



2017 Federal Advocacy Program

Funding

- FY 2017 Grant Opportunities - Secure federal funds for key capital projects and support funding for 2017 Project Priorities for:
 - Rehabilitation, expansion, and replacement of aging bus, bus facilities, and equipment and maintain in a state of good repair
 - Within the Small Starts 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 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 and assessment management plans.

Transportation Authorization Principles

- Advocate for the inclusion of transit buses by Congress and the incoming 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 to 80/20 split for highways and transit.

- Support efforts to increase the gas tax or other revenues 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 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.
- Preserve modal parity by maintaining the commute tax benefits in legislation to reform corporate tax rates.
- Advocate for maintaining the tax exemption on municipal bonds in legislation to reform corporate 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 actions that decrease funding for sanctuary cities.