



2025 FEDERAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM

CORE PRINCIPLES

1. 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.”
2. Our advocacy efforts will be further guided by the core values of *Safety, Service, Environmental Sustainability, Equity, Innovation, Integrity, and Trust* enshrined in the District’s Strategic Plan

2025 FEDERAL ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

Identify and secure long-term funding for...

1. Maintenance and transit operations, priority capital projects, and ridership recovery
2. Our priorities in the Surface Transportation Reauthorization Act, including but not limited to, ensuring the funding levels for transit capital programs, including the Low and No Emission grant program, are continued or increased in the next authorization
3. Transit operations
4. Workforce recruitment, training, development, retention, safety, wellness, and well-being
5. The delivery of reliable, equitable, accessible, and affordable public transportation
6. Addressing the District’s projected, post-pandemic and inflation induced operating deficits
7. Sustaining and growing federal investments in bus and transit infrastructure
8. Investments that protect and enhance the resiliency of the District’s physical, cybersecurity, operational, and human assets
9. Comprehensive sustainability initiatives, including but not limited to zero emission bus and paratransit program needs
10. Achieving compliance with federally mandated regulations

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

1. Provide the means needed to ensure the District’s fiscal integrity
2. Respond to customer needs and result in increased transit ridership
3. Support innovative technology initiatives, partnerships, and investments that benefit public transit and increase ridership
4. Support efforts to grow and stabilize the Highway Trust Fund and preserve, at a minimum, the 20 percent allocation to the Mass Transit Account
5. Reduce regulatory barriers to efficiently develop and deliver District projects and services

6. Require direct and equal representation of transit properties on Metropolitan Planning Organizations
7. Support the provision of zero emission bus and paratransit vehicle service and programming
8. Avoid new, unfunded mandates and regulations
9. Promote equitable access to transportation and prioritize underserved and disadvantaged communities
10. Support transportation workforce development, training and safety

TIMELINE: 2025 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

All dates approximate pending release of the 2025 legislative calendar.

01/03/2025	Congress Reconvenes
01/20/2025 – 01/24/25	Congressional Recess: Martin Luther King Day Holiday
02/03/25	President's FY 2025 budget request sent to Congress (could slip)
02/17/25 – 02/21/25	Congressional Recess: President's Day Holiday
March 2025	Congress begins FY 2025 Appropriations hearings
04/14/25 – 04/28/25	Congressional Recess: Spring Holiday
05/26/25 – 05/30/25	Congressional Recess: Memorial Day Holiday
06/30/25 – 07/04/25	Congressional Recess: Fourth of July Holiday
08/01/25 – 09/02/25	Congressional Summer Recess
September 2025	Congress finalizes FY 2026 Appropriations or passes a Continuing Resolution to fund the government beyond September 30
November 24 – 28, 2025	Congressional Recess: Thanksgiving Recess
November – December 2025	Congress works until FY 2026 Appropriations are complete
December 19, 2025	Target end date of First Congressional Session