

General Manager's Report April 11, 2011

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

FEDERAL

Recent federal budget negotiations for FY 2011 and the budget deal that included \$33 billion in cuts over the next six months have now stalled just days before the continuing resolution that is funding the federal government is set to expire (April 8, 2011). The District's federal lobbyists report that some federal offices are preparing for a potential government shutdown as the Senate and House attempt to make progress on a more permanent budget deal.

STATE

For the 2011-2012 Legislative Session, RT has been working with the District's lobbyists to advance the following measures which are set to be heard in committee in this month.

Assembly Bill 716 (Dickinson)

AB 716 would improve RT's current Exclusion Policy which addresses nuisance behavior and security. In March, RT staff met with Assemblyman Roger Dickinson, his staff and a consultant from the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee to discuss AB 716. The measure is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Transportation Committee on April 25, 2011 and the District is working to incorporate amendments to the current language being considered that will strengthen the law.

Assembly Bill 650 (Blumenfield)

The District has taken a support position on Assembly Bill 650 (Blumenfield). The intent of AB 650 is to establish a 12 member volunteer Task Force on Public Transportation for the 21st Century to find solutions for a path out of the crisis the California public transportation system is in. The task force would conduct hearings around the state allowing the public, transit agencies and businesses to provide input on public transit service needs, operational costs and how to fund needed services. The task force would also review data that is already compiled by other organizations and agencies on the subject matter related to transit in order to develop a list of funding options and recommendations to the Legislature. If AB 650 is enacted, the Legislature will appoint members to the task force before March 2012. This measure is scheduled to be heard on April 11, 2011 in the Assembly Transportation Committee and RT has been asked to testify in support of the bill. AB 650 is also supported by the Environmental Defense Fund, Transform, Breathe California, Sierra Club and the American Lung Association.

RT MEETING CALENDAR

Regional Transit Board Meeting

April 25, 2011
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

May 23, 2011
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

June 13, 2011
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

Executive Committee Meetings for 2011

Will be approved and scheduled by the Chair
on an as needed basis.

Mobility Advisory Council

May 5, 2011
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M

June 2, 2011
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M

July 7, 2011
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M

Quarterly Retirement Board Meeting

June 6, 2011
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M

September 13, 2011
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M

December 5, 2011
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M

ParaTransit Board Meeting

May 26, 2011
2501 Florin Road
6:00 P.M

July 28, 2011
2501 Florin Road
6:00 P.M