

Memorandum

To: CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS

CTC Meeting: January 22, 2015

Reference No.: 4.1
Action

From: WILL KEMPTON
Executive Director

Subject: **STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION**

SUMMARY:

The Legislature convened on January 5th to begin the first year of the new two-year 2015-2016 session. The last day for bills to be introduced is February 27th. Staff is currently monitoring five bills which are identified in Attachment A. Transportation Policy Committee Chairs and Transportation Committee Members for both houses of the State Legislature as well as the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and United States House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Members are identified in Attachment B.

On January 3rd, the United States Congress convened the 114th Congressional session. At this time, a federal highway reauthorization bill has not been introduced. The current federal authorization expires in May 2015.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Commission:

- 1) Accept the staff report, and
- 2) Provide direction to staff on legislation of interest to it.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission approved criteria to guide Commission staff in monitoring legislation and selecting bills that should be brought forward for Commission consideration. An over-arching criterion is that a bill must directly affect transportation on a statewide basis. Bills meeting one or more of the criteria, provided below, will be brought forward to the Commission for consideration.

- Funding/Financing - funding or a funding mechanism for transportation (capital and operations)
- Environmental Mitigation - implementation of greenhouse gas emissions reduction and transportation (e.g., AB 32), and/or involve the environmental process and transportation (e.g., CEQA)
- Planning - implementation of transportation, land use and planning (e.g., SB 375)

- Project Delivery - changes to the way transportation projects are delivered

Additional criteria for bringing a bill forward include:

- Direct Impact to Commission - changes in Commission responsibility, policy impact or operations
- Commissioner Request - recommended by a Commissioner for consideration by the Commission at its next regularly scheduled meeting

The Commission adopted policy to 1.) consider legislation in relation to its overall policy by topic area prior to taking a position on legislation addressing that topic; and 2.) remain selective in its use of watch, support or opposition on a bill. The rationale for a policy by topic area is it permits the Commission to address a suite of legislative proposals dealing with the same topic by commenting to the author(s) without necessarily taking a position. Rather than taking specific positions on bills in their initial state, the Commission can advise the Legislature on a bill's policy and/or technical aspects, as well as how it helps or hinders transportation. The intent of the Commission's comments is to alert the author of the bill's impact on a policy and/or technical aspect related to transportation planning, programming, financing, mitigation, or project delivery.

Further direction will be provided to staff, by the Chair, on bills that meet the aforementioned criteria.

Attachments

- A – Status of State and Federal Legislation
- B – State and Federal Transportation Policy Committee Members

Bill #	Author	Title	Subject	Description	Status
<u>AB 4</u>	Linder	Vehicle Weight Fees: Transportation Bond Debt Service	Funding/Financing	This bill would prohibit weight fee revenues from being transferred from the State Highway Account to the Transportation Debt Service Fund, the Transportation Bond Direct Payment Account, or any other fund or account for the purpose of payment of the debt service on transportation obligation bonds. This bill would also prohibit loans of weight fee revenues to the General Fund.	<i>Last Action</i> Referred to Committee January 16, 2015 <i>Current Location</i> Assembly Transportation Committee
<u>AB 103</u>	Weber	Budget Act of 2015	Funding/Financing	Makes appropriations for the support of state government, including the Commission, for the 2015-16 fiscal year.	<i>Last Action</i> Introduced January 9, 2015 <i>Current Location</i> Assembly
<u>SB 9</u>	Beall	Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Transit/Intercity Rail	Funding/Financing	This bill would modify the purpose of the program to delete references to operational investments and instead provide for the funding of large, transformative capital improvements with a total cost exceeding \$100,000,000. The bill would require the Transportation Agency, in prioritizing and selecting projects for funding, to consider the extent to which a project reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and would add additional factors to be considered in evaluating applications for funding. The bill would require the Transportation Agency to develop, by July 1, 2016, an initial 5-year estimate of revenues reasonably expected to be available for the program, with subsequent estimates to be made every other year for additional 5-year periods, and would require the agency to adopt 5-year programs of projects consistent with those estimates. The bill would require the agency to make a multiyear funding commitment for a project proposed to be funded over more than one fiscal year, and would authorize the California Transportation Commission to approve a letter of no prejudice that allow an applicant to expend its own funds on a project in the adopted program of projects, subject to future reimbursement from program funds for eligible expenditures.	<i>Last Action</i> Referred to Committee January 15, 2015 <i>Current Location</i> Senate Committees on Environmental Quality and Transportation & Housing
<u>SB 64</u>	Liu	State Transportation Plan	Planning Direct Impact to CTC	This bill would require the Commission to review recommendation in the update to California Transportation Plan prepared by Caltrans, beginning in 2015 and every 5 years thereafter. This bill would also require the Commission to prepare specific recommendations for statewide system improvements and include those recommendations in a report to the Legislature and the Governor by December 31, 2016 and every 5 years thereafter.	<i>Last Action</i> Referred to Committee January 15, 2015 <i>Current Location</i> Senate Transportation & Housing Committee
<u>SB 69</u>	Leno	Budget Act of 2015	Funding/Financing	Makes appropriations for the support of state government, including the Commission, for the 2015-16 fiscal year.	<i>Last Action</i> Introduced January 9, 2015 <i>Current Location</i> Senate
<u>USHR 309</u>	Huffman	Carbon Tax	Funding/Financing	This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide for repealing the gas tax and establishing a carbon tax on highway fuels.	<i>Last Action</i> Referred to Committee January 13, 2015 <i>Current Location</i> House Committees on Ways & Means and Energy & Commerce

Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Members:

Senator Jim Beall (Chair)
 Senator Anthony Cannella (Vice Chair)
 Senator Benjamin Allen
 Senator Patricia C. Bates
 Senator Ted Gaines
 Senator Cathleen Galgiani
 Senator Connie M. Leyva
 Senator Mike McGuire
 Senator Tony Mendoza
 Senator Richard D. Roth
 Senator Bob Wiecekowski

Assembly Transportation Committee Members:

Jim Frazier (Chair)
 Katcho Achadjian (Vice Chair)
 Catharine B. Baker
 Richard Bloom
 Nora Campos
 Kansen Chu
 Tom Daly
 Bill Dodd
 Eduardo Garcia
 Jimmy Gomez
 Young O. Kim
 Eric Linder
 Jose Medina
 Melissa A. Melendez
 Adrin Nazarian
 Patrick O'Donnell

U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee Members:

Majority Members	Minority Members
Chairman John Thune, South Dakota	Ranking Member Bill Nelson, Florida
Senator Roger Wicker, Mississippi	Senator Maria Cantwell, Washington
Senator Roy Blunt, Missouri	Senator Claire McCaskill, Missouri
Senator Marco Rubio, Florida	Senator Amy Klobuchar, Minnesota
Senator Kelly Ayotte, New Hampshire	Senator Richard Blumenthal, Connecticut
Senator Dean Heller, Nevada	Senator Brian Schatz, Hawaii
Senator Ted Cruz, Texas	Senator Ed Markey, Massachusetts
Senator Deb Fischer, Nebraska	Senator Cory Booker, New Jersey
Senator Dan Sullivan, Alaska	Senator Tom Udall, New Mexico
Senator Jerry Moran, Kansas	Senator Joe Manchin, West Virginia
Senator Ron Johnson, Wisconsin	Senator Gary Peters, Michigan
Senator Cory Gardner, Colorado	
Senator Steve Daines, Montana	

U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Members:

Chairman Bill Shuster, Pennsylvania	Mimi Walters, California
Ranking Member Peter A. DeFazio, Oregon	Barbara Comstock, Virginia
Don Young, Alaska	Carlos Curbelo, Florida
John J. Duncan Jr., Tennessee	David Rouzer, North Carolina
John L. Mica, Florida	Lee Zeldin, New York
Frank A. LoBiondo, New Jersey	Eleanor Holmes Norton, District of Columbia
Sam Graves, Missouri	Jerrold Nadler, New York
Candice S. Miller, Michigan	Corrine Brown, Florida
Duncan Hunter, California	Eddie Bernice Johnson, Texas
Eric A. "Rick" Crawford, Arkansas	Elijah E. Cummings, Maryland
Lou Barletta, Pennsylvania	Rick Larsen, Washington
Blake Farenthold, Texas	Michael E. Capuano, Massachusetts
Bob Gibbs, Ohio	Timothy H. Bishop, New York
Richard L. Hanna, New York	Michael H. Michaud, Maine
Daniel Webster, Florida	Grace F. Napolitano, California
Jeff Denham, California	Daniel Lipinski, Illinois
Reid J. Ribble, Wisconsin	Timothy J. Walz, Minnesota
Thomas Massie, Kentucky	Steven Cohen, Tennessee
Tom Rice, South Carolina	Albio Sires, New Jersey
Mark Meadows, North Carolina	Donna F. Edwards, Maryland
Scott Perry, Pennsylvania	John Garamendi, California
Rodney Davis, Illinois	Andre Carson, Indiana
Mark Sanford, South Carolina	Janice Hahn, California
Rob Woodall, Georgia	Richard M. Nolan, Minnesota
Todd Rokita, Indiana	Ann Kirkpatrick, Arizona
John Katko, New York	Dina Titus, Nevada
Brian Babin, Texas	Sean Patrick Maloney, New York
Crescent Hardy, Nevada	Elizabeth H. Esty, Connecticut
Ryan Costello, Pennsylvania	Lois Frankel, Florida
Garret Graves, Louisiana	Cheri Bustos, Illinois