



Executive Director's Report

November 24, 2008

STATE UPDATE

No Time to Let Up on Pressure to Reject Governor's Proposed Cuts: Tomorrow (Tuesday, the 25th) is the unofficial deadline for the current legislature to take action as part of the Special Session called to re-work the 2008-09 state budget. At this moment, indications are that a Special Session agreement is unlikely, and that the process will be forwarded to the new legislature, which is slated to take office on December 1. Nevertheless, it is still imperative that members continue to lobby their legislative delegations and urge a rejection of the governor's latest budget plan. Released November 6, the proposal seeks to slash STA funds by \$230 million in the current year, reducing it from the \$306 million allocated in the budget adopted on September 23 and taking it down to only \$76 million – a 75 percent reduction from the September appropriation. STA recipients were told that the first quarter allocations would be the only payments that they would receive for the rest of the year. In addition, the administration calls for the complete elimination of funding to the STA Program for the 2009-10 fiscal year and beyond. **We again urge you to contact your legislators and ask them to reject the Governor's proposal to eliminate state funding for public transportation.** Please contact Legislative Advocate Gus Khouri (Gus@CalTransit.org) or Legislative and Regulatory Assistant Sabrina Means (Sabrina@CalTransit.org) or call 916-446-4656 if you have any questions.

CARB Hears Public Comment on AB 32 Scoping Plan: During their regularly scheduled board hearing on November 20, the staff of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) presented the Climate Change Proposed Scoping Plan to the full board. The hearing was attended by those interested in the potential impacts of the Scoping Plan in the coming years, and public testimony continued all day and into the next morning. I was among those offering testimony to the Board, asking the CARB to urge legislators to maintain and expand funding for public transit, and to propose that transit be a recipient of other streams of funding as part of the Scoping Plan implementation. Three of the CARB board members (Ron Roberts, Jerry Hill, and Ron Loveridge) also addressed transit's important role in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and the need for transit funding as part of the Scoping Plan implementation. The Board will vote on the Plan at their December 11 Board meeting. For more information please contact Legislative and Regulatory Assistant Sabrina Means at 916-446-4656 or sabrina@caltransit.org.

ASSOCIATION NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Fall Conference Wrap Up Coming Soon: Association staff is busy processing and downloading the dozens of PowerPoint presentations and more than 1,500 photos from our recent Fall Conference and EXPO in Monterey. The materials will be available soon on a new Fall Conference Wrap Up page at www.caltransit.org. In the meantime, conference participants are encouraged to fill out one of our surveys to provide feedback on the event. Attendees can [click here](#) to complete the survey. Exhibitors and Sponsors are asked to complete [this version](#) of the survey.

Post Your Bids and Proposals at www.caltransit.org: A widely-requested feature of the new Association website we launched in September is the "Bids & Proposals" page, which allows members to post RFPs for upcoming projects. It works similarly to the job postings page – members just need to log in, click the Bids & Proposals link at the top of the home page, and then click the "Submit an RFP" link. The postings will be viewable by any visitors to the site, but you'll need a user account to post an RFP. You can set up an account by clicking the "Create New Account" link on the home page. Be sure to pass this item along to the appropriate person in your organization so that you can take advantage of this valuable new feature.

Legislative Summary '08 Now in Print and Online: The Association's *2008 Legislative Summary* has been mailed out to Association members. The Legislative Summary provides a synopsis and analysis of state legislation affecting public transportation and the transit-relevant components of the state budget process. Compiled by our team of legislative advocates, the publication is available to Association members. While you're awaiting delivery in the mail, those with a website user account can view the document [here](#). If you don't have an account, go to www.caltransit.org and set one up today.



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