



Board Report

File #: 2016-1005, **File Type:** Program

Agenda Number: 45

**REVISED
EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 19, 2017**

**SUBJECT: CONSIDER GOALS AND ACTIVITIES CONTAINED IN THE
2017 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

ACTION: ADOPT THE 2017 FEDERAL AND STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

ADOPT the **proposed 2017 Federal and State Legislative Program.**

FASANA amendment in Attachment B, Goal 12.

ISSUE

The Board of Directors adopts, on an annual basis, a legislative program for the upcoming state legislative and federal congressional sessions, which provides guidance to staff on legislative issues and policy as a means of advancing and protecting Metro’s authority and the transportation interests of Los Angeles County.

DISCUSSION

Policy Implications

The role of the legislative program is to clearly define Metro’s goals and objectives by securing necessary legislative authority, program funding and regulatory actions needed at the state and federal levels. To achieve these important goals, Government Relations staff will implement a legislative strategy of consensus building and coordination with transportation stakeholders throughout Los Angeles County, the State of California and with Federal officials.

Federal Recap

In 2016, the agency continued to pursue our Board approved federal legislative priorities in Washington, D.C. Among the challenges with respect to advancing our agenda on Capitol Hill was the continued gridlock between the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. In a welcome departure from this gridlock, on December 3, 2015, Congress passed the Fixing America’s

Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) and the President signed the bill into law on December 4, 2015. That action set the stage for 2016 where U.S. Department of Transportation worked to implement the new legislation which authorizes funding for all surface transportation programs through 2020. Metro worked closely with our Congressional Delegation to include a number of priorities in the FAST Act including dedicated funding for freight and goods movement projects, ensuring the continuation of important programs such as Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) and the New Starts Grant program, and lastly increased direct funding from the federal government for all transportation programs through the Highway Trust Fund.

In calendar year 2016, Metro secured a number of grants/loans authorized under the FAST Act, with a total value of over \$1.54 billion - in addition to receiving over \$500 million in federal formula transportation funds.

On April 19, 2016, Metro secured a \$4.3 million federal Low or No Emissions grant from the FTA for five battery-electric zero-emission buses, as well as eight charging stations for the Orange Line bus rapid transit corridor.

On July 28, 2016, Metro secured a federal TIGER grant in the amount of \$15 million for the Rosecrans/Marquardt Grade Separation project in Santa Fe Springs.

On September 8, 2016, Metro secured a \$10.5 million federal Bus and Bus Facilities grant for the replacement of buses that have met their useful life with CNG buses to operate in the South Bay and Gateway cities areas. This federal grant will also permit Metro to install related CNG infrastructure and train workers on the new technology.

On October 5, 2016, Metro - in partnership with the City of South Gate and Eco-Rapid Transit - received \$2 million in federal Transit Oriented Development funding to plan cooperatively to increase economic development throughout the proposed West Santa Ana Branch Light Rail corridor between downtown Los Angeles and Artesia.

On October 7, 2016, Metro secured a \$3 million Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment Program grant for Metro's Freight Advanced Traveler Information System (FRATIS).

On October 7, 2016, Metro secured a \$1.3 million Mobility on Demand (MOD) Sandbox grant to explore the viability of first/last mile solutions for trips originating and ending at select transit stops.

On December 15, 2016 Metro successfully signed a Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) with the Federal Transit Administration in the amount of \$1.2 billion to fund the Westside Purple Line Extension (WPLE) Section 2.

On December 20, 2016, Metro closed a \$307 million TIFIA loan with the U.S. Department of Transportation for the WPLE Section 2.

In addition to FAST Act implementation, Metro successfully worked with U.S. Department of Transportation in 2016 to extend the Local Hire Pilot Program until March of 2017. This action allows

Metro to move forward on including local hire provisions in our contracting to ensure that the residents of Los Angeles County are benefitting from the local investment being made in our expanding transportation infrastructure. Metro looks forward to working with our Congressional Delegation and the Administration on making this program permanent in the 115th Congress.

Since 2010, at the direction of the Board of Directors, our agency began a campaign to advance legislative proposals that would address the acceleration of our transit and highway program, now known as America Fast Forward. Our America Fast Forward initiative has and continues to be discussed and debated by many senior transportation policymakers in Washington, D.C. This initiative remains a relevant policy proposal for President-elect Trump and the 115th Congress as discussion of an infrastructure package moves forward in 2017. A key aspect of the incoming Administration's proposal on infrastructure is to create innovative financing mechanisms that can help expand the nation's transportation infrastructure. That notion is a key aspect of the America Fast Forward initiative and we look forward to embedding innovative financing and funding tools in any infrastructure package advanced by the incoming Trump Administration and considered by Congress.

For the upcoming 115th Congress, we will be working to expand on our successes by working closely with the incoming Trump Administration and Congress on ways that we can best leverage our local funding to advance transit and highway projects across Los Angeles County. Given President-elect Donald Trump's stated interest in launching a new initiative to rebuild America's transportation infrastructure, our agency will be prepared with innovative financing proposals for the White House, incoming U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Chao and Congress to consider.

State Recap

Each year, Metro successfully moves the largest legislative program of any transportation agency in the State of California through the legislative process. We were successful in obtaining approval through AB 2690 (Ridley-Thomas) to authorize Metro to require bidders to include subcontracting opportunities for small business enterprise (SBEs) and disabled veteran business enterprises (DVBES) as a component of the procurement process. Not only were we successful in securing passage of the legislation we were able to accomplish a key priority of the Board, expanding access to competition for small and disabled veteran business enterprises in the procurement process. Additionally, we advocated in support of a number of measures, including AB 1889 (Mullin), a measure that helped to secure funding specifically allocated to the "bookend" projects for the High Speed Rail project.

The 2016 Legislative session ended, yet again without resolution to one of the major challenges faced by the Legislature; addressing transportation funding in the First Extraordinary Session. A number of proposals were introduced into this session including a \$3 billion proposal from Governor Brown which contained a number of elements for which Metro had advocated. Senator Jim Beall and Assemblymember Jim Frazier introduced \$7 billion legislative funding proposals during the Special Session on Transportation in September 2016. Unfortunately, the leaders were unable to call a meeting of the Special Session to vote on the measures during the final hours of the legislative session. Metro advocated in support of the measures, and worked closely with the two Chairmen and key members of the Los Angeles County legislative delegation to communicate the Board's priorities for funding and policy reform.

On May 18, 2016, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) adopted the 2016 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) retaining \$152.5 million in programming in Los Angeles County over the 2016 STIP period, from Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 through 2021. Of this funding, \$102 million is for the Light Rail Vehicles and \$34.4 million is for a reimbursement to Metro for its advance expenditure on the Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Transit project. A total of \$55.6 million (7.4%) in project funding was deleted from the Los Angeles County STIP program. This deletion included both Segment 6 (\$13.7 million) and Segment 13 (\$41.9 million) of State Route 138.

On August 16, 2016 the California State Transportation Agency (CalSTA) formally announced that Metro was awarded \$109.2 million in cap and trade funds under the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program for the Airport Metro Connector/96th Street Station and the Red/Purple Line Core Capacity Improvements projects. Metro received the largest share of the \$390 million that was available statewide. Metro staff continues to advocate to increase the share of cap and trade funding for transit and highway projects under the TIRCP, LCTOP, SHOPP and STIP programs. The STA funding allocation formula fix remains a challenge.

We were successful in advocating in support of increased funding for ITS programs under the purview of the UC system from the state's Public Transportation Account. The Budget Subcommittee adopted an additional \$3 million in funding for the ITS program in 2016-17.

One key priority is the continued authorization to pursue Public Private Partnerships (P3s). The authorization expired at the end of 2016. Metro is working closely with a coalition of stakeholders in Sacramento to continue to urge the Legislature to reauthorize this important tool and Metro's state advocacy team will continue those efforts in next year's legislative session.

In addition to advocating in support of the re-authorization for Public Private Partnerships, we are working to ensure passage of an urgency measure that would extend Caltrans' NEPA delegation authority indefinitely. The Federal NEPA delegation for Caltrans expired at the end of 2016, and a new measure was introduced at the beginning of the 2017 legislative session due to the sponsorship of Self-Help Counties and our added support. Caltrans' federal NEPA delegation authority allows Caltrans the ability to evaluate projects for NEPA clearance directly, streamlining project approval processes.

Also unresolved from this year is the push for the re-structuring of Metro's current Board of Directors. In 2016, two separate proposals were introduced in the legislature to re-structure Metro's Board of Directors to include members appointed by the State legislature and representatives from the Gateway Cities area. Staff were successful in advocating against the measures that would offset the balance of the current structure, which was established as a result of a bottoms-up process. We anticipate that a new measure will be brought forward this upcoming legislative session.

During next year's legislative session, staff anticipates that we will be addressing a number of new challenges. We anticipate there will continue to be discussions about federal freight funding under the FAST Act as the CTC determines guidelines for distribution of discretionary funds. We have been engaged internally to ensure that we are working in partnership with other regional transportation agencies and our State partners to prioritize funding for Southern California. We have a distinct

priority to advance highway and freight corridor projects under the FASTLANE grants program and we are continuing to maximize the opportunities through the partnerships with the Governor and on the federal level. In addition, OPR is establishing guidelines for sustainability under Senate Bill 743 and we are working closely to ensure that Metro's sustainability and transit oriented development priorities are incorporated in the final guidelines.

Both policy committee chairs as well as leadership in both houses continue to discuss the various proposals and have indicated that they would like to reach agreement on a package early in 2017. Despite multiple attempts last year to reach consensus on a comprehensive transportation funding package, an agreement still remains elusive. Metro is working closely with a coalition of transportation stakeholders to both urge the Legislature to come to agreement on a package and to ensure that the package reflects the needs of Los Angeles County. We remain hopeful that an agreement can be reached early in 2017.

A major initiative of Metro in the 2017 State Legislative session will be to seek changes in state law, including increased penalties, for those who commit assaults against our operators and personnel. Thousands of our employees are spread across Los Angeles County as we provide service to the largest service area of any public transit agency in the Country. Our employees are vulnerable and we must do everything we can to protect them. Metro has taken a series of steps to prevent assaults including the installation of protective barriers, television monitors located above the farebox, and training employees on de-escalation techniques. We have also worked closely with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department and the District Attorney to support full prosecution of those who assault our operators. Despite these efforts, assaults still occur far too often and when cases are prosecuted they rarely result in serious penalties being assessed.

Specifically we would look to advance two changes in law. The first would be to allow such assaults to be charged as a felony if the assault occurs when a transit vehicle is in operation. Secondly, a limited number of agencies in California have been authorized to issue prohibition orders to individuals under certain circumstances. We would also look to include Metro as one of the agencies authorized to use this enforcement tool.

In addition to the above staff will be working to address a variety of other issues in the Legislative process, budget process as well as in various administrative processes in Sacramento these include but are not limited to:

- Funding for goods movement projects - The new federal bill allocates funds to California and the California Transportation Commission (CTC) will be finalizing guidelines early in the year and allocating these funds in 2017.
- Metro is proposing to expand the ExpressLanes network in Los Angeles which will require authorization by the CTC.
- Clarifying the process by which utilities bill Metro and potentially reduce Metro's operating costs.
- Increasing funding for Metro's Freeway Service Patrol program.
- Working with the California Air Resources Board to advance Metro's Zero Emission Bus

Program.

- Supporting the allocation of cap and trade funds to Los Angeles County.
- Extending the authorization to Metro to establish Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of this item will not have an impact on safety.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

A number of the proposed state and federal legislative initiatives may provide additional funding for countywide transportation programs and projects.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board of Directors could determine that a legislative program is unnecessary for the agency. Failure to adopt a legislative program could result in Metro being ill prepared to address the policy and legislative challenges that will arise during the coming year.

NEXT STEPS

Government Relations staff will continue to regularly sponsor briefings in Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles County for our Congressional Delegation and other key staffers on both the House and Senate Appropriations and Authorization committees. We have and will continue to place a strong emphasis on briefings for professional staff members working for House and Senate committees with primary responsibility for authorizing and appropriations bills - in addition to advancing our plan to accelerate both our transit and highway program through our America Fast Forward initiative.

In Sacramento, we will continue to develop and strategically advance our agency's Board approved State Legislative Program through maintaining support and close relationships with the Los Angeles County State Legislative Delegation, key leaders in the Senate and Assembly Transportation Committees, as well as key stakeholders including, the Governor, Caltrans, California Transportation Commission, and the California State Transportation Agency.

Government Relations staff will initiate briefings for the Gubernatorial Administration, members of the Legislature as well as committee staff. We will also work with state legislators to author any legislative initiatives proposed by this program. At the federal level, Government Relations will keep in close contact with new and existing members of our Congressional delegation and key Authorizing and Appropriations staff to keep our projects at the forefront. Staff will continue to monitor and track legislative efforts sponsored by other transportation interests and inform the Board of that legislation. Pursuant to the Board adopted Board Advocacy Plan we will also work closely with the Board to utilize Board member's relationships and experience in legislative matters.

Government Relations will continue to ensure that our legislative priorities and efforts are coordinated with our regional transportation partners, including Metrolink, Southern California Associations of Governments (SCAG), Municipal Operators, and Southern California County transportation commissions.

In addition, Government Relations will continue to pursue state and federal legislative initiatives that promote the efficient and rapid delivery of Measure R and Measure M projects as well as leverage Measure R and Measure M funds for additional state and federal transportation resources, and to form a coalition to protect state revenues.

The 2017-2018 State Legislative Session began on December 5, 2016. The 2017 Federal Legislative Session with both the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate is scheduled to return in January 2017 to convene the new 115th Congress.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - 2017 Federal Legislative Program

Attachment B - REVISED 2017 State Legislative Program

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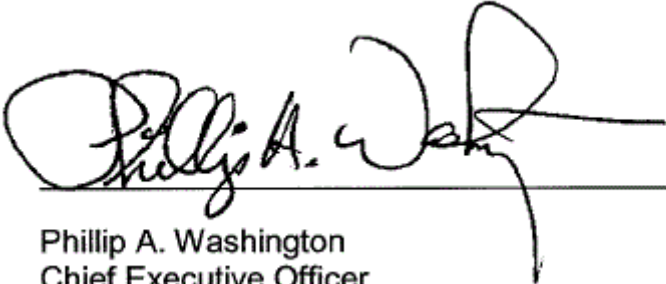
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Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer

2017 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

GOAL #1: WORK TO PURSUE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES THAT PROMOTE INNOVATIVE FINANCING TOOLS THAT HELP ACCELERATE LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Proposed Activities:

Seek to adopt language in any tax reform legislation or infrastructure package that would create an America Fast Forward Transportation Bond Program or program that helps transit agencies leverage local funding to accelerate transit and highway projects. Concurrently, work to advance initiatives that would amend sections of the FAST Act, like the FASTLANES grant program, to dramatically expand its funding level, make it a multi-year grant program like the New Starts program and ensure that the program works for eligible P3 transit and highway projects. Securing new and innovative federal finance tools will permit our agency to accelerate the construction of key transit and highway/goods movement projects funded both under Measures R and M.

GOAL #2: CONTINUE TO AGGRESSIVELY ADVANCE OUR EFFORT TO REFORM FEDERAL LOCAL HIRE RULES

Proposed Activities:

Work with the incoming Trump Administration and key members of Congress to advocate for the continuation of the Local Hire Pilot Program begun by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 2014. Parallel to this effort, Metro will work with Congresswoman Karen Bass and others to have language included in the Fiscal Year 2017 transportation appropriations bill to reform federal Local Hire rules. Our efforts in this regard will highlight studies that have shown that local hire programs do not compromise competition for transit and highway projects and procurements.

GOAL #3: PROMOTE INCREASED FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN FREIGHT AND GOODS MOVEMENT PROJECTS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Proposed Activities:

With the addition of two new grant programs in the FAST Act, one discretionary and one formula, which dedicate federal funding for projects that improve the movement of goods, Metro will work aggressively with our Congressional Delegation, the incoming Trump Administration as well as with key regional and national stakeholders to advocate for funding to move freight more efficiently across Los Angeles County. In

addition to the recently created FAST Act freight grant programs, Metro will also seek to secure additional federal funding for goods movement projects through other grant sources that can also be used on freight projects – for example – through the TIGER grant program.

GOAL #4: WORK TO OBTAIN FUNDING FOR METRO’S NEW STARTS PROJECTS AND ADVANCE OUR NON-NEW STARTS PROJECTS – GOLD LINE FOOTHILL EXTENSION AND CRENSHAW/LAX TRANSIT PROJECTS

Proposed Activities:

Work with our Congressional Delegation, transportation leaders in the House and Senate and the U.S. Department of Transportation to ensure the free flow of funds from Full Funding Grant Agreements and TIFIA loans for both the Regional Connector and the Westside Subway Extension. Parallel to this effort and as previously directed by our Board of Directors, we will continue to support seeking non-New Starts funds for the Gold Line Foothill Extension and Crenshaw/LAX transit projects. In addition, we will work to ensure that the Federal Transit Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, among other federal agencies, continue to work cooperatively with our agency on issues related to bringing a rail connection to LAX.

GOAL #5: ADVOCATE FOR REGULAR ORDER IN THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

Proposed Activities:

Work with our Congressional Delegation and stakeholder organizations to advocate for the importance of debating and enacting annual appropriation bills that provide a full year of funding for transportation programs. Included in funding that is approved by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees is funding for the New Starts Grant program and the TIGER Grant Program. Both of these grant programs are funding outside of the Highway Trust Fund and are vitally important to advancing the transportation goals for Los Angeles County.

GOAL #6: CONTINUE TO WORK WITH METROLINK AND REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES TO SUPPORT – AS NEEDED - THE APPLICATION OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL (PTC) TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND ADJOINING COUNTIES

Proposed Activities:

Continue to work in close cooperation with U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein and U.S. Senator-elect Kamala Harris, members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation, Metrolink, APTA and other key stakeholders to ensure that any federal

funding provided for Positive Train Control takes into consideration commuter rail lines that dedicated significant local funds to meet the new federally mandated PTC deadline of December, 2018.

GOAL #7: ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

Proposed Activities:

Work to secure federal funds to advance Metro's Transit-Oriented Communities policy;

Work to secure federal funds to enhance Metro's security program;

Work with Metro's regional partners to advance career education and training programs that will ensure the needed workforce to operate and maintain our transit system is ready and available;

Aggressively advocate for the renewal of the alternative fuels excise tax credit;

Work to extend the commuter tax benefit to remain at \$230 per month for transit users;

Work to ensure that the U.S. Department of Transportation clarifies that ferryboat miles between mainland Los Angeles and Catalina Island are counted for purposes of Los Angeles County's annual apportionment from the Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program (UAFP);

Work to advocate for all Metro discretionary grant applications;

Work closely with the Administration and USDOT on regulations and proposed rulemakings that impact Metro.

2017 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

GOAL #1: ENSURE THE STATE CONTINUES TO FULLY FUND THE MAJOR TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS IN THE STATE

Proposed Activities:

Protect Metro's key fund sources;

Communicate the importance of stable transportation funding to improve mobility in Los Angeles County, foster economic development and create jobs;

Protect the transportation funding system established by the sales tax/gas swap legislation;

Protect Public Transportation Account revenues which have been funded by the sales tax on diesel fuel;

Secure proportionate share of federal funds allocated via state mechanisms, such as CMAQ and alternative transportation programs; and

GOAL #2: PURSUE LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES AIMED AT INCREASING FUNDING FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Proposed Activities:

Support transportation funding proposals and ensure that they are structured to support Metro's projects and programs.

Work with statewide partners on any efforts to implement new transportation related fees or taxes and ensure these revenues are allocated in proportion to LA County's needs and at the discretion of local agencies; and

Support legislation that would enhance opportunities for Value Capture or related concepts and mechanisms to fund transportation infrastructure or promote Transit-Oriented Developments.

GOAL #3: WORK TO ENSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF METRO'S BOARD ADOPTED LRTP

Proposed Activities:

Pursue strategies and funding opportunities to implement the Highway Program in the LRTP;

Work to secure additional funds through the STIP, SHOPP and bond funds; and

Pursue Public Private Partnerships, Construction Manager/General Contractor procurement, and other innovative opportunities to advance projects in the LRTP.

GOAL #4: SUPPORT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY ON THE REGION'S COMMUTER RAIL SYSTEM

Proposed Activities:

Advocate for additional state funding to increase the safety of the commuter rail system in Los Angeles County and the entire Metrolink service area;

Support additional funding for enhanced commuter rail safety, especially for automatic train stop/positive train control systems, grade separations and double tracking single track portions of Metrolink's service area; and

GOAL #5: MAXIMIZE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUNDING LOS ANGELES COUNTY'S TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STATE'S CAP AND TRADE PROGRAMS

Proposed Activities:

Ensure Cap & Trade funds are allocated to transportation, that Los Angeles County receives a proportionate share; and

Advocate and secure commitment for Cap & Trade revenues to be allocated by the County Transportation Commission and other agencies.

GOAL #6: COORDINATE WITH OUR LOCAL AND STATE PARTNERS TO INCORPORATE THE REGION'S NEEDS IN EMERGING CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

Proposed Activities:

Monitor continued implementation of AB 32 and SB 375 (including sustainable community strategies and related initiatives/ documents);

Work in partnership with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to support Metro's projects and programs;

Advocate the connection between transit operations funding, SB 375 and other state global warming policies, programs and initiatives;

Support initiatives that promote greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies such as vehicle miles travelled reduction, active transportation, and operational efficiency best practices;

Support continued efforts to encourage smart growth and other connectivity and livability principles and their interaction with transit and highway investments while preserving authority of local agencies;

Support legislative efforts to include (programs affecting environmentally sensitive stakeholders and clean air programs) in our region, particularly with regards to regional transit planning, construction, and procurement efforts;

Support new initiatives that encourage the use of advanced, environmentally friendly and cost-effective strategies in the construction and retrofit of transit facilities including infrastructure related to renewable energy, low impact development, sustainable construction practices, and similar technologies;

GOAL #7: ACTIVELY WORK WITH STATE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION INTERESTS TO SECURE, PROTECT AND ENHANCE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING AND PROGRAMS STATEWIDE

Proposed Activities:

Work with Governor Brown's Administration to preserve and increase flexibility in the use of transportation funds;

Identify and pursue opportunities for additional funding for Southern California transportation projects, including, but not limited to, mechanisms to reinvigorate the State's infrastructure bank;

Support efforts to secure funding and/or obtain authority to generate additional funding for bus transit capital, operations, security needs, corridor projects, soundwalls, bike projects, Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies (SAFE) and other important transportation projects and programs;

Work with other agencies and the State to seek remedies to increase funding for Metro's Freeway Services Patrol (FSP) operations.

Work cooperatively with other transit agencies throughout the State, including the CTA, to secure and increase funds for transportation services, projects and programs;

Support efforts to secure new funding for regional rideshare services; and

Identify and pursue opportunities for funding and to enhance authority where necessary to improve security and safety for customers, employees and property.

GOAL #8: SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ACTIONS THAT ENHANCE AND PROTECT METRO'S ABILITY TO DELIVER TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS AND SERVICES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Proposed Activities:

Support efforts to clarify the oversight responsibilities of the PUC with respect to rail transit and improve the administration of PUC regulations;

Oppose legislation that would seek to restructure the Metro Board of Directors;

Oppose legislation that would preempt collective bargaining, impose benefits in collective bargaining agreements or restrict the rights of local agencies in the collective bargaining process;

Preserve our authority in regional transportation funding decisions including those granted through SB 45;

Continue to advocate for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reforms for transportation projects with continued collaboration of statewide stakeholders and organizations;

Monitor and work with implementation of pension reform so that Metro is able to maintain a stable work force and ensure adequate succession planning;

Support efforts to enhance the use of electronic fare payment or smart card technology; and

Explore authorizing the use of forward facing cameras on Metro's buses.

GOAL #9: OPPOSE ANY LEGISLATION THAT COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT METRO'S ABILITY TO OPERATE THE EXPRESSLANES PROGRAM AND SUPOORT LEGISLATION THAT ALLOWS FOR FUTURE EXPRESSLANES EXPANSION.

Proposed Activities:

Support legislation that:

1. Encourages development and utilization of regulations and technologies that would enhance the ability to verify vehicle occupancy and toll collection/payment.

2. Enhances Metro's ability to enforce the ExpressLanes Board adopted toll policy.
3. Amends or clarifies California vehicle code sections to authorize Metro to enforce occupancy requirements in the ExpressLanes; amends Streets and Highways codes that impact Metro's interoperability with other California toll agencies.
4. Enables implementation of Metro's ExpressLanes strategic plan network upon Board approval.
5. Provides clarification of AB 194 regarding roles and responsibilities of Metro and Caltrans.

Vigorously oppose legislation that negatively impacts:

1. Metro's ability to manage ExpressLanes demand utilizing congestion pricing.
2. Financial viability and local control of ExpressLanes revenues.
3. Limit Metro's ability to expand the ExpressLanes network.

GOAL #10: SUPPORT EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT HIGH SPEED RAIL (HSR) IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Proposed Activities:

Metro supports the California High Speed Rail Project.

Metro is encouraged by the efforts to incorporate a blended corridor concept in its planning and to continue to evaluate and identify the need to connect the project to Los Angeles County.

We encourage the State to make specific commitments to funding the segment connecting to Los Angeles County and to maintain this segment as a high priority in future plans.

Metro supports the allocation of funding to elements of the blended corridor concept in Los Angeles County to support the ultimate completion of the High Speed Rail project.

Ensure timely implementation of Proposition 1A including allocation of connectivity funds.

GOAL #11: SECURE APPROVAL OF KEY FREIGHT PROJECTS AT THE CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Proposed Activities:

Support efforts to establish local consensus on federal FAST Act guidelines for funding allocation.

Support efforts to fund goods movement and freight projects through the CTC.

GOAL #12: SPONSOR THE FOLLOWING LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE OUR ABILITY TO DELIVER QUALITY SERVICE

Proposed Activities:

Sponsor legislation to strengthen penalties for assaults on bus operators.

Sponsor legislation to clarify utility billing for Metro.

Sponsor legislation to update various provisions of Metro's statutes ~~ethics requirements~~ to conform those provisions to those of other agencies.

Sponsor legislation that would authorize Metro to establish Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts.