



## Executive Director's Report

April 13, 2009

### CALIFORNIA UPDATE

#### CEQA Impact of Service Cuts?

Please let me know if you have recently conducted or intend to conduct an analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) regarding any planned or implemented service cuts and/or fare increases (whether prompted by state funding cuts or other factors). Send your responses to me at [josh@caltransit.org](mailto:josh@caltransit.org). We will gather any responses we receive and make them available to all Association member transit agencies.

#### Association Solicits Support for Initiative Research

As part of its pursuit of stable and sufficient state funding for transit, the Association will conduct preliminary research into bringing a transit funding protection initiative before voters. The Executive Committee wishes to determine the feasibility of such a measure, and seeks the backing of member transit agencies in that investigative effort. Last week, we mailed letters to all members requesting formal support for this research effort from their governing boards. The letter included a sample template for use in crafting a resolution on which to take action. The more public agencies take public positions in support, the more momentum we will generate towards restoration of state transit funding. This is a chance for our Association to deliver a strong message to California about the essential services our members provide and, therefore, the essential need for a reliable source of state transit funding. The [letter to members](#) and a [customizable resolution template](#) are available for downloading. We encourage you take action as soon as possible.

#### Budget Reform Panel Gets Association Input

We have submitted recommendations to the Commission on the 21st Century Economy, a panel charged with studying ways of modernizing California's out-of-date revenue laws that have contributed to ongoing feast-or-famine budget cycles. The Association's report calls for the commission to support continuation and strengthening of the transportation funding mechanisms first put into place by the state in 1971 through the Transportation Development Act, to modernize and standardize the existing TDA revenue stream, and to restore stability and predictability to other sources of state transit funding that have been put in place since the TDA was enacted. The recommendations also urge constitutional protections to strengthen the intent of voters when they passed 1990's Proposition 116, which established the Public Transportation Account as a trust fund dedicated to "transportation planning and mass transportation purposes," and to clarify voters' intent in defining "mass transportation" purposes as "only those such as state, regional and local bus and rail passenger service open to the general public." [Click here](#) to read the full document submitted to the Commission, or [here](#) to learn more about the Commission itself.

### ASSOCIATION NEWS & ACTIVITIES

#### April 29 Webinar to Focus on Terminal Inspections

Our newest interactive webinar presentation has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 29 at 8 a.m. The presentation, hosted by the Association's [Maintenance Committee](#), will examine CHP's annual Terminal Inspections. This special webinar examines the Inspection process from the perspective of experienced transit professionals, as well as from the lead CHP officer overseeing the program. Join us to learn how your peers handle the process. Get advice from CHP leadership on how to best be prepared. The presentation will conclude with a Question-and-Answer session. [Click here](#) for more details.

#### Post RFPs and Job Listings at [www.caltransit.org](http://www.caltransit.org)

Your California Transit Association website includes the ability for members to post both Job Announcements and Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for planned projects. Once logged in through your user account, you can utilize the "Member Tools" on the home page to submit items for either section. You can view entries in those sections via the "Job Postings" or "Bids & Proposals" links that appear at the top of every page on the site. If you don't yet have a user account, [click here](#) to sign up for one. User accounts are limited to persons from Association member agencies and companies. If you encounter any difficulties or have any questions, use [this online form](#) to contact our website staff.