

Introduction to the Orange Unified Transportation Board (OUTBoard)

On May 17, 2005, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) established a County transportation advisory board, at that time called the Orange County Unified Transportation Advisory Board (OCUTAB). OCUTAB, under continuing direction of the BOCC, was to advise the BOCC and provide information and comments on major transportation issues; and provide recommendations regarding the overall planning and programming of transportation improvements in the County. The advisory board was directed to:

- Identify and prioritize the County's roadway and transit needs along with associated costs and specific sources of funding;
- Assist in development and review of the transportation component of the Comprehensive Plan;
- Provide recommendations to the Board regarding Federal and State legislation affecting transportation in Orange County; and Explore and make recommendations on innovative techniques and methods to improve the efficiency and capacity of existing and future transportation systems.

On August 22, 2006, the advisory board was renamed to the Orange Unified Transportation Board (OUTBoard).

Board membership is comprised of fourteen (14) voting members representing demographic, geographic, cultural and professional characteristics:

- Seven (7) members, one from each township (Cedar Grove, Little River, Cheeks, Hillsborough, Eno, Bingham and Chapel Hill)
- Seven (7) members with expertise or specific interests in as many of the following areas as possible:
 - Bicycle transportation
 - Pedestrian access and safety
 - Public Transit
 - Environmental Issues
 - Economic Development
 - Planning
 - Public Health

From time to time the OUTBoard may be directed to provide input on regulations or other matters on which another County board has statutory and/or local ordinance advisory duties. In these instances, the OUTBoard serves in an advisory capacity to that board. Other County Boards and Commissions that deal with transportation issues includes:

- Orange County Planning Board
- The Economic Development Commission
- The Commission for the Environment
- The Aging Department

The advisory board is administered by the Planning Department with primary staff support provided by transportation staff with assistance from Orange County Public Transportation (OCPT) for issues pertaining to OCPT service.