

January Presentation:  
**SB743—What Does it Mean to You?**  
 By Tony Petros, Principal—LSA Associates

On August 6, 2014, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) released the Preliminary Discussion Draft of changes to the CEQA Guidelines implementing SB 743. This draft proposes addition of Section 15064.3 to the Guidelines regarding Determination of Significance of Transportation Impacts; Alternatives and Mitigation Measures. According to the OPR, delay and level of service will no longer be considered metrics to determine significance of a transportation impact. In its place, Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) will be the new metric.

The new VMT metric will be applied to both land use projects and transportation projects. The study area for the application is within a project's entire region, and analysis will disclose and potential mitigation of impacts across jurisdictional boundaries.

Local safety is also amplified in the new guidelines, with factors such as increased exposure of bicyclists and pedestrians in vehicle conflict areas, increased motor vehicle speeds and increased queuing on freeway off ramps constituting significant transportation impacts. *(continued on page 2)*



**Tony Petros** is a Principal at LSA Associates, Irvine Office. His primary responsibilities include the management and supervision of the transportation function of LSA in California. This role includes the preparation and review of comprehensive traffic and parking studies, operational and engineering analyses, Project Study Reports/Project Reports, Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs), and Environmental Assessments. Emphasis is placed on the coordination of transportation projects with municipal and agency administrators and real estate interests.

While at LSA, Mr. Petros has also been involved in many General Plan work efforts, including the development of the General Plan Circulation Elements of Calaveras County and the Cities of Garden Grove, Buena Park, Laguna Hills, Calabasas, Arcadia, and Loma Linda. Mr. Petros has overseen the preparation of neighborhood traffic analyses in the Cities of Tustin, Whittier, Lakewood, and San Clemente as well as in the Del Monte Forest. His range of experience covers large-scale land development, capital projects, and small-scale detailed operational analyses.

**JANUARY MEETING**

**January 22, 2015**

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

**Orange Hill Restaurant**  
 6410 E. Chapman Ave  
 Orange, CA 92869

Lunch Fees:

- Members: \$20 (Early Bird\*), \$25 (Late Registration)
- Non-Members: \$25 (Early Bird\*), \$30 (Late Registration)
- At the Door: \$30
- Students: \$15

*\*Early Bird Registration ends at 5:00pm on 1/15/2015\**

Please register via Eventbrite at:  
<https://octec-jan2015.eventbrite.com>

If you have any questions, please contact Eric Loke, at [eloke@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:eloke@newportbeachca.gov).

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**OCTEC NEWS**

## **SB743—WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?**

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Mitigation measures have been suggested in the appendices to reduce VMT that include improving or increasing access to transit; incorporating affordable housing into a project; increasing access to common goods like shopping, schools and day care; traffic calming; limiting parking supplies; parking or roadway pricing; and car-sharing, bike-sharing and ride-sharing programs.

The OPR is seeking input on these Draft Guidelines by October 10, 2014. The guidelines will be reviewed and revised based on input received, and will be advanced to the Natural Resources Agency for certification. The new procedures will apply subsequent to an administrative proceeding and will affect projects located within one-half mile of "major transit stops" and "high quality transit corridors". They will be effective Statewide after January 1, 2016.

LSA Associates, Inc., is following these changes closely and is available to respond to private interest and public agency questions about their applicability. We encourage all potentially affected individuals, groups and agencies to follow these changes or contact Tony Petros at LSA Associates, Inc. by phone at (949) 553-0666 or e-mail at [tony.petros@lsa-assoc.com](mailto:tony.petros@lsa-assoc.com).

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## **SO CAL ITE/RSBITE/OCTEC HOLIDAY MIXER!**

Thank you to those who attended the SoCalITE/RSBITE/OCTEC Holiday Mixer at Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park. It was a great event with over 100 attendees! The night was filled with food, drinks, and casino games, with lots of raffle prizes.

Thank you again to all those who sponsored the event and also provide raffle prizes to those in attendance! It was a great event and look forward to continuing the tradition next holiday season.

Please keep a look out for our next OCTEC Social Mixer in Spring 2015.



## OCTEC ANNOUNCEMENTS

# OCTEC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Every year, our membership continues to grow and we have seen members from different sectors in transportation, and at various levels. Let's continue our success for 2015, and grow our membership even more!

Please click link below to register!

<https://2015octecmembershipdrive.eventbrite.com/>

The 2015 OCTEC Membership Drive is open for early bird registration. Sign up by January 21, 2015 to be placed in our Raffle. Prizes will include one \$100 and two \$50 gift cards to Amazon.



Cost of Membership will remain at \$25.00!



### Benefits of Becoming an OCTEC Member

- Reduced Lunch Prices
- Monthly Newsletters and access to job postings, announcements, and latest news
  - Networking Opportunities
  - OCTEC Name Badge for Meetings
- Opportunity to be involved and serve on the Board or Sub-Committees

Please contact him at ([eloke@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:eloke@newportbeachca.gov)) if you have any questions, or if you are a Student Member.

## OCTEC SUB-COMMITTEES

The OCTEC Board will be establishing sub-committees for members that want to get involved and help out Board members on OCTEC events, meetings, newsletters. This is a great opportunity to be involved and meet more people in the industry.

### Sub-committees Include:

Technical (Presentation Set-Up, Industry Technologies)  
 Social (Events, LinkedIn, Meetings)  
 Newsletter (Scribes, Historian)

If you are interested in helping out the OCTEC Board, please contact Alicia Yang ([axy@iteris.com](mailto:axy@iteris.com)).

## TRANSPORTATION NEWS

### **New Lane Opens on SR-57 Freeway**

Drivers along the Orange Freeway (SR-57) can expect to experience a more efficient commute with the addition of a northbound general-purpose lane that opened today between Katella and Lincoln avenues in Anaheim. The addition of the three-mile lane is part a \$41-million freeway improvement project led by Caltrans and the Orange County Transportation Authority. The project, which began in 2012, was funded with a mix of state dollars and Measure M, the county's half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements.

The project included improvements to eight freeway ramps, widening of two bridges and the restriping of carpool lanes to allow for continuous access by drivers, which studies have shown reduces accidents and air pollution.

### **West County Connectors Project Completed**

Drivers will now be able to travel in the carpool lanes from the Garden Grove Freeway (SR-22) to the San Diego Freeway (I-405) to the San Gabriel Freeway (I-605), and the reverse, without ever having to exit the carpool lanes.

The \$297 million project by the Orange County Transportation Authority, in cooperation with Caltrans, allows for seamless transitions between the three freeways eliminating the merging and weaving of cars that previously occurred, a major cause of congestion. In addition, the project adds a second carpool on I-405 in both directions between SR-22 and I-605. The I-405 near the border of Orange and Los Angeles counties carries approximately 370,000 cars a day.

### **ARTIC Now Open**

December 13, 2014 was the grand opening for the Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center (ARTIC), a major transportation hub for travel throughout Orange County and beyond. The day was filled with food, music, tours of the facility, and giveaways.



ARTIC will be served by OCTA bus service, Metrolink trains, Amtrak Pacific Surfliner, Anaheim Resort Transit (ART), private bus carriers, and taxis. Closely located to the Santa Ana River Bike Trail, bicyclist can easily access ARTIC and lock their bikes at the station to take transit. OCTA bus routes 50, 53, 153, and 430 will be rerouted to the new ARTIC, and will no longer serve the Anaheim Station.

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**April 23, 2015**

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**May 20, 2015**

SoCal ITE/OCTEC Student Night  
(Knott’s Berry Farm Hotel)

**June 25, 2015**

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*For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Eric Loke at (949) 644-3336 or [eloke@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:eloke@newportbeachca.gov)*

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