

## **2019 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**

### **GOAL #1: PROPOSE TO CONGRESS AND THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION OUR REBUILDING AMERICA INITIATIVE TO BOLSTER FEDERAL SUPPORT TO ACCELERATE OUR AMBITIOUS CAPITAL PROGRAM THROUGH BOARD-APPROVED TWENTY EIGHT BY 2028 INITIATIVE**

#### Proposed Activities:

Support federal legislation that embraces our Rebuilding America initiative that sets forth five key goals for Congress and the Trump Administration to adopt in order to strengthen federal transportation programs. These five goals are:

1. Increasing the length of future surface transportation authorization bills to increase the certainty needed by our agency and other transportation entities to appropriately plan for the future.
2. Increase the federal gas tax to address the federal Highway Trust Funds' solvency issues.
3. Authorize America Fast Forward Transportation Bonds to provide a powerful new finance tool for transportation agencies to use when financing major capital projects.
4. Expand and reform the Projects of National and Regional Significance program – first authorized in SAFETEA-LU; ~~5) Boost effective and efficient federal workforce development programs to ensure that transportation agencies across the nation have the trained workforce we and they will need to rebuild America's infrastructure.~~
5. Increase federal support for proven workforce development programs that will ensure Metro and other transportation agencies continue to have a skilled workforce for our expanding transportation systems.

### **GOAL #2: WORK TO CONTINUE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND OBTAIN NEW STARTS FUNDING FOR ELIGIBLE METRO TRANSIT PROJECTS**

#### Proposed Activities:

Work with our Congressional Delegation, transportation leaders in the House and Senate and the U.S. Department of Transportation to ensure the continuation of the

federal Capital Investment Grant program (CIG). Congress has voted to fully fund the program and included instruction to continue to advance new transit projects. Metro has and will continue to partner with the Administration to approve a Full Funding Grant Agreement in 2019 for Westside Purple Line Extension (Section 3). The CIG program is vital in assisting Metro to build new high capacity transit projects throughout the region. Metro currently receives funding through this program for the Regional Connector, Westside Purple Line Extension (Section 1) and Westside Purple Line Extension (Section 2). Over the last six years, Metro has secured over \$3 billion through Full Funding Grant Agreements issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

**GOAL #3: WORK WITH THE WHITE HOUSE AND CONGRESS TO INITIATE A WHITE HOUSE TASK FORCE FOR THE 2028 OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPIC SUMMER GAMES TO ENSURE STRONG FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR KEY HIGHWAY AND TRANSIT PROJECTS ACROSS LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

Proposed Activities:

Seek the creation of a White House Task Force on the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games. Most recently, such a task force was successfully assembled prior to the 2002 Olympic Winter Games held in Salt Lake City, Utah where the federal government provided ample funding (approximately \$1 billion) for highway and transit projects.

**GOAL #4: CONTINUE TO WORK TO BRING A PERMANENT CENTER OF TRANSPORTATION EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL PARK TO LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

Proposed Activities:

Work to encourage federal support for our CEO's goal of creating a Center of Transportation Excellence within Los Angeles County – which would result in having a rolling stock production facility in Los Angeles County. Our agency will, consistent with the relevant Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors resolutions, closely collaborate with Los Angeles County's CEO and their professional staff, in addition to other municipal leaders, in identifying viable locations, both short and long-term, for an industrial complex to potentially include rail and bus manufacturing/assembly plant in Los Angeles County. This complex may also include, but not be limited to, suppliers of rail and bus parts, a rail test track and a climate controlled facility for testing purposes.

**GOAL #5: CONTINUE TO SEEK TO RESTORE OBAMA-ERA REFORMS TO FEDERAL LOCAL HIRE RULES**

Proposed Activities:

Work with the Trump Administration, Congress and the stakeholder community to restore Obama-era Local Hire reforms. Included in this effort would be our agency making the case that local hire programs do not impact competition based on evidence from Metro's experience with the Local Hire Pilot Program. Our agency would work with key stakeholder groups to build support for a new federal Local Hire initiative and seek support for federal legislation to permanently allow local hiring practices on transportation projects using federal funds.

**GOAL #6: CONTINUE TO WORK WITH METROLINK TO SUPPORT FUNDING FOR STATE OF GOOD REPAIR AND CORE CAPACITY PROJECTS**

Proposed Activities:

Work to support Metrolink's board approved State of Good Repair and Core Capacity project list by ensuring federal funding applied to these important projects.

**GOAL #7: CONTINUE TO SEEK FUNDING FOR THE PROJECTS IN THE GOODS MOVEMENT ACTION PLAN**

Proposed Activities:

Continue to work with Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles to seek funding for projects within the Goods Movement Action Plan .

**GOAL #8 SEEK RESTORATION OF TAX BENEFITS ELIMINATED BY THE PASSAGE OF H.R.1 – TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT**

Proposed Activities:

Work with key local, regional and national stakeholders to restore the Advance Refunding Bonds, commuter tax benefit, and the alternative fuel tax credit provisions.

**GOAL #89: SECURE DISCRETIONARY GRANT FUNDING FROM MAJOR U.S. DOT GRANT PROGRAMS**

Proposed Activities:

Organize strategic advocacy plans in coordination with local and regional stakeholders as well as Los Angeles County's Congressional Delegation to demonstrate strong support for grant applications that Metro submits to the U.S. Department of Transportation. Specifically, the INFRA Grant Program, BUILD Grant Program, Bus and Bus Facilities, and LoNo Grant Program are large, discretionary grant programs that are priority programs for the agency.

**GOAL #9 10: ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES**

Proposed Activities:

1. Work to ensure that any legislation adopted by Congress and signed into law by the President concerning autonomous vehicles does not compromise safety by weakening state and local traffic laws.
2. Work with Metro's regional partners to advance career education and training programs that will ensure the needed workforce to operate and maintain our transit system is ready and available;
3. Work to advocate for all Metro discretionary grant applications which include funding for such programs as transit oriented communities, safety and innovation;
4. Work with the Administration to avoid negative impacts as a result of implementation of tariffs on steel and various rolling stock parts and materials;
5. Work closely with the Administration and USDOT on regulations and proposed rulemakings that impact Metro.
6. Work with USDOT – consistent with Board policy – to address congestion pricing opportunities with respect to potential funding and regulations.
7. Work with Congress to allow art and non-functional landscaping expenses related to transit projects to be eligible for federal funding.

**GOAL #10 11: SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS THAT WILL IMPACT METRO'S ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT VISION 2028, THE AGENCY'S FIVE-POINT PLAN AND THE '28 BY 2028' INITIATIVE**

The Metro Vision 2028 Plan is the agency-wide strategic plan that creates the foundation for transforming mobility in LA County over the next 10 years. Attachment C outlines Metro's Vision 2028 State and Federal Strategic Goals.

Metro's Five-Point Plan outlines how Metro's programs and initiatives aim to:

- Implement Mobility Innovation
- Capture the Hearts and Minds of the People
- Embrace Equity
- Foster Continuous Improvement
- Step into Leadership Voids

Proposed Activities:

Monitor legislation that would impact Metro's ability to implement the strategic goals outlined in Vision 2028;

Monitor legislation that would impact Metro's ability to implement the aspects of the Five-Point plan; and

Support legislation and initiatives that would increase Metro's ability to implement Vision 2028 and the Five-Point Plan.