

General Manager's Report November 11, 2013

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

FEDERAL

The House is not in session this week. The House will return to session on November 12.

The Budget Conference committee created by recent legislation to reopen the government and extend the debt ceiling held its first formal meeting on Wednesday, October 30. The group is tasked with developing a bipartisan agreement to fund the government through FY 2014 and reporting back by December 13, 2013. Toward this end, it seems as though a "grand bargain" — one that would overhaul the tax code and make significant changes to entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare — is off the table. Instead, lawmakers have stated their intent to work out a smaller deal that could blunt upcoming sequestration cuts and pave the way for a larger compromise in the future. Some appropriators believe the Transportation Appropriations bill, the domestic bill that effectively derailed work on FY14 spending measures earlier this year, could be revived if budget conferees can quickly agree on an overall FY14 spending level. This would allow DOT to avoid operating under a continuing resolution for the remaining 6 months of FY14. On Friday, November 8, 2013 Senator Susan Collins, the ranking Republican on the Appropriations subcommittee that oversees Transportation-HUD spending, said if negotiators are able to agree on a top line FY14 budget number, they "will be able to produce a [Transportation-HUD] bill in a very quick time." She added, "ours is the one bill that came to the floor, so it's not as if we haven't had extensive discussions and come up with agreements."

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor has released the House legislative calendar for the second session of the 113th Congress. The House will return to Washington, D.C., from holiday break on January 7, 2014, leaving only a week before the current continuing resolution that funds the government expires on January 15, 2014.

STATE

There is nothing to report at this time.

RT CALENDAR

Regional Transit Board Meeting

December 9, 2013
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

Executive Committee Meetings for 2013

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

Mobility Advisory Council

December 5, 2013
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M

Quarterly Retirement Board Meeting

December 18, 2013
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M

Paratransit Board Meeting

November 21, 2013
2501 Florin Road
6:00 P.M.