



## 2022 STATE ADVOCACY PROGRAM

### **PROPOSED DISTRICT SPONSORED LEGISLATION**

1. Seek permanent extension of AB 784 (Mullin) which exempts, until January 1, 2024, sales and use taxes on zero-emission technology transit buses sold to public agencies.
2. Seek streamlined and assured process for California transit agencies to receive reimbursement for non-medical transportation.

### **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 our commitment to:
  - promoting accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion;
  - combating racism and promoting environmental justice; and
  - fostering healthy communities and environments.
3. Funding for transit is central to achieving our goals. The District will vigorously pursue efforts to secure the funding needed to provide transit service now and into the future.
4. Technology, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic have and will continue to transform mobility. The District will pursue policies, actions, and partnerships to sustain and enhance our essential service in this rapidly evolving environment.

### **FUNDING**

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

1. Ongoing COVID-19 pandemic-related expenses.
2. The components needed to implement AB 917, which allows California transit agencies to use cameras mounted on transit vehicles to discourage illegal parking in transit only zones.
3. Full implementation of the District’s zero emission bus (ZEB) rollout plan.
4. The creation of an advanced workforce training facility and program to provide zero-emission technological skills for transit workers.
5. Apprenticeship, workforce development and workforce training programs.
6. Ongoing operations and maintenance of District facilities and key programs.
7. All hazards strategies that protect and make more resilient the District’s physical and cyber infrastructure and its human resources.
8. School transportation operations and student transit pass programs.
9. Initiatives that enhance fare payment options and support broad-based access to public transit, including reduced or fare free service.
10. Innovative technology initiatives, partnerships, and investments that support public transit.

## **TRANSPORTATION RELATED ADVOCACY**

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

1. Exempt public transit providers from state sales tax.
2. Establish bus only lanes on major transit corridors and create bus only lanes on state-owned bridges.
3. Exempt public transit and paratransit vehicles from state and local truck route ordinances.
4. Allow permanent use of freeway shoulders by public transit buses and paratransit vehicles.
5. Promote direct input from Bay Area operators in any proposals to streamline public transit operations throughout the region.
6. Permit direct representation of transit properties on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) governing board.
7. Require any mandatory regulations be fully funded.
8. Reduce the 2/3 approval threshold for local transportation tax initiatives.
9. Support the ability of local jurisdictions to increase fees and gas taxes to support local mass transit.
10. Streamline or eliminate outdated, irrelevant, or onerous regulatory requirements that impede the District's ability to conduct its operations and/or deliver transportation services.
11. Permit conversion of capital funds to support operating purposes.
12. Facilitate the District's transition to 100 percent zero emission by 2040.
13. Provide incentives for employees and employers to use public transportation to commute to work.
14. Facilitate new mobility collaborations, "smart cities" initiatives, first/last mile solutions, and data sharing agreements that reduce reliance on vehicles and promote increased public transit ridership.
15. Levy fees or taxes on new mobility providers to help fund local public transportation.
16. Establish mileage-based road user fees and congestion pricing programs that generate revenues for public transit.
17. Provide funding and improve coordination between state health agencies and transit operators to provide services to clients, including the accessible community.
18. Allow the District to ban persons from entering District property, including buses, for committing specified offenses relating to aggressive, threatening or criminal behavior against District property, assets or personnel, including biohazard assault (e.g., spitting).
19. Improve enforcement of speeding and dedicated lane violations on state and local roads (e.g., high-occupancy vehicle and managed / express lanes) while reducing racial disparities.
20. Prioritize public transit in local planning and/or project development.

## **COVID-19 PANDEMIC RELATED PRIORITIES**

### ***Pursue laws, regulations, actions, and policies that would...***

1. Achieve and/or preserve zero cost rent for public transit operators using state-owned facilities to realize cost savings related to the pandemic.
2. Allow the District to rent, at market rate, state-owned facilities like the Salesforce Transit Center's bus storage facility, and to ensure that these rents are directed to the District.
3. Designate public transit employees as essential workers and prioritize resources to them, including hazard duty/ premium pay.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND NON-TRANSPORTATION RELATED ADVOCACY**

1. Seek to harmonize treatment of independent public agency retirement systems with large systems (e.g., CalPERS, CalSTRS).
2. Support efforts that maintain existing workers' compensation regulation.
3. Consider efforts to reform tort general damages for all public agencies.
4. Monitor actions regarding California's Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA).
5. Monitor administrative and regulatory compliance legislation that potentially impacts the District.
6. Support legislation that eliminates liability for common carriers.

### **KEY DATES: 2022 STATE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

*All dates approximate pending adoption of the 2022 legislative calendar.*

01/03/2022	State legislature reconvenes
01/10/2022	Governor's proposed 2022-23 budget is released
01/21/2022	Last day to submit new bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel
02/18/2022	Deadline for introduction of new bills
04/08/2022 – 04/17/2022	Spring Recess
05/14/2022	Governor's May revision of the budget is released.
05/27/2022	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house
06/15/2022	2022-23 Budget Bill must be passed by legislature
06/30/2022	Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 8 General Election ballot
07/01/2022	Summer Recess begins, provided Budget Bill has been passed
08/01/2022	Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess
08/31/2022	Legislative session ends at midnight
08/31/2022	Deadline for bills to pass the legislature
09/30/2022	Last day for governor to sign bills
11/08/2022	General Election