

Alameda Contra Transit District 1600 Franklin Street Oakland, CA 94612 Attn: Board of Directors

May 27, 2025

## RE: Attendance at the APTA 2025 Legislative Conference

Dear Members of the Board:

I attended the American Public Transit Association's ("APTA") 2025 Legislative Conference (the "Conference"). Pursuant to Board Policy No. 155, below is a written summary of the activities and/or information learned at the Conference. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me.

## Overview

The American Public Transit Legislative Conference, held in May 2025, brought together policymakers, transit industry leaders, and advocates to discuss the future of public transportation funding and policy in the United States. The conference focused on legislative priorities, infrastructure investment, and challenges facing the transit sector.

## • Key Discussions

- o Funding Challenges & Legislative Advocacy
  - Senator Elizabeth Warren emphasized the need to maintain at least 20% of Highway Trust Fund revenue for public transit.
  - Representative Rick Larsen highlighted efforts to secure transit funding in upcoming surface transportation legislation.
  - The House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee proposed new revenue sources, including electric vehicle and hybrid fees, to stabilize the Highway Trust Fund.
- Federal Infrastructure Grants & Policy Shifts
  - The transition from the Biden administration to the Trump administration has altered the approach to federal transit funding. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy stressed the importance of improving transit safety and cleanliness, urging

transit agencies to address concerns about crime and homelessness on public transportation. The Trump administration continues its dispute with New York City over congestion pricing, threatening to withhold federal highway funds if the policy remains in place.

- Future of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
  - The BIL, which provided significant funding for transit projects, is set to expire in September 2026, raising concerns about future reauthorization. Discussions centered on how transit agencies can adapt to potential funding reductions and advocate for continued investment.

## Conclusion

The conference underscored the critical need for stable transit funding, the impact of federal policy shifts, and the importance of legislative advocacy in shaping the future of public transportation. As the expiration of key infrastructure funding approaches, transit leaders must navigate political challenges to secure sustainable investment.