

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



March 2017

ADVISE AND ASSIST THE LEGISLATURE

One of the California Transportation Commission's (Commission) primary statutory charges is to advise and assist both the Legislature and the Administration in formulating and evaluating state policies and plans for California's transportation programs. This is accomplished in a number of ways, including:

- Responding to legislative inquiries;
- Summarizing, making recommendations, and taking positions on legislation and legislative policies;
- Developing policy proposals and methodology for financing transportation programs;
- Pursuing legislative action on Commission recommendations;
- Seeking legislative input on statewide guidelines for programming and administering new and existing programs;
- Discussing transportation funding and policy issues with legislators and their staff;
- Reviewing enacted legislation to determine impacts to transportation funding and programs.

ANNUAL REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

In addition to these ongoing responsibilities, statute requires the Commission to submit an annual report to the Legislature by December 15th with specific, action-oriented recommendations for legislation that will improve the state's transportation system.

On December 15, 2016, the Commission issued its 2016 Annual Report to the Legislature. This report can be found at:

http://www.catc.ca.gov/reports/2016%20Reports/2016_Annual_Report_Final.pdf

COMMISSION 2015 LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS SIGNED INTO LAW IN 2016

To advise and assist the Legislature, the Commission made a number of specific recommendations for statutory and administrative reforms in its 2015 Annual Report. In response, Legislators introduced 15 bills to implement Commission recommendations. While many of these bills fell victim to the legislative process, five made it to the Governor's desk. Four bills were signed into law while one was vetoed. The Commission acknowledges the hard work of all the authors that strove to implement Commission recommendations.

AB 2126 (Mullin) – State CM/GC Authority: Authorizes Caltrans to use the Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) method on twice as many projects as is currently authorized, from six to twelve.

AB 2289 (Frazier) – Putting the "O" in SHOPP: Clarifies law to permit Caltrans to use State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP) funds for operational improvements on the state highway system.

AB 2274 (Chiu) – Regional CM/GC Authority: Expands regional transportation agencies' existing off-system CM/GC project delivery authority to ramps that are not on the state highway system. In addition, removes the requirement that the project be developed in accordance with an expenditure plan approved by voters.

AB 2620 (Dababneh) – Proposition 116: Requires the Commission to reallocate Proposition 116 funds to other passenger rail projects if the funds are not expended or encumbered by July 1, 2020.

In 2017, the Commission continues to build on these legislative successes and work to improve transportation in California.

Commissioners

Bob Alvarado, Chair
Fran Inman, Vice-Chair
Yvonne B. Burke
Lucetta Dunn
James Earp

James C. Ghielmetti
Carl Guardino
Christine Kehoe
James Madaffer
Joseph Tavaglione

Ex-Officios

Senator Jim Beall
Assembly Member Jim Frazier

Executive Director
Susan Bransen

LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH AND SUPPORT

The Commission engages the Legislature in various ways to fulfill its statutory advisory duties, for example:

- The Commission meets annually with Legislators and staff at Legislative roundtables to discuss the state's latest transportation policy challenges.
- Commissioners meet with individual Legislators new to the transportation committees to introduce those members to the Commission and offer assistance in developing their transportation policy platforms.
- The Commission holds an annual legislative staff briefing discussing the Commission's annual report recommendations.
- Legislators and staff are invited to attend Commission-sponsored informational workshops and forums to discuss statewide transportation policy matters.

POLICY DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS

The Commission produces policy documents and reports to support Legislative efforts and provide direction on important transportation-related issues.

- Proposition 1B Report: The Commission recently published a report, "Promises Made, Promises Kept: A Review of the Management and Outcomes of the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Act of 2006 (Proposition 1B)." This report highlighted how the results of Proposition 1B demonstrate that promises made to California voters for significant traffic and other transportation improvements were kept through good management, carefully established accountability measures, and transparent reporting of bond funds spent. The Proposition 1B report can be found at:

http://www.catc.ca.gov/1baccount/Proposition_1B_Report_9-2-15.pdf

- Consensus Principles: In 2015, the Commission adopted Consensus Principles for Transportation Funding, Reform and Solutions to advise the Legislature in enacting transportation funding and reform legislation that provides a comprehensive solution to protect California's transportation infrastructure, economy, environment and quality of life. These principles include the following reforms and funding characteristics:

Reforms

- Expedite Project Delivery
- Ensure Transparency and Accountability
- Protect Transportation Revenues

Funding

- Significant, Consistent, Reliable and Equitable
- Focus on Protection of Existing System
- Support Trade Corridors & Goods Movement
- Dedicated, Protected, Accountable, and Performance Driven

The Commission's Consensus Principles can be found at: http://www.catc.ca.gov/Fact_Sheets/Commission_Consensus_Principles_FINAL_020617.pdf

- Unfunded Transportation Investment Priorities:

The Commission, in collaboration with its regional partners, developed a 2011 Needs Assessment that assessed California's transportation system and how we can pay for it. The report can be found at:

http://www.catc.ca.gov/reports/2012%20Reports/Trans_Needs_Assessment_corrected_01172012.pdf

The Commission is also working to develop a report on Unfunded Transportation Investment Priorities to help inform the Legislature's efforts to secure a transportation funding and reform measure. The 2017 Unfunded Transportation Investment Priorities is planned to be available Spring 2017.

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