

# Federal Update

## Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

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# Overview

- How crazy is Washington, DC?
- Update on budget and appropriations
- Transportation reauthorization
  - Timeline
  - Key players
  - AC Transit priorities
- 2026 legislative timeline
  - Mid-term elections
- Questions

# What's Happening in Washington, DC?

- White House
  - Executive Orders
    - Ending Diversity, Equity & Inclusion programs
    - Ending programs to address climate change
  - Immigration/DHS funding
- Congress
  - Mid-Term elections
  - FY 2026 appropriations
  - Transportation authorization
- DOT/FTA
  - Staff reductions
  - Previous grant award reviews

# Budget and Appropriations

- **FY 2026 Transportation Appropriations**
  - Last year for IIJA funding
  - Full funding for FTA formula programs - \$14.6 million
    - This includes bus formula programs
    - Capital Investment Grant Program reduced by \$500 million to \$3.3 billion
  - AC Transit earmark requests were not funded
    - Districtwide Security Enhancements Project
    - Training/Education Center Modernization Project
  - \$100 million for transit at World Cup game sites
    - \$8.5 million to support six games at Levi Stadium
  - Another federal shutdown would not affect FTA

# Transportation Reauthorization

- Sets multi-year policy directives for surface transportation program
- Current 5-year law expires on Sept. 30, 2026
- Key Players:
  - House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
    - Committed to bipartisan bill
  - Senate Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committee
  - Trump Administration
    - Poison pill proposals
      - Take transit out of the Highway Trust Fund
  - APTA/The Bus Coalition

# AC Transit Priorities - Reauthorization

- Maintain/increase funding for transit capital programs
  - Buses and Bus Facilities Program and Urbanized Area Formula Grants
- Secure federal funding
  - Safe reliable, equitable, accessible, and affordable public transportation is accessible to all
  - Workforce recruitment, training and development
  - Addressing projected operating deficits
- Ensure public transit agencies with independently elected governing boards have a voting seat(s) on the Board of a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

# Legislative Timeline for 2026

- **January-March**
  - January: Congress finishes FY 2026 appropriations
  - February: AC Transit FY 2027 earmark requests
  - March: President's proposed FY 2027 budget submitted
- **April-June**
  - April 12-14 – APTA legislative conference
    - Meet with East Bay delegation policymakers
  - FY 2027 appropriations committee hearings/markups
  - Committee votes on next transportation authorization
- **July-December**
  - House and Senate votes on transportation bill
  - November: Mid-term elections

# Questions