, heterogeneous habitat, very good connectivity/contiguity opportunities, larger sized properties, aligns with impacted habitats, contains covered species	GROUP 1
15	Irvine Mesa Corridor	Cleveland Nat'l Forest	858		
29 (75)	Shell-Aera (HOSEC)	Tonner Canyon	300		
6	Chiquita Ridge	City of RSM	92	Good quality habitat, homogeneous habitat, good connectivity/contiguity opportunities, medium sized properties, contain some covered species	GROUP 2
18 (106)	Ladd Canyon	Cleveland Nat'l Forest	78.8		
22	MacPherson 3	Silverado Canyon	30		
25 (91)	Rancho Van Thof	Trabuco Creek	15		
26	Rio Santiago	Santiago Creek	110		
28 (68, 56)	Saddleback (Potential package w/O'Neill Oaks)	Trabuco	249.19		
7	Collins Property	Modjeska Canyon	30	Lower quality habitat, lower connectivity/contiguity potential, smaller properties, highly disturbed	GROUP 3
8 (14)	Davis Property	Laguna Canyon	5.68		
11 (29)	Heiderali Property	Laguna Canyon	38		
16	Johnson Property	Modjeska Canyon	6		
19	Madariaga Property	Harding Canyon	8.21		
33	Trabuco Highlands (The Banana Property)	City of RSM	28.75		
17	Khanbolooki Property	Modjeska Canyon	1.26	Typically very small habitat, highly disturbed, some do not align with freeway habitats	GROUP 4
20	MacPherson 1	Cleveland Nat'l Forest	1+		
21	MacPherson 2	Cleveland Nat'l Forest	1.5+		
23 (52)	McGraw Property	Laguna Canyon	2		
24	Norman Property	Modjeska Canyon	.25		
27	Rose Canyon	City of RSM	4.7		
30	Shepston Property	Silverado Canyon	1.2		
31	Sunny Hills Church of Christ	Fullerton	2.4		
32	Temple Property	Modjeska Canyon	1+		
36	Zadeshi Property	Modjeska Canyon	1.73		
2	Alley Property	Modjeska Canyon	9.89		SEE LEGEND
3	Appel Property	Modjeska Canyon	2.67		
5	Chi Property	Modjeska Canyon	60		
9	Ellis Property	Modjeska Canyon	1.5		
10	Goldberg Property	Santiago Creek	20		
12	Hunt Trust	Modjeska Canyon	35		
13	Hunt Trust II	Modjeska Canyon	4.721		
14	Hutton Properties	Santiago Canyon	40		
34	Townsend Property	Modjeska Canyon	1.2		
4 (55)	Banning Ranch	Coastal	412		
35 (95)	West Coyote Hills	Fullerton	510		

Owner did not respond to 1.26.2011 OCTA letter confirming participation

Removed by project sponsor

2011 Acquisition Properties

