



## 2018 Federal Advocacy Program

### **Funding**

- Grant Opportunities – Secure federal funds for key capital projects and support funding for project priorities for:
  - Rehabilitation, expansion, and replacement of aging buses, facilities, and equipment and maintain in a state of good repair;
  - The Capital Investment Grants (CIG) program, Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program, and other programs;
  - Bus lifting equipment program;
  - Security cameras and wireless access technologies for buses and facilities;
  - Zero Emission Bus Programs.
- 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 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) and State of Good Repair, assessment management plans, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Support federal funds to deploy 5G wireless technologies for buses and facilities.

### **Transportation 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 financing proposals do not replace current funding for transit from the Highway Trust Fund.

- 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 to replenish and sustain long-term growth of the Highway Trust Fund/Mass Transit Account.
- 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.
- Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) grandfather clause that supports the direct representation of transit properties on MPOs.
- 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 Advocacy**

- Support funding and coordination between 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.
- Preserve modal parity by maintaining the commute tax benefits in legislation to reform tax rates for individuals and employers and maintain the ability of employers to deduct the cost of this benefit.
- Advocate for maintaining the tax exemption on municipal bonds in legislation to reform tax rates.
- Support legislation that encourages Single Payer health insurance.
- Advocate for funding of infrastructure improvements covered by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Monitor actions regarding any efforts to eliminate 13C requirements, and/or the Department of Labor's position with respect to applicability of 13C to pension reform law (PEPRA).

- Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that mitigates climate change and/or calls for environmental stewardship and related funding.
- Explore options to expand the FTA's 20% spare ratio requirement.
- Monitor legislation or regulations related to emerging mobility services.
- Support efforts to develop and deploy new transit data management platforms including the 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 develop technology incubators and innovation centers for modernizing and bringing the legacy Transit application to State of Good Repair.
- Monitor actions that decrease funding for sanctuary cities and state.