

**AC TRANSIT DISTRICT**  
**Board of Directors**  
Executive Summary

**GM Memo No. 09-232a**

Meeting Date: October 14, 2009

**Committees:**

Planning Committee   
External Affairs Committee   
Rider Complaint Committee   
Board of Directors

Finance and Audit Committee   
Operations Committee   
Paratransit Committee   
Financing Corporation

**SUBJECT:** Consider Recommending Approval of the District's Federal Advocacy Program for 2010

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Information Only     Briefing Item     Recommended Motion

**Recommend to the Board of Directors the Adoption of a Federal Advocacy Program for 2010**

**Fiscal Impact:** Not applicable

**Background/Discussion:**

Each year the AC Transit Board of Directors adopts an advocacy program to provide guidance for the District's activities in Washington, D.C. to influence transit legislation, appropriations, and administrative matters. The attached program for 2009-10 addresses on-going efforts as well as emerging issues for the coming year.

**Prior Relevant Board Actions/Policies:**

Annual adoption of federal and state advocacy programs

**Attachments:**

Attachment A - AC Transit 2010 Federal Advocacy Program

**Approved by:**        **Rick Fernandez, General Manager**  
                             **Jim Gleich, Deputy General Manager**  
                             **Kate Miller, Manager, Capital Development, Legislation, and Grants**  
**Prepared by:**        **Kiran Bawa, Senior Capital Planning and Legislative Analyst**  
**Date Prepared:**      **September 28, 2009**



2009-10 Federal Advocacy Program

FY 2009-10 Appropriations

- Seek up to \$75 million for BRT Improvements within the Small Starts Program and support funding for 2009-10 and/or Project Priorities for:
  - Operations and maintenance of the East Bay Smart Corridors program.
  - Bus lifting equipment program.
  - Hydrogen/fuel cell and other alternative fuel programs.
  - Transit security through the Homeland Security funding program.
- Support funding for the Transbay Terminal.
- Support funding for the I-80 Corridor Mobility Project.
- Support/seek additional funding to support Welfare to Work service and monitor the efficacy of the Job Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) formula program.
- Support efforts to increase the gas tax or to increase other revenues to replenish the Highway Trust Fund/Mass Transit Account.
- Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that mitigates Global Warming and/or calls for comprehensive environmental stewardship and related funding.
- Advocate for supplemental funding through the Federal Transit Administration 5307 formula program and other programs to offset rising costs.
- Support legislation that would require Health and Human Service (HHS) agencies to work with transportation funding agencies to coordinate transportation services and to provide funding to public transit operators for transportation services to HHS clients.
- Support flexibility in capital funding **programs to use capital funds for operating costs without jeopardizing total funding available for capital projects.**

### SAFETEA-LU Reauthorization

- Participate in advocacy programs.
- Participate in forums engaged in the renewal of the transportation authorization legislation.
- Support transportation reauthorization reform that emphasizes greater funding levels to urban bus programs.
- Support legislation that reestablishes JARC as a discretionary program.
- Support consolidation of smaller formula programs and concentrate the funding in urban areas.
- Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) grandfather clause that inhibits the direct representation of transit properties on local transportation policy boards.
- Support funding for Reauthorization Project Priorities for:
  - Bus Rapid Transit service along Grand MacArthur Corridor.
  - Upgrade of Intelligent Transportation Systems to improve operating efficiency and information to riders.
  - Improved energy efficiency and environmental emission systems at District facilities.

### Other Concerns

- Support Universal Health Care Program legislation.