



## **DRAFT 2024 STATE ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

### **PROPOSED DISTRICT SPONSORED LEGISLATION**

None proposed for 2024 due to high-priority state funding advocacy

### **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.

### **2024 STATE ADVOCACY PRIORITIES**

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

1. Maintenance and operations, priority capital projects, and ridership recovery
2. The delivery of reliable, equitable, accessible, and affordable public transportation
3. Addressing the District’s projected, pandemic-induced operating deficits
4. School transportation operations and student transit pass programs
5. Sustaining and growing state investments in transit infrastructure
6. Maintaining a state of good repair
7. Investments that protect and enhance the resiliency of the District’s physical, cybersecurity, operational, and human assets
8. Comprehensive sustainability initiatives, including but not limited to zero emission bus and paratransit program needs
9. Workforce recruitment, training, development, retention, safety, wellness, and well-being
10. Achieving compliance with the *Innovative Clean Transportation (ICT)* regulation and other state mandated regulations
11. Efforts that seek to coordinate, integrate, and streamline public transit in the region

#### ***Advocate for transit-supportive laws, regulations, actions, and policies 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. Create new funding streams to support transportation infrastructure and services
4. Support innovative technology initiatives, partnerships, and investments that benefit public transit and increase ridership

5. Reduce regulatory barriers to efficiently develop and deliver District projects and services
6. Promote the District's responsible governance and effective administration
7. Prioritize the movement of buses and paratransit vehicles on local roads and state highways
8. Encourage the use of public transportation and disincentivize the use of personal vehicles
9. Prioritize public transit in local planning, project development, and land use
10. Seek to coordinate, integrate, and streamline public transit while encouraging ridership
11. Require direct representation of transit districts on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's (MTC) governing board
12. Support the provision of zero emission bus and paratransit vehicle service

### **KEY DATES: 2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

*All dates approximate pending release of the 2024 legislative calendar in December.*

01/03/2024	State legislature reconvenes
01/10/2024	Governor's proposed 2024-25 budget is released
01/12/2024	Last day for policy committees to meet and move bills introduced in 2023 to fiscal committee
01/19/2024	Last day to submit new bill requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel
01/31/2024	House of Origin deadline for bills introduced in 2023
02/16/2024	Deadline for introduction of new bills
03/21/2024 – 04/01/2024	Spring Recess
05/15/2024	Governor's May revision of the budget is released.
06/15/2024	2024-25 budget must be passed by legislature
07/03/2024 – 08/05/2024	Summer Recess
08/31/2024	Last day for each house to pass bills. Final recess begins upon adjournment.
09/30/2024	Last day for governor to sign or veto bills
11/05/2024	General Election