## 2019

### OC Fair Express Bus Service



# SAT & SUN · <sup>\$</sup>2 EACH WAY <sup>\$</sup>4 ADMISSION

#### DIRECT SERVICE TO THE OC FAIR



#### **Program Overview**

The OC Fair is a 129-year old tradition and is considered one of the largest fairs in the nation with over 1.3 million visitors. The popularity of the OC Fair results in high weekend traffic congestion that exceeds the current road capacity and results in harmful emissions from idling vehicles. 2019 marked the 9<sup>th</sup> year OCTA was awarded MSRC (Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee) grant funds to operate the OC Fair Express special event service to the OC Fair. Target audiences included current bus riders, Metrolink rail riders and the general Orange County population. Marketing efforts were specifically targeted around each of nine the departure locations, and targeted both English and Spanish-speaking populations.

#### **Strategy and Tactics**

The objectives were to position public transportation as a cost effective, viable alternative to travelling to the fair; to create awareness and trial use by new riders and repeat use by current riders; and to encourage connectivity from Los Angeles and Riverside counties via Metrolink commuter rail service.



To maximize ridership potential, OCTA undertook a joint messaging campaign with the OC Fair positioning OC Fair Express the "Official Transportation Provider for the OC Fair". A key component for success was a special discount for OC Fair Express riders – \$4 admission, which was an \$10 savings. This discount provided not only an incentive for ridership, but the savings could be used towards the grant required matched funds, thereby reducing the out-of-pocket needed.

A comprehensive marketing campaign was executed integrating a variety of tactics and communications platforms.

#### Print Media:

- Targeted Direct Mail was distributed to households near 9 locations.
- Brochures with schedules and location maps distributed on buses and throughout the county.
- Print ads appeared in OC Register, Excelsior, Laguna Woods Globe, Chinese World News, Korean Daily, Nguoi Viet.
- Ads appeared in customer bus books.

#### Outdoor Media:

- Bus exterior ads (ultra super kings, kings and tails)
- Bus interior ads
- Bus and Metrolink transit center signage
- Mall banner ads (Westminster Mall, The Shops at Mission Viejo)
- Bus stop information
- Pole banners at all locations
- Metrolink station banners
- ARTIC signage



#### Digital Media:

- OC Bus website (dedicated page)
- OC Bus website banner ads
- Email (OCTA current customer base, previous OC Fair Express riders)
- Online banner ads
- Social: Facebook (organic posts and targeted paid ads), Instagram and Twitter
- Partner Blogs

#### Kickoff Event:

- Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center, including executive management
- Bags for customers (OC Fair tote, ride tickets, etc.)
- Direct Mail to residents around location
- Email (OCTA current customer base)
- Social: Facebook (organic posts and targeted paid ads),

#### OC Fair Partnership:

- \$4 Admission coupon
- Newspaper ads
- Bus Shelter Ads
- Digital ads
- OC Fair Website (banner ads, transit page)



#### **Program Overview**

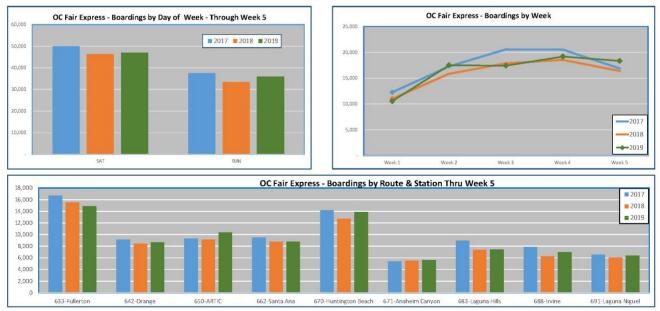
This special bus service has been an overwhelming success since it's relaunch in 2011, obtaining a 320 percent increase over the 2008 service. Ridership has increased each year (80% in 2012; 26.6% in 2013; 31% in 2014; 2.5 % in 2015; 20% in 2016; 33% in 2017). In 2018 ridership dropped 9% d. Comparing weather due to weather, and rebounded in 2019 with a 4.2% increase in ridership with 83,010 boardings.



Orange County Transportation Authority Special Services Ridership Update

OCTA 2019 Season - TOTAL RIDERSHIP COMPARISON

OC FAIR EXPR	ESS: T	hrough	n Wee	k 5 o	f 2019		Toto	I YTD	2018:	79,684	Total Y	TD 201	9:	83,010		
	Saturday				Sunday				Total			Ranking	Ranking	Weather	Weather	
Route	2018	2019	Δ	%Δ	2018	2019	Δ	%Δ	2018	2019	Δ	%Δ	2018	2019	2018	2019
633 - Fullerton	9,413	8,811	(602)	-6.4%	6,125	6,077	(48)	-0.8%	15,538	14,888	(650)	-4.2%	1	1	Saturday	Saturday
642 - Orange	4,827	4.932	105	2.2%	3.609	3.732	123	3.4%	8,436	8.664	228	2.7%	5	5	Hi: 80	Hi: 72
650 - ARTIC	5.074	5.955	881	17.4%	4.055	4,430	375	9.2%	9,129	10,385	1.256	13.8%	3	3	Lo: 72	Lo:63
662 - Santa Ana	4,907	4,745	(162)	-3.3%	3,860	4,043	183	4.7%	8,767	8,788	21	0.2%	4	4		
670 - Huntington Beach	7,347	7,666	319	4.3%	5,326	6,189	863	16.2%	12,673	13,855	1,182	9.3%	2	2	Sunday	Sunday
671 - Anaheim Canyon	3,301	3,144	(157)	-4.8%	2,181	2,502	321	14.7%	5,482	5,646	164	3.0%	9	9	Hi: 80	Hi: 71
683 - Laguna Hills	4,109	4.059	(50)	-1.2%	3.231	3,407	176	5.4%	7.340	7,466	126	1.7%	6	6	Lo: 70	Lo: 66
688 - Irvine	3,873	4.210	337	8.7%	2.412	2,743	331	13.7%	6.285	6.953	668	10.6%	7	7		
691 - Laguna Niguel	3,430	3,505	75	2.2%	2,604	2,860	256	9.8%	6,034	6,365	331	5.5%	8	8		
Total	46,281	47,027	746	1.6%	33,403	35,983	2,580	7.7%	79,684	83,010	3,326	4.2%				



#### Program Overview continued

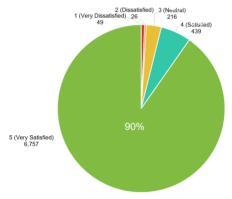
#### Survey results:

- 38 percent were new OC Bus riders
- 62 percent are repeat OC Fair Express riders; increase of 55% from last year
- 96 percent of riders were satisfied or very satisfied with the service
- 32 percent used OC Bus Mobile for payment
- Awareness of OC Fair Express service came from:
  - 29 percent Rode last year
  - 23 percent word of mouth
  - o 85 percent OC Fair website
  - o 4.3 percent digital ads
  - o 4 percent social media
  - 5 percent direct mailer

#### Digital Media results:

- Achieved 57,219 website sessions, with 68%new users/sessions.
- 1540 paid web banner ads increased mobile users by 34% with 850,000 impressions
- Email campaign achieved a 18.32 percent open rate with a 2.18% CTR
- Facebook paid ads delivered 1,360,300 impressions, with a reach of 432,079 and achieving a 2.18 percent CTR

#### How satisfied are you with the OC Fair Express Bus Service? \_\_\_\_\_ (1 = very dissatisfied and 5 = very satisfied)



Response	Count of Respondents	Percentage of Total		
5 (Very Satisfied)	6,757	90%		
4 (Satisfied)	439	6%		
3 (Neutral)	216	3%		
2 (Dissatisfied)	26	0.4%		
1 (Very Dissatisfied)	49	1%		
Grand Total	7,487	100%		

96% Satisfied/Very Satisfied with the service

#### **Campaign Tactics**

#### Kick Off Event



#### Bus Book Ad



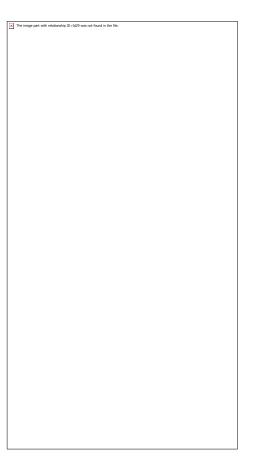
#### Direct Mail (9 city specific targeted versions)



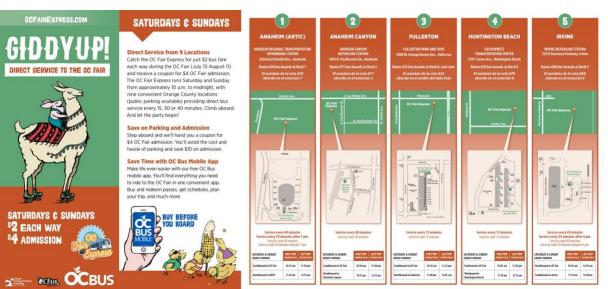
#### Print Ads



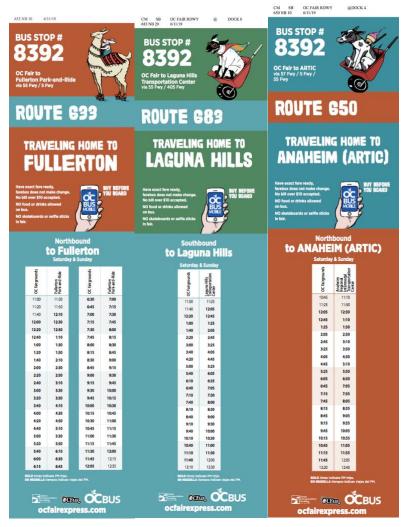




#### Brochure



#### **Bus Stop Signage**



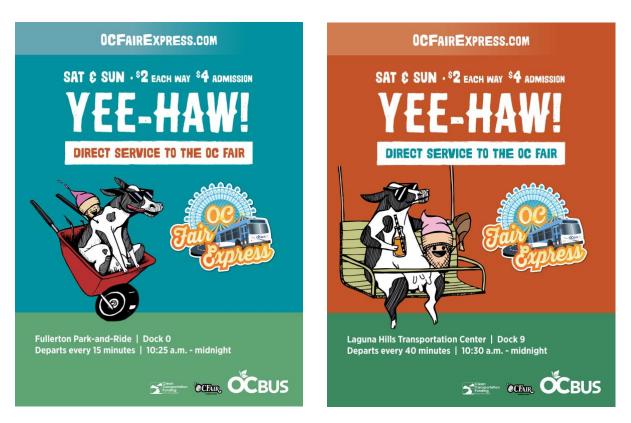
#### Bus Exterior Ads



#### **Bus Interior Ads**



OCFAIR S



Transit Center Signage (15 targeted displays at 8 bus and Metrolink station locations)

#### Metrolink Banners (all stations on IEOC & Orange lines)



Pole Banners (Targeted messages at 9 departing locations)





#### Facebook/Instagram (series of targeted ads around 9 locations)



Servicio Directo a la Feria de OC Sáb. Y Dom. | \$2 Cada Viaje | \$4 Para Entrar

🖒 Like Comment 🖒 Share

Learn More

#### Website and Blogs



Ride direct to the gate, Saturdays and Sundays! \$2 each way. \$4 OC Fair admission.



Anaheim Cany

IT'S TIME FOR THE 2019 OC FAIR! July 13 to August 11, 2019 This year, avoid traffic and parking heataches by taking OC Fair Express. First busics laws at 0 am and n n through midnings' Saturdays and Sar TWO WAYS TO PAY

OC Fair Express costs \$2 each way and includes a coupon for \$4 OC Fair A Purchase with the OC Bus Mobile App or when you board. Transfer free to the OC Fair Express with your valid Metrolink or Amtrak Pacific Surflim at the Anaheim Canyon, Anaheim ARTIC, Santa Ana, Irvine or Laguna Nguel/Mission Or ride OC Flex to the Goldenwest Transportation Center in Huntington Beach or Lagun Niguel-Mission Viejo Metholink Station and transfer free to the OC Fair Express with you valid OC Flex or OC Bus paper or mobile ticket.

Choose from 9 locations tClick on location to download ful Huntington Beach Irvine Laguna Hills

Orange Santa Ana



Buy Before you board e your pass on your phone!



CEARS

