

## ATTACHMENT E

**BILL:** ASSEMBLY BILL 695

**AUTHOR:** ASSEMBLYMEMBER RAUL BOCANEGRA (D-SAN FERNANDO)

**SUBJECT:** AVOIDANCE OF ON-TRACK EQUIPMENT

**STATUS:** ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE  
HEARING: APRIL 5, 2017

PASSED ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
MARCH 21, 2017 (14-0)

**ACTION:** SUPPORT

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors adopt a SUPPORT position on Assembly Bill 695 (Bocanegra).

### **ISSUE**

Assemblymember Raul Bocanegra introduced AB 695 which would make changes related to safety provisions at rail crossings.

Specifically the bill would:

- Make it a violation for vehicles and pedestrian failure to yield safely to on-track equipment at a railroad or transit grade crossing.

### **DISCUSSION**

As introduced, the bill would require that vehicles or pedestrians approaching a railroad or rail transit grade crossing yield to on-track equipment.

Existing law requires motorists to stop for trains at grade crossings but does not include on-track equipment. AB 695 (Bocanegra), in its current form, aims to address pedestrian and vehicle safety at grade crossings and railroads by adding on-track maintenance equipment to the code section. Motorists and pedestrians will be required to stop at a safe distance and observe safety precautions for maintenance equipment, which is not currently required under existing law.

This measure will increase safety for maintenance workers, pedestrians and motor vehicles at Metro's many grade crossings, countywide. The bill could also have a potential positive impact to safety at grade crossings for freight corridors.

Staff recommends that the Board adopt a SUPPORT position on the measure AB 695 (Bocanegra).

### **DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT**

There is no determined safety impact due to the enactment of the proposed legislation. Safety may be improved at Metro's specified transit grade crossings due to added enforcement for vehicles and pedestrians who are in violation of the regulation when on-track maintenance equipment is present.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The estimated financial impact has yet to be determined.

### **ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED**

Staff has considered adopting either an oppose or neutral position on the bill. Adopting an oppose position on the bill would be counter to the agency's efforts to improve safety system-wide for patrons and employees.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Should the Board decide to adopt a SUPPORT position on this measure; staff will communicate the Board's position to the author and work to ensure the measure's passage. Staff will continue to keep the Board informed as this issue is addressed throughout the legislative session.