



2017 State Advocacy Program

Funding

- Support efforts to implement future transportation authorizations that at least maintain funding level for mass transit projects and programs for bus operators in the Bay Area.
- Support efforts that increase the formula allocation of cap & trade auction revenue to public transit operations and capital investments, and the development of an expenditure plan for cap and trade revenue that provides an equitable investment in mass transit and infill/transit oriented development (TOD).
- Support the development of a regional toll measure expenditure plan and the enactment of legislation that provides for the equitable distribution of toll revenue for public transit operations and capital improvements within AC Transit's toll bridge corridors.
- Actively participate in the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Advanced Clean Transit regulatory process.
- Support legislation and programs that would provide funding to offset the costs of climate change initiatives, such as pending Advanced Clean Transit regulations and any zero emission vehicles.
- Support efforts that create new sources of operating funds with equitable distribution to reflect urban transit needs.
- Support efforts for new, sustainable funding for existing transit revenues, including the State Transit Assistance (STA) program to offset the decline in available revenue.
- Support efforts that would exempt public transit providers from state sales tax.
- Support local ability to increase fees and gas taxes to be used for local mass transit purposes.
- Support congestion pricing strategies and legislation that provide an equitable multi-modal distribution of generated revenues.
- Support legislative or administrative action to remove State barriers so that Medicaid transportation funds can be used for public transit services, including ADA paratransit services.

- Support funding and coordination between Health and Human Service (HHS) agencies and other transportation agencies to provide services to HHS clients.
- Support/seek additional funding for essential services including, but not limited to, services for access to work, school or medical facilities.
- 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.
- Support efforts to ensure public transit receives a fair share of any new tax revenue, such as revenue resulting from Proposition 64.
- Support efforts at the California Public Utilities Commission and state legislature for discounted rates of electricity for zero emission vehicles.
- Support funding for continued operation and maintenance of the Transbay Transit Center.

Equipment and Operations

- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to establish and maintain HOV and HOT lanes on state highway routes and to improve existing lane management to maximize person throughput.
- Support incentives to provide bus only lanes on bridges to/from the Transbay Transit Center.
- Support legislation to exempt public transit and paratransit vehicles from state and local truck route ordinances.
- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to permit permanent use of freeway shoulders by public transit buses and paratransit vehicles.
- Remove or except public transit diesel-powered heavy duty vehicles from the 3000 hours limitation required under the Emissions Defects Warranty established by CARB.
- Support increased resources for security and safety of bus divisions.
- Support funding for zero emission vehicle workforce training programs.

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 legislation to provide incentives for local governments and developers to incorporate transit passes into the cost of housing.

Environment and Transit Supportive Land Use

- Advocate for transit-supportive legislation that addresses climate change, healthy communities and environments.
- Foster transit supportive land use initiatives that require coordination with transit providers in the initial stages of local planning or project development that impacts transit, including density level decisions; and advocate for the required use of:
 - Transit streets agreements, and
 - Complete streets plans in which local transportation plans anticipate use of all modes.
- Support improvement to the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) screening process to better account for the disadvantaged communities of the East Bay.

Policy Interests

- Support simple majority vote for local transportation tax initiatives.
- Support legislation to allow District to ban persons for specified offenses relating to aggressive, threatening or criminal behavior against district property, assets or personnel and from entering District property, including buses.
- Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's statutes to include the direct representation of transit properties on its governing board.
- Support legislation for STA formula reform that includes federal operating funding as eligible revenue.
- Support efforts that maintain existing Workers' Compensation regulation.
- Consider efforts to reform tort general damages.
- 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).
- Monitor administrative and regulatory compliance legislation that potentially impacts the District.
- Support legislation that requires jurisdictions to install Transit Signal Priority equipment in order to receive money for traffic signal upgrades.

- Support efforts to authorize AC Transit to enforce parking and moving violations in bus-only lanes and bus stops through the use of forward-facing cameras.
- Seek to harmonize treatment of independent public agency retirement systems with large systems (e.g. CalPERS, CalSTRS).
- Support legislation that reduces liability for common carriers.
- Support legislation that allows for the enforcement of priority seating.