



* Action Alert *

The Legislature begins its interim recess this week as the first year of the 2011-12 legislative session draws to a close. Last Friday, September 9th, was the last day for both houses to pass bills to the governor's desk. The governor has until October 9th to sign or veto bills.

Association staff is pleased to report that almost all of the Association's priority bills were passed by the Legislature and are now awaiting a signature by Governor Brown. We need your help in sending letters to the governor requesting his signature on these bills:

[AB 427 \(Pérez\)](#) Streamlines the process for allocation and use of Transit System Safety, Security, and Disaster Response Account funds as part of the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[AB 607 \(Brownley\)](#) Authorizes a pilot program for the City of Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus (BBB) to mount illuminated digital advertising signs on its buses.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[AB 650 \(Blumenfield\)](#) Establishes the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Public Transportation for the 21st Century to make recommendations on California's transit system needs.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[AB 716 \(Dickinson\)](#) Eliminates the January 1, 2012 sunset date established by SB 1561 (Steinberg), enacted in 2008, authorizing the Sacramento Regional Transit District and the Fresno Area Express to issue a prohibition order to any person cited for committing one or more of certain prohibited acts in specified transit facilities and incorporate procedures for arrest and the issuance of citations. AB 716 would also authorize the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District to issue these prohibition orders until January 1, 2015.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[AB 1041 \(Ma\)](#) Removes the sunset originally enacted in AB 101 (Ma)-2007, sponsored by the City and County of San Francisco, authorizing the use of forward facing cameras to enforce parking violations in designated transit-only lanes.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[AB 1097 \(Skinner\)](#) Requires the Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency to authorize a state or local agency receiving federal funds for transit purposes to provide a bidding preference to a bidder if the bidder exceeds Buy America requirements applicable to federally funded transit projects.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[SB 310 \(Hancock\)](#) Encourages transit-oriented development by establishing the Transit Priority Project Program.

- [Sample support letter](#)

[SB 565 \(DeSaulnier\)](#) Includes a provision which extends the temporary exemption for State Transit Assistance (STA) Program efficiency criteria. The exemption was originally included as part of the Gas Tax Swap which passed in 2010, and expires on June 30, 2012. SB 565 would extend the exemption through June 30, 2015.

- [Sample support letter](#)

Update on other bills:

The following bills have become 2-year bills:

[AB 345 \(Atkins\)](#) Requires the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to ensure that any committee or formal group of the California Traffic Control Devices Committee (CTCDC) includes representation from all users of the road, including public transit, thereby improving the implementation of complete streets policies.

[AB 485 \(Ma\)](#) Eliminates the requirement of voter approval for the adoption of an infrastructure financing plan, the creation of an infrastructure financing district, and the issuance of bonds with respect to a transit village development district. Allows transit village development districts to use Tax Increment Financing (TIF) to use future gains in taxes (such as property tax revenues in the future) to pay for developing current transit-oriented development (TOD) projects.

[AB 845 \(Ma\)](#) Sets forth provisions for governing the distribution of the Proposition 1A \$950 million connectivity funds.

[SB 907 \(Evans\)](#) Creates the Master Plan for Infrastructure Financing and Development Commission, which would prepare and submit a strategy and plan for infrastructure development in California to the legislature and governor.

The following bills have been SIGNED by the governor:

[AB 147 \(Dickinson\)](#) Authorizes a local agency to utilize existing fees collected under the Subdivision Map Act to be considered for transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facilities.

[AB 426 \(Lowenthal\)](#) Authorize the Southern California Regional Rail Authority and the North County Transit District to adopt and enforce administrative adjudication ordinances.

The following bill was VETOED by the governor:

[SB 582 \(Yee\)](#) Authorizes a metropolitan planning organization and an air district to jointly adopt an ordinance requiring certain employers within their common jurisdiction to offer employees specified commute benefits, with the goal of reducing single-occupant vehicle trips.

We will keep you apprised of further developments on bills awaiting the governor's signature. Thank you for taking action!

**Please contact
Legislative and Regulatory Advocate Sabrina Means
at sabrina@caltransit.org if you have any questions.**