

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
300 Lakeside Drive, P. O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688
(510) 464-6000

AGENDA

PLANNING, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ACCESS, AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

August 4, 2011

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Directors Murray (Chairperson) Raburn, and Radulovich

Director Murray, Chairperson of the Planning, Public Affairs, Access, and Legislation Committee, has announced the agenda for a regular meeting on Thursday, August 4, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be held in the BART Board Room, Kaiser Center 20th Street Mall – Third Floor, 344 20th Street, Oakland, California.

AGENDA

1. Legislative Update.* For information.
2. General Discussion and Public Comment.

Patricia K. Williams
Assistant District Secretary

Please refrain from wearing scented products (perfume, cologne, after-shave, etc.) to this meeting, as there may be people in attendance susceptible to environmental illnesses.

BART provides service/accommodations upon request to persons with disabilities and individuals who are limited English proficient who wish to address BART Board/Committee matters. A request must be made within one and five days in advance of Board/Committee meetings, depending on the service requested. Please contact the Office of the District Secretary at (510) 464-6083 for information.



PLANNING, PUBLIC AFFAIRS, ACCESS &
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

August 4, 2011

Legislative Update
Agenda

State Update

- Budget
- Hearings
- Connectivity Funds

A. BART Sponsored Legislation

AB 485 (Ma) Infrastructure Finance District (IFD) for TOD

AB 485 would eliminate the requirement of voter approval for the creation of an infrastructure financing district (IFD), the adoption of an infrastructure financing plan and the issuance of bonds with respect to a transit village development district. **STATUS:** Passed Assembly; on Senate Floor for vote.

AB 845 (Ma) Connectivity Funds

AB 845 would put into statute some of the guidelines established by the California Transportation Commission (CTC) for distributing the “connectivity” formula funds as directed by the High Speed Rail (HSR) statute and state Proposition 1A. These funds are scheduled to assist in BART’s new rail car procurement. **STATUS:** Passed Assembly; in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1097 (Skinner) American Content for Transit

AB 1097 would allow a state or local agency receiving federal funds for transit purposes to provide a bidding preference if the bidder meets or exceeds federal “Buy America” requirements applicable to federally funded transit projects. **STATUS:** Passed Assembly; on Senate Floor for vote.

B. Other BART-Supported Legislation:

AB 650 (Blumenfield) Blue Ribbon Task Force

AB 650 would establish the “Blue Ribbon Task Force on Public Transportation for the 21st Century” comprised of 12 specified members jointly appointed by the state Senate and Assembly to issue a written report with recommendations on the current state of California's transit system and potential sources of funding to sustain the transit system's needs. The report would be due to the Governor and Legislature by March 31, 2013. **STATUS:** Passed Assembly; in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 710 (Skinner) Infill Developments, Parking

AB 710 would encourage greater infill and TOD development by decreasing costly local parking requirements in “transit intensive areas.” The legislation would prohibit cities and counties from requiring a minimum parking standard greater than one space per thousand square feet of nonresidential improvements and one space per unit of residential improvements for new development projects in transit intensive areas. **STATUS:** Passed Assembly; on Senate Floor for vote.

AB 716 (Dickinson) Transit Districts: Prohibition Orders

AB 716 would extend indefinitely the deadline for the law that authorizes certain transit systems to cite individuals who are repeat offenders with a prohibition order. As amended this legislation would provide BART similar citing authority which would sunset January 1, 2015. **STATUS:** Passed Assembly; in Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 214 (Wolk) Infrastructure Finance Districts

SB 214 would do a variety of things to make the Infrastructure Finance District (IFD) process more accessible so local governments have additional financing tools including taking away the necessity of a local 2/3 vote. **STATUS:** Passed Senate; on Assembly Floor for vote.

SB 310 (Hancock): “Transit Priority Projects”

SB 310 would, like AB 485 and SB 214 (above), repeal the local 2/3 voting requirements to establish an Infrastructure Finance District (IFD) for the purpose of providing TOD financing options and to better coordinate local transportation and land use plans. The bill would establish the “Transit Priority Project Program,” and provide incentives to developers if certain requirements are met. **STATUS:** Passed Senate; on Assembly Floor for vote.

SB 582 (Yee) MTC Authority; Commuter benefit

SB 582 would, beginning January 1, 2013, authorize a metropolitan planning organization (MPO) jointly with the local air quality management district or air pollution control district, to adopt a commute benefit ordinance that requires employers to offer certain commute benefits to employees: a pre-tax program consistent with federal law allowing employees to exclude their commuting costs incurred for transit

passes, vanpool charges, or bicycle commuting from taxable wages; an employer-paid benefit to offset the costs of commuting via public transit or a vanpool; or an employer-provided transit program where the employer provides transportation to the employees in a vanpool or bus at no cost. **STATUS:** Passed State Legislature. Sent to Governor for his consideration.

ACA 4 (Blumenfield) Bonded Indebtedness: 55 percent Voter Approval Threshold

ACA 4 would amend the state constitution to lower to 55 percent the voter approval threshold for a city, county or special district to incur bonded indebtedness, exceeding in one year the income and revenue provided in that year, to fund specific public projects which could include “improvements to transportation infrastructures, streets, highways, sewer systems, water systems, wastewater systems and parks and recreation facilities.” **STATUS:** In Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Federal Update

- Debt Reduction
- Reauthorization Update
- Appropriations
- BART Washington Trip

Legislation

H.R. 613 (Garamendi) Airports, Highways, High-Speed Rail, Trains, and Transit: Make it in America Act.

H.R. 613 would eliminate certain grounds for waiving Buy America requirements for transit and other transportation projects and would increase the percentage requirements for American made content in transit vehicles going forward. **STATUS:** Referred to House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; No hearings scheduled.

H.R. 1825 (Blumenauer) Commuter Relief Act

H.R. 1825 would create transit equity by setting a uniform cap for all employer transportation fringe benefits to \$200 a month and increasing the amount of money that employers could give to employees who use alternate forms of transportation to get to work -- such as carpooling, taking public transit or bicycling. Under this bill, commuters who use alternative transportation would have the same incentives as those who commute by car. **STATUS:** Referred to House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; No hearings scheduled.