

General Manager's Report August 14, 2017

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

FEDERAL

Negotiations are underway for the federal FY18 budget which include funding levels for federal transportation programs. Both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have reported out FY18 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) bills. The priorities and overall dollar amounts for individual programs vary as the House provided \$56.5 billion while the Senate provided \$60.06 billion for THUD. A key policy and funding difference between the House and Senate Appropriations bills to point out is that the Senate moved to reject cuts to transit capital funding and included proposed funding for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. Both the House and Senate FY18 THUD reports also contain language giving direction to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) regarding the administration of the Capital Investments Grants program.

House report language: "The Committee supports the President's commitment to invest in infrastructure, and therefore maintains its position to recognize the need for a robust Capital Investment Grant Program. The Committee directs FTA to continue to advance eligible projects into Project Development, Engineering, and Construction through the Capital Investment Grant evaluation, rating, and approval process. Specifically, the Committee directs the Secretary to allow a project to enter into project development when the applicant satisfies the requirements; to advance a project into project engineering when that project satisfies the requirements; to negotiate a construction grant with the project sponsor for every project that receives a medium rating or higher, submit the notification to Congress promptly after conclusion of the negotiation of the construction grant agreement, and execute the construction grant agreement within 45 days of providing such notification to Congress if the project continues to meet the requirements; to enter into a full funding grant agreement for any new fixed guideway capital project and core capacity improvement project that has met the requirements immediately after completion of the 30-day notice period for such projects; and enter into a grant agreement for any small start project that has met the requirements immediately after completion of the 10-day notice period for such projects."

Senate report language: "Project Pipeline. - In addition to providing funding for this program for the projects described above, the Committee directs the Secretary to continue to advance eligible projects into project development and engineering in the capital investment grant evaluation, rating, and approval process pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5309 and section 3005(b) of the FAST Act in all cases when projects meet the statutory criteria. The Committee also directs the Secretary to provide notice to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of not less than 90 days prior to altering or rescinding any rule, circular or guidance relating to the evaluation, rating and approval process pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 5309. Annual Report on Funding Recommendations. The Committee directs the Secretary to submit the fiscal year 2019 annual report on funding recommendations required by 49 U.S.C. 5309(0), and directs the Secretary to maintain the Federal Government funding commitments for all existing grant agreements and identify all projects with a medium or higher rating that anticipate requesting a grant agreement in fiscal year 2019."

Early this year, President Trump's budget requested halting federal support for the construction of transit and the elimination of the TIGER grant program. As the federal budget process moves

forward, we will continue to monitor the funding debates and advocate for the full funding amounts authorized by the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.

DISTRICTWIDE PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Oral Presentation by Lieutenant Lisa Hinz

SACRT OFFERS FREE RIDE DAYS

SacRT will be holding several free ride days this month to encourage people to try transit and become new riders. Free ride days provide a great opportunity to show the region that SacRT buses and light rail trains are a safe, clean and convenient way to travel. Results of a recent bus and light rail Customer Engagement Survey show that 26 percent of the people surveyed are new SacRT riders within the last year. By offering these types of promotions, we hope that number continues to climb.

For the thousands of students who will be heading back into the classroom this month, SacRT wants to help make their first day seamless by offering a free ride. The following is a list of the school districts and corresponding free ride days:

- Twin Rivers – Tuesday, August 8
- Natomas – Wednesday, August 9
- Elk Grove – Thursday, August 10
- Folsom Cordova – Thursday, August 10
- San Juan – Thursday, August 10
- Sacramento City – Thursday, August 31

In honor of National Senior Citizens Day, on Monday, August 21, SacRT will be offering free rides for seniors and persons with disabilities to show our support and appreciation.

In addition, SacRT has partnered with the California Museum for the grand opening celebration for the Unity Center exhibit. On Saturday, August 26, museum visitors can try light rail for free with a printed Unity Center exhibit flyer. To download the flyer, visit californiamuseum.org.

In order to ride free, students, seniors, and persons with disabilities must present an acceptable ID, as specified in SacRT's adopted Fare Structure, when boarding buses, and have ready to show transit agents when riding trains. To ride light rail for free to the Unity Center celebration and block party on Saturday, August 26, you must be traveling to and from the California Museum and present the event flyer when riding trains.

APTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS – NOMINATION

I am honored to share that I was recently selected for a position on the APTA Board of Directors. This is a tremendous opportunity to serve in an expanded national leadership role, which will give SacRT more prominence in the transit community and help make us more competitive when seeking federal and state grants. On a personal level, I am proud to be

chosen by my colleagues and look forward to the opportunity to serve on the APTA Board to help strengthen the transportation industry.

SACRT CALENDAR

Regional Transit Board Meeting

August 28, 2017
RT Auditorium
5:30 P.M.

September 11, 2017
RT Auditorium
5:30 P.M.

September 25, 2017
RT Auditorium
5:30 P.M.

Quarterly Retirement Board Meeting

September 13, 2017
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M.

December 13, 2017
RT Auditorium
9:00 A.M.

Mobility Advisory Council Meeting

September 7, 2017
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M.

November 2, 2017
RT Auditorium
2:30 P.M.

Paratransit, Inc. Board Meeting

September 28, 2017
2501 Florin Road
6:00 P.M.



**AMERICAN
PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION
ASSOCIATION**

August 2, 2017

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Doran J. Barnes

VICE CHAIR

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Jeffrey Wharton

Charles R. Wochele

ACTING

PRESIDENT & CEO

Richard A. White

Henry Li
General Manager/CEO
Sacramento Regional Transit District
P.O. Box 2110
Sacramento, CA 95812-2110

Dear Henry,

On behalf of APTA, thank you so much for your participation in the 2017 nominations process. It is my distinct pleasure to let you know that you have been selected for a position on the Board of Directors. The slate of candidates will be voted on by the members at the Annual Business Meeting on Saturday, October 8, 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia.

This year the Nominating Committee had a large number of extremely qualified candidates to evaluate. Being considered by your colleagues as worthy of a position within the leadership—which is certainly the case for you—is among the highest honors one member can bestow on another.

My colleagues on the 2017 APTA Nominating Committee and I congratulate you and look forward to working with you as we lead APTA into the future.

Sincerely,

Valarie J. McCall
Chair, APTA 2017 Nominating Committee

Customer Service and Sales Center

