



## 2026 STATE ADVOCACY PROGRAM

The District will pursue policies and actions that support its mission “to deliver safe, reliable, sustainable transit service that responds to the needs of our customers and communities.”

### **DISTRICT SPONSORED LEGISLATION**

1. Sponsor legislation that extends indefinitely transit agencies’ existing authority to enforce parking violations in transit-only zones using automated, forward-facing camera technology.
2. Sponsor legislation that exempts transit operators from state sales taxes when purchasing zero emission buses.
3. Sponsor legislation ensuring public transit agencies with independently elected governing boards have a voting seat(s) on the Board of a Metropolitan Planning Organization.

### **2026 STATE ADVOCACY PRIORITIES**

#### ***Identify and secure long-term funding for...***

1. The delivery of safe, reliable, and affordable public transportation that is accessible to all
2. Workforce recruitment, training, development, retention, safety, and well-being
3. Transit and maintenance operations, paratransit program needs, priority capital projects, and ridership growth
4. Addressing the District’s projected operating deficits
5. Sustaining and growing state investments in transit infrastructure, buses, and amenities
6. Supplementary service to schools and student transit pass programs
7. Investments that protect and enhance the resiliency of the District’s physical, cybersecurity, operational, and human assets
8. Achieving compliance with the Innovative Clean Transportation (ICT) and other mandated regulations
9. Efforts that seek to coordinate, integrate, and streamline public transit in the region
10. Our priorities in the State’s Cap-and-Invest Program extension
11. Feeder service to BART

#### ***Advocate for transit-supportive laws, regulations, actions, and policies that...***

1. Provide the means needed to ensure the District’s financial sustainability
2. Support transportation workforce development, training, and safety
3. Respond to customer needs and grow transit ridership

4. Support innovative technology initiatives, partnerships, and investments that benefit public transit and grow ridership
5. Secure new and existing funding streams and which equitably allocate those funds to support the District's transportation infrastructure and services
6. Reduce or remove regulatory barriers to efficiently develop and deliver District projects and services
7. Avoid new, unfunded mandates and regulations
8. Advance transparent and accountable governance
9. Support the movement of buses and paratransit vehicles on local roads and state highways
10. Ensure safe, accessible transportation for all users while minimizing District risk and liability.
11. Promote public transit in local, regional, and state planning, project development, and land use decisions
12. Seek to coordinate, integrate, and streamline public transit while encouraging ridership
13. Support the District's clean propulsion technology bus and paratransit service
14. Improve street safety to reduce traffic-related incidents/accidents
15. Update and modify the State Transportation Development Act (TDA) & State Transit Assistance (STA) Program formulas
16. Amend the Innovative Clean Transit regulation's *Zero Emission Bus Purchase Schedule* to reflect reasonable timelines based on funding availability and manufacturer constraints

**KEY DATES: 2026 STATE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR***All dates approximate pending release of the 2026 legislative calendar*

01/01/2026	Statutes take effect
01/05/2026	Legislature reconvenes
01/10/2026	Governor's proposed 2026-27 budget is submitted to Legislature
01/16/2026	Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house last year
01/19/2026	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
01/23/2026	Last day to submit bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel
01/31/2026	All bills introduced in 2025 must be moved out of their house of origin
02/16/2026	President's Day
02/20/2026	Last day for bills to be introduced
03/26/2026	Spring Recess begins upon adjournment
03/30/2026	Cesar Chavez Day Observed
04/06/2026	Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess
04/24/2026	Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house
05/01/2026	Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the Floor nonfiscal bills introduced in their house
05/08/2026	Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 1
05/15/2026	Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills and meet before June 1
Mid-May	Governor releases revised budget
05/25/2026	Memorial Day
05/26/2026 – 05/29/2026	Floor session only
05/29/2026	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house
06/15/2026	2026-27 budget must be passed by Legislature
06/25/2026	Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the General Election ballot
07/02/2026 – 08/03/2026	Summer Recess
07/03/2026	Independence Day Observed
08/31/2026	Last day for each house to pass bills. Interim recess begins upon adjournment.
09/30/2026	Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills
11/03/2026	General Election