



SUPERVISOR PAT BATES • FIFTH DISTRICT  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **OC Dana Point Harbor Receives \$100,000 OCTA Water Quality Grant**

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Board of Directors has approved \$100,000 in grant funding for OC Dana Point Harbor to purchase four new Marine Debris Skimmers in support of the Department's Water Quality Improvement Program.

An estimated \$2.8 million in Measure M2 funds was made available to Orange County cities and the County of Orange through OCTA's Measure M2 Environmental Cleanup Allocation Program (ECP), Tier 1 Grant Program 2011 Call for Projects. The Tier 1 Grant Program is designed to mitigate the more visible forms of pollutants, such as litter and debris that collects on the roadways and in the catch basins prior to being deposited in waterways and the ocean.

"OC Dana Point Harbor has been actively implementing new programs to improve Dana Point Harbor's water quality," said Supervisor Pat Bates who represents OC Dana Point Harbor and is also Chairman of OCTA. "I am proud our County can be recognized for being proactive on this important environmental and community issue," Supervisor Bates said.

Using a patented technology, the Marina Trash Skimmer is a stationary unit that is strategically placed at collection points within marinas and harbors. Designed around the principle of water displacement, the skimmer works 24 hours a day filtering and adding oxygen to the water while trapping trash and other debris inside. Its large collection area is enhanced with currents and shifting tides to attract, collect, and clean the water surface throughout a larger surrounding area. The skimmer not only collects floating trash but also removes the oil sheen from the water surface due to the placement of bilge pads within the Skimmer's collection area.

OC Dana Point Harbor will begin installation of four new Marina Trash Skimmers over the next several months. One skimmer will also be installed in Newport Harbor one in Huntington Harbor.

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