

WHO ARE THE TRANSIT ADVOCATES?

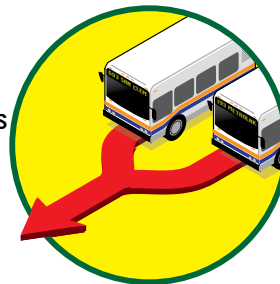
Transit Advocates of Orange County is an all-volunteer group that works to improve bus, rail, biking and walking in Orange County. We believe that a well-run transit system with a combination of “choice” and “dependent” riders could change the nature of traffic patterns—and therefore livability—in our county.

In our 11 years, we’ve had a significant impact on OCTA bus service, including resolving some of the problems caused by the 2001 OCTA bus system restructuring. While we normally focus on improving service, the recent economic crisis has forced us to focus on retaining bus funding just to keep buses running. Our recent accomplishments include:

- minimizing the impact of the 2009-10 service cuts by delaying 8% of the cuts and transferring \$64 million into bus operations from other OCTA-controlled funds,
- saving most of the first and last buses of the day,
- delaying the elimination of Night Owl buses and saving their first run, and



- retaining several bus routes and route segments that were scheduled for elimination.



Plus, we...

- Held a public rally to bring about transit awareness issues.



- Created phone call bank to keep riders without Internet access in the loop.
- Lobbied the OCTA board and connected with county and local politicians.
- Worked with OCTA staff to add service frequencies and re-design bus stop signs, improve the design of bus books and service change announcements, and identify cost savings to continue printing bus books.

- Represented bus commuters at the 2010 Southern California Transit Forum.
- Represented Orange County’s bus commuters at state-level hearings and U.S. Department of Transportation meetings.



- Brought about media awareness with the *Orange County Register*, *OC Weekly*, and UC Irvine’s *New University* newspapers.
- Mobilized hundreds of bus commuters to attend OCTA Board Meetings.
- Reached over 1,000 bus commuters on our mailing list.
- Established our Internet presence on www.TransitAdvocatesOC.org, Facebook, and Twitter.



HELP US SAVE TRANSIT.