



2020 State Advocacy Program

**ITEM**

**Funding**

- Support innovative funding solutions that stabilize and or generate new revenues for transportation projects that includes funding for transit capital, operations and facilities.
- Support efforts that increase the formula allocation of cap & trade auction revenue to public transit operations and capital investments, and the development of an expenditure plan for cap and trade revenue that provides an equitable investment in mass transit and infill/transit oriented development (TOD).
- Support legislation and programs that would provide funding to offset the costs of climate change initiatives, such as the Innovative Clean Transit regulation and any zero emission vehicles and infrastructure.
- Support efforts for new, sustainable funding for existing transit funding programs, including the State Transit Assistance (STA) program, Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP) and Affordable Housing Sustainable Communities (AHSC) to offset the decline in available revenue.
- Support efforts that modernize the administration and maintain the consistent allocation of Transportation Development Account (TDA) funds.
- Support efforts that would exempt public transit providers from state sales tax.
- Support local ability to increase fees and gas taxes to be used for local mass transit purposes.
- Support congestion pricing strategies and legislation that provide an equitable multi-modal distribution of generated revenues.
- Support legislative or administrative action to remove state barriers so that Medicaid transportation funds can be used for public transit services, including ADA paratransit services.

- Support funding and coordination between the California Health and Human Services (CHHS) agency, Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB), and transportation agencies to provide services to clients.
- Support additional funding for essential services including, but not limited to, services for access to work, school or medical facilities.
- Support policy initiatives that relieve the undue burden of mandatory regulations by requiring all mandates be fully funded to protect the fiscal integrity of the District.
- Support efforts to ensure public transit receives a fair share of any new tax revenue, such as online sales tax revenues and vehicle miles traveled tax revenues.
- Support efforts at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and state legislature for discounted rates of electricity for zero emission vehicles.
- Support efforts that increase production and the number of stations for hydrogen fuel.
- Support funding for operation and maintenance of the Salesforce Transit Center.
- Seek funding for school transportation operations and student transit pass programs, particularly in light of the passage of SB 328
- Support regional transportation funding efforts that provide an equitable allocation of revenue and reflects the capital and operational funding priorities of the District.
- Seek funding to support the deployment and deployment of emergency preparedness and cybersecurity strategies for protecting transit related critical infrastructure

#### **Equipment and Operations**

- Support legislation or administrative action that directs Caltrans to establish and maintain HOV and Managed lanes on state highway routes and improve existing lane management to maximize person throughput.
- Support incentives to provide bus only lanes on bridges and transit priority access to State owned bridges.
- Support legislation or administrative action to provide bus only lanes on major transit corridors.
- Support legislation to exempt public transit and paratransit vehicles from state and local truck route ordinances.
- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to permit permanent use of freeway shoulders by public transit buses and paratransit vehicles.

- Support increased resources for security and safety of buses, operators, employees, riders and facilities.
- Support funding for zero emission vehicle workforce training programs.
- Support funding to develop and deploy new transit data management platforms.
- Support funding to deploy new video security technologies including video analytics and collision avoidance systems.
- Support efforts that increase the limit of facility repairs to \$100,000 or more under public contract code 20211(c).
- Support efforts that eliminate a requirement established by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to replace hybrid Medium-Heavy Duty Diesel Engines (MHDDE) every 8 years or 185,000 miles.

#### **Transit Incentives**

- Support legislation to provide incentives for employees and employers to use public transportation to commute to work, including tax credits for purchasing transit passes.
- Support clean air initiatives that encourage increased public transit use.
- Support legislation to provide incentives for local governments and developers to incorporate transit passes into the cost of commercial and residential projects.
- Support legislation to provide funding to subsidize the deployment of means-based and/or fare integration programs

#### **Environment and Transit Supportive Land Use**

- Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that addresses climate change, healthy communities and environments.
- Foster transit supportive land use initiatives that require coordination with transit providers in the initial stages of local planning or project development that impacts transit, including density level decisions; and advocate for the required use of:
  - Transit elements in “complete streets” plans to support all transportation modes
- Monitor changes to the California Environmental Protection Agency’s (Cal/EPA) screening process to better account for the disadvantaged communities of the East Bay.

#### **Other Transportation Related Advocacy**

- Support efforts to reduce the 2/3 approval threshold for local transportation tax initiatives.

- Support legislation to allow the District to ban persons for specified offenses relating to aggressive, threatening or criminal behavior against district property, assets or personnel and from entering District property, including buses.
- Support efforts that levy fees or taxes on transportation network companies (TNCs) to fund local public transportation.
- Monitor legislation or regulations related to emerging mobility services, autonomous vehicles, connected vehicles and shared data that can be used for transportation and operational purposes.
- Support legislation that requires shared mobility providers to provide anonymous trip-level data to transit providers which can be used for transportation planning and operational purposes
- Support funding that invests in apprenticeship, workforce development and workforce training programs.
- Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's statutes to include direct representation of transit properties on its governing board.
- Monitor efforts that study or implement a Mileage Road User Fee Program.
- Monitor efforts that study congestion pricing programs
- Support legislation that requires jurisdictions to install Transit Signal Priority equipment in order to receive money for traffic signal upgrades.
- Support efforts to authorize AC Transit to enforce parking in bus stops through the use of forward-facing cameras.

**Administrative and Non-Transportation Related Advocacy**

- Seek to harmonize treatment of independent public agency retirement systems with large systems (e.g. CalPERS, CalSTRS).
- Support efforts that maintain existing Workers' Compensation regulation.
- Consider efforts to reform tort general damages for all public agencies.
- Monitor actions regarding California's Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA).
- Monitor administrative and regulatory compliance legislation that potentially impacts the District.

- Support legislation that eliminates liability for common carriers.
- Monitor progress of the 2020 Census and support actions that ensure an accurate count.