



2010-11 State Advocacy Program

Funding

- Support legislation that creates new sources of operating funds with equitable distribution to reflect urban transit needs.
- Support tax reform legislation and initiatives to protect and/or increase revenues for transit operations.
- Support efforts to preserve Public Transportation Account funds exclusively for transit and preserve historic State Transit Assistance formula levels.
- Support legislation that would exempt public transit providers from state sales tax.
- Support legislation to provide funding for lifeline services including, but not limited to services for access to work, school or medical facilities.
- Support local ability to increase fees and gas taxes to be used for local mass transit purposes.
- Support legislation that would increase bridge toll revenues to ensure adequate matching funds for eligible federally-funded transit projects.
- Support additional funding for AC Transit's fuel cell development program.
- Support legislation and programs that would provide funding for global warming initiatives, clean air and clean fuels.
- Support legislation that would provide funding to implement AC Transit's Climate Action Plan.
- Seek funding for Bus Rapid Transit.
- Support congestion pricing strategies and legislation that provide an equitable multi-modal distribution of generated revenues.
- Seek new funding for bus passes for low-income students within AC Transit's service area.

- Support distribution of home-to-school funding to include public transit systems.
- 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.

Equipment and Operations

- Support legislation or administrative action that would direct Caltrans to establish and maintain HOV lanes on state highway routes and to improve existing HOV lane management to maximize throughput.
- Support incentives to provide bus contra flow lanes on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge to/from Transbay Terminal.
- Support legislation to exempt public transit 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.

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.
- Support common fare programs between Bay Area systems.
- 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 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 requires reporting of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) annually through DMV renewal.
- Support legislation that relieves the fiscal burden of mandatory regulations.

Policy Interests

- Support budget reform to require passage by simple majority vote.
- Seek revisions to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) grandfather clause that supports direct representation of transit properties on local transportation policy boards.
- Support simple majority vote for local transportation ballot tax initiatives.
- Redefine agency as Rapid Transit District.
- Align the State's California Family Rights Act with the Federal Family Medical Leave legislation to avoid conflicting requirements and non-concurrence issues.
- Support legislation for STA formula reform that includes federal operating funding as an eligible revenue.
- Support efforts that maintain existing Workers' Compensation regulation.