



## 2008-09 State Advocacy Program

### **Funding**

- Support legislation that creates new sources for transit operating funds with equitable distribution to urban centers from sources including development fees, payroll taxes and expanding sales tax to include professional services.
- Support efforts to preserve Public Transportation Account funds exclusively for transit.
- Support legislation that would allow debt financing of State funded projects or other finance mechanisms that would accelerate project funding and delivery.
- Support legislation and programs that would provide funding for clean air and global warming initiatives.
- Support local ability to increase fees and gas taxes to be used for local mass transit purposes.
- Support additional funding for AC Transit's fuel cell development program.
- Seek funding for Bus Rapid Transit.
- Support legislation that would increase AB 664 revenues to ensure adequate matching funds for eligible federally-funded transit projects.
- Support price congestion strategies and legislation that encourage an equitable multi-modal distribution of generated revenues.
- Support legislation that would exempt public transit providers from state sales tax.
- Support legislation to provide funding for AC Transit to enhance home-to-work transportation services for CalWORKS recipients.
- Support legislation to provide bus passes for low-income students within AC Transit's service area.

- Support efforts by community colleges to obtain authorization for students to pay for transit via student fees.
- Support legislation that would equitably distribute existing home-to-school transportation funds.
- Support legislation or administration action to remove State barriers to the use of Medicaid transportation funds for public transit services, including ADA paratransit services.
- 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.
- Seek funding for a common pass program that would provide transit user's access to both AC Transit and BART for one cost.
- Support funding for transit security through the Homeland Security funding program.

### **Equipment and Operations**

- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to establish and maintain HOV lanes on state highway routes.
- Support legislation to clarify existing law exempting public transit vehicles from local truck route ordinances.
- Support legislation to give transit agencies the authority to enforce ordinances that they adopt.
- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to permit permanent use of freeway shoulders by public transit buses.

### **Transit Incentives**

- Support legislation to provide incentives for employees and employers to use public transportation to commute to work, including tax credits for purchasing transit passes.
- Support Clean Air Initiatives that encourage increased public transit use.

- Support incentives that would give auto insurance credits to heavy transit users.

### **Environment and Transit Supportive Land Use**

- Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that mitigates Global Warming and/or calls for comprehensive environmental stewardship and related funding.
- Foster transit supportive land use initiatives that would allow transit providers to be included in the initial stages of local planning or project development that impacts transit, including density level decisions or transit oriented developments (TODs); and advocate for the required use of:
  - Transit streets agreements
  - Complete Streets plans in which local transportation plans anticipate use of all modes
- Support legislation that addresses climate change.
- Support legislation that promotes development and funding for alternative fuels.

### **Policy Interests**

- Support budget reform to require passage by majority vote.
- Seek direct representation on local transportation policy boards.
- Support lowering the 2/3 supermajority vote for local transportation taxes
- Support Universal Health Program Legislation.
- Redefine agency as Rapid Transit District.
- Align the State's California Family Rights Act that with the Federal Family Medical Leave legislation to avoid conflicting requirements and non-concurrence issues.