

General Manager's Report March 23, 2015

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

FEDERAL

The House and Senate are both in session this week. Both chambers will be in session for the next two weeks before taking a two-week holiday recess.

On March 17, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee held a hearing titled, "Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill: Laying the Foundation for U.S. Economic Growth and Job Creation, Part II." Scheduled to testify were the Honorable Patrick McCrory, Governor, State of North Carolina (on behalf of the National Governors Association); The Honorable Ralph Becker, Mayor, Salt Lake City (on behalf of the National League of Cities); and the Honorable John Cox, Director, Wyoming Department of Transportation (on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials).

On March 18, Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx testified before the Senate Appropriations THUD subcommittee regarding the President's FY16 budget request.

STATE

Brown Administration

Strategic Growth Council-Affordable Housing and Sustainable Community (AHSC) Grants

The Strategic Growth Council is responsible for evaluating these "cap and trade" revenue-funded grants submitted in February and communities around the state are anxiously awaiting the results of their review of submitted concept proposals. All AHSC grant applicants will be notified of the results of their concept proposal reviews with successful applications posted to the Council website today. Communities with successful full applications will move forward to complete their application process before awards will be made in later this spring.

Legislature

Special Elections – State Senate

Special elections to fill seats of three Senators that were elected to Congress were conducted last week in the 7th Senate District (Contra Costa County), the 21st District (Northern LA County) and the 37th District (Southern Orange County).

7th Senate District: Current Assembly Member Bonilla and Orinda Mayor Steven Glazier, a former advisor to Governor Brown, were the top two vote-getters and will compete in a run-off in May;

21st Senate District: Former Assembly Member, Sharon Runner, was elected to fill the term of this seat; she ran unopposed.

37th Senate District: Former Orange County Supervisor, John Moorlach appears to have clinched this seat with 50.4% of the vote over present Republican Assembly Member Dan Wagner. There remain some provisional ballots to count, so this could move into a runoff, if Moorlach's lead diminishes.

These election results will not affect the balance of power in the Senate, where Democrats hold a majority of seats, having lost their former supermajority (2/3rds, or 27 seats) in the November elections.

STATE OF RT BREAKFAST UPDATE

7th Annual State of RT Breakfast and TransitAction Awards

Please join me in honoring the 2015 TransitAction Awards recipients during the Sacramento Metro Chamber's 7th annual State of RT Breakfast on Thursday, March 26, 2015, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento located at 1209 L Street. The annual awards program recognizes models of excellence that have made a significant and positive impact to public transit in the Sacramento region. Congratulations to this year's TransitAction Awards recipients:

Business of the Year - UC Davis Health System

Organization/Agency of the Year - City Year Sacramento and Sacramento County Department of Transportation

Transit Oriented Development of the Year - Warehouse Artist Lofts

Individual/Transit Advocate of the Year - Rivkah Sass

Elected Official of the Year - Supervisor Phil Serna, County of Sacramento

The State of RT Breakfast provides an annual forum to discuss the Sacramento region's transit priorities. This year, I will highlight the new transit enhancements that are on the horizon for RT, and explore why investment in public transit is critical to the success of the Sacramento region.

AD HOC STSTEM IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Ad-Hoc Committee held its first meeting on February 25 and provided staff with direction regarding the process we will be following for further work. The Committee formed four working groups. The Ad-Hoc Committee will meet quarterly over the next year and receive a status report from each working group. I have assigned RT staff to provide support to each working group. The assigned staff lead will schedule their working group meetings, provide a work plan, all material and information, and will be responsible for assisting the group in the development of an action plan. Each Working Group will receive detailed information regarding RT's adopted budgets (Capital and Operating), as well as future projections. They will also receive additional financial detail regarding their area of focus.

I will also be amending our contract with Wendy Hoyt to provide high level policy support to the Working Groups and Ad-Hoc Committees as needed. Under the GM's authority, our procurement staff is also working to retain the services of a consultant (Doug Carter) to provide a system level review that is designed to provide an independent analysis and recommendations identifying steps to improve RT's delivery of service in a more cost effective manner. Doug will likely be starting work in early April.

1. Security and Fare Evasion

Members - Phil Serna, Steve Hansen, Linda Budge and Tina Thomas
Staff Lead - Norm Leong and Mark Lonergan

2. Light Rail Stations, Bus Stops, Shelters, and Benches

Members - Jay Schenirer, Linda Budge, Dain Domich, Ali Youssefi and Michael Heller
Staff Lead - Mike Mattos with support from Diane Nakano and RoseMary Covington

3. Rolling Stock, Light Rail Vehicles and Buses

Members - Phil Serna and Ali Youssefi
Staff Lead - Mark Lonergan

4. Customer Communication and ESC Operations Plan

Members - Jay Schenirer, Andy Morin, Warren Smith, David Taylor, Mark Friedman, Laura Braden and Juan Rodriguez
Staff Lead - Alane Masui with support from RoseMary Covington and Mark Lonergan

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

June 12, 2015
RT Auditorium
11:30-1:30 P.M.

September 11, 2015
RT Auditorium
11:30-1:30 P.M.

December 11, 2015
RT Auditorium
11:30-1:30 P.M.

RT CALENDAR

Regional Transit Board Meeting

April 13, 2015
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

April 27, 2015
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

May 11, 2015
RT Auditorium
6:00 P.M

Mobility Advisory Council

May 7, 2015
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M

July 2, 2015
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M

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

Quarterly Retirement Board Meeting

March 25, 2015
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M

June 17, 2015
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M

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

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

Paratransit Board Meeting

March 26, 2015
Health for All
2730 Florin Road
Sacramento, CA 95822

May 28, 2015
2501 Florin Road
6:00 P.M

June 25, 2015
2501 Florin Road
6:00 P.M