

## **General Manager's Report August 10, 2015**

### **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE**

#### **FEDERAL**

The House has recessed until September 8. The Senate is expected to recess later this week and will also return for legislative business on September 8.

Congress passed and the President signed a three month transportation funding extension that runs until October 29. The three month extension is designed to give the House enough time to come up with a multi-year bill and move to conference in the fall, but another short term extension could surface. The extension provided the Highway Trust Fund with \$8 billion, offset with measures that are designed to improve tax compliance and cut spending by the TSA, giving the fund enough money to keep programs solvent through the end of 2015. Extra money was needed because the trust fund was nearing a zero balance by the end of the summer. While the actual extension only runs through October, passing another short-term extension to the end of December would be relatively easy to put together because the funding is in place.

The Senate also passed a six year highway and transit bill (H.R. 22). The bill would provide a six-year authorization of highway and transit programs, with a roughly \$45 billion package of offsets, enough to cover three years of shortfalls in the Highway Trust Fund. When Congress returns in September, all eyes will be on the House to see if it can develop and pass a long-term reauthorization.

On July 21, the Senate Finance Committee reported a tax extenders bill by a vote of 23-3. The package included transit parity and alternative fuels credits. Last week there was an effort to attach the tax extenders bill to the six year transportation reauthorization bill (H.R. 22). However, Senate Finance Committee Ranking Minority Member Ron Wyden (D-OR) blocked the effort since he prefers that tax extenders be part of the broader FY16 budget deal to be negotiated in the fall.

#### **STATE**

##### **Legislature**

The legislature is on summer recess and there is no activity to report in the Brown administration.

### **INITIATIVE TRACKING MATRIX UPDATE**

Oral report by Laura Ham.

**RT CALENDAR**

**Regional Transit Board Meeting**

August 24, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
6:00 P.M

September 14, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
6:00 P.M

September 28, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
6:00 P.M

**Mobility Advisory Council**

September 3, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
2:30 P.M

November 5, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
2:30 P.M

**Quarterly Retirement Board Meeting**

September 16, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
9:00 A.M

December 16, 2015  
RT Auditorium  
9:00 A.M

**Paratransit Board Meeting**

September 24, 2015  
2501 Florin Road  
6:00 P.M

November 19, 2015  
Sutter Senior Care  
7000 Franklin Street  
Sacramento, CA