

2019 Federal Advocacy Program

Item	Staff Recommendation
Funding	recommendation
 Grant Opportunities – Secure federal funds for key capital projects and support funding for project priorities for: Rehabilitation, expansion, and replacement of aging 	Keep and revise
buses, facilities, and equipment and maintain in a state	
of good repair;	
 The Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program, 	
Transportation Investment Generating Economic	
Recovery (TIGER) Better Utilizing Investments to	
Leverage Development (BUILD) program, and other→	Keep and revise
programs;	
	Repetitive;
 Security cameras and wireless access technologies for 	equipment above
buses and facilities; and	D (1)
	Repetitive; ZEB point below
 Integration of new mobility tools like demand- 	
responsive bus services	Add for FLEX
Advocate for supplemental funding through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to offset rising operating costs without jeopardizing total funding available for capital projects.	
Support operations funding for the Transbay Terminal.	
Support/seek additional funding for essential services including, but not limited to services for access to work, school or medical facilities.	
Support efforts to rescind the planned across-the-board cuts to all federal programs called "Sequestration" as enacted under the Budget Control Act of 2011.	

•	Support federal funds to purchase and refurbish zero emission buses (ZEBs) and related infrastructure.	
•	Support policy initiatives that relieve the undue burden of mandatory regulations by requiring all mandates be sufficiently funded to protect the fiscal integrity of the District, including Safety Management Systems (SMS), Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan (PTASP), State of Good Repair, asset management plans, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).	Keep and revise
•	Support federal funds to deploy 5G wireless technologies for buses and facilities.	
Tr	ansportation Authorization Principles	
•	Advocate for the inclusion of transit buses by Congress and the Administration in any initiative to enhance funding or financing opportunities for transportation infrastructure.	
•	Ensure that private sector alternative financing proposals do not replace current funding for transit from the Highway Trust Fund.	Keep and revise
•	Preserve continued guaranteed funding for transit from the Highway Trust Fund/Mass Transit Account, and oppose any efforts to break the 80/20 split for highways and transit.	
•	Support funding solutions that generate new revenues that include increasing the gas tax, carbon tax, and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) tax to replenish and sustain long-term growth of the Highway Trust Fund/Mass Transit Account.	Keep and revise
•	Support FTA and Congressional efforts to make State of Good Repair for transit bus systems a strategic priority and include more funding.	
•	Support continued and increased funding for Small Starts programs and broad funding eligibility in federal transit programs.	Repetitive; Covered under CIG in 1 st point
•	Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) grandfather clause that Supports legislation for the direct representation of transit properties districts on Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs).	Keep and revise

Support legislation through the federal highway and transportation authorization for safety requirements based on	
agency size and transportation mode.	
Support efforts to require local labor workforce minimums for construction projects funded by grants from the FTA.	
Other Transportation Related Advocacy	Keep and revise
Support funding and coordination between federal health Health and Human Service (HHS) agencies and other transportation agencies to provide services to HHS-clients and support the Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility (CCAM) to coordinate these efforts throughout the federal government.	Keep and revise
Preserve modal parity by maintaining the commute tax benefits in legislation to reform tax rates for individuals and employers and maintain and reinstate the ability of employers to deduct the cost of this benefit.	Tax reform passed
Advocate for maintaining the tax exemption on municipal bonds in legislation to reform tax rates.	Tax reform passed
Restore tax exemption for advance refunding bonds.	Add
Advocate for funding of infrastructure improvements covered by the ADA.	
Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that mitigates climate change and/or calls for environmental stewardship and related funding.	
Explore options to expand the Support efforts that increase the FTA's 20% spare ratio requirement.	Keep and revise
Monitor legislation or regulations related to emerging mobility services and shared data that can be used for transportation and operational purposes.	Keep and revise
Oppose efforts that undermine the authority of states and localities to enact their own regulations related to autonomous vehicles (AVs).	Add AVs
Support funding that invests in apprenticeship and workforce training programs.	Add workforce development

Support efforts to develop and deploy new transit data management platforms including capabilities like GIS, machine learning and data analytics for safety and efficiency.	
Support efforts to deploy new video security technologies including video analytics and collision avoidance system.	
Support efforts to collaborate with technology startups in developing innovative transit hardware and software solutions develop technology incubators and innovation centers for modernizing and bringing the legacy transit application to State of Good Repair.	Keep and revise
Administrative and Non-Transportation Related Advocacy	New category
Monitor actions that decrease funding for sanctuary cities and state or California.	Move and revise
Monitor actions regarding California's Public Employees' Pension Reform Act-any efforts to eliminate 13(c) requirements, and/or the Department of Labor's position with respect to applicability of 13(c) to pension reform law (PEPRA).	Move and revise
Support legislation that encourages Single Payer health insurance.	Move
Monitor progress of the 2020 Census and support actions that ensure an accurate count.	Add census