

REVISED ATTACHMENT B

BILL: AB 2222

AUTHOR: ASSEMBLYMEMBER CHRIS HOLDEN
(D-PASADENA)

SUBJECT: TRANSIT PASSES

STATUS: ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
HEARING SCHEDULED: APRIL 11, 2016

ACTION: SUPPORT ~~IF-AMENDED~~

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board adopt a SUPPORT ~~IF-AMENDED~~ position on AB 2222 (Holden).

ISSUE

Assemblymember Chris Holden has introduced AB 2222, a bill that would allocate \$50 million per year in Cap and Trade funds to a new Transit Pass Program.

AB 2222 would:

- Allocate \$50 million per year for a new Transit Pass Program.
- Provide that the program be administered by Caltrans.
- Allocate funds using the State Transit Assistance Account formula.
- Specify that funds can be used to support transit passes for students at public schools, community colleges, California State Universities and the University of California.
- Require Caltrans to work with the California Air Resources Board to develop guidelines.
- Require that 50% of the funds benefit disadvantaged communities.

DISCUSSION

AB 2222 provides an opportunity to expand Metro's student transit pass program through the use of cap and trade funds. This program could help to provide additional transit passes to students, encourage the use of public transit and therefore reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The bill creates a program that could benefit Los Angeles County students however, we would suggest that the bill be amended to provide certainty to the program, ensure that Los Angeles County receives an appropriate share and ensure that the diversity of the student population is served.

Staff is recommending that the Board of Directors adopt a SUPPORT ~~IF-AMENDED~~ position on the measure AB 2222 (Holden).

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Staff has determined that there is no direct impact to safety as a result of this proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Staff has determined that there is not an immediate fiscal impact to the agency as the result of the provisions outlined in this bill.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board of Directors could consider adopting an OPPOSE position on this legislation; however, this would be inconsistent with our agency's current efforts at increasing mobility throughout the region and the development of a universal student transit pass program.

NEXT STEPS

Should the Board decide to adopt a SUPPORT IF AMENDED position on AB 2222, staff will communicate the Board's position to the author and work to ensure the successful passage of ~~that the Board approved amendments are incorporated in~~ the measure. Staff will continue to keep the Board informed as this issue is addressed throughout the legislative session.