



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 5

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Memorandum

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: June 5, 2009

FR: Executive Director

RE: FY 2009-10 State Budget Update

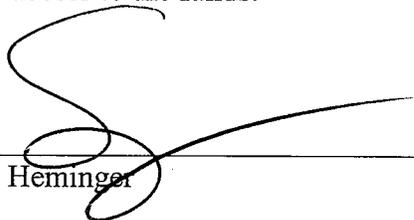
California voters' resounding rejection of the May 19 special election measures has forced Sacramento legislators back to the drawing board to solve what is now estimated to be a \$21.3 billion budget shortfall, of which \$5.8 billion is due to the rejection of the measures, roughly \$12.4 billion is due to lower revenue projections in the current year, and about \$3.1 billion is due to additional expenditure increases resulting from statutory formulas and other actions.

The Administration's May Revise of the FY 2009-10 Budget includes \$5.5 billion in borrowing with revenue anticipation warrants (RAWs), \$5.3 billion in cuts to K-14 education, and \$2 billion in local government revenue loans to be repaid with interest in three years under the provisions of Proposition 1A (2004). With regard to transportation, the Administration proposes:

- For FY 2009-10, transferring \$986 million in local gas tax subventions (otherwise available for local streets and roads) to the General Fund to offset transportation debt service costs pursuant to Article XIX, Section 5 of the Constitution, which the Administration believes allows up to 25 percent of the state's *total* fuel tax revenue (including the local share) to be used for this purpose. For FY 2010-11 and beyond, diverting about \$750 million annually from local gas tax subventions to offset transportation bond debt service.
- Transferring an additional \$336 million in unanticipated spillover funds (due to higher gasoline prices) to the General Fund to cover transportation debt service costs.

The Legislative Analyst's Office recommended an alternative approach whereby the state would borrow, rather than simply redirect, local gas tax subvention funds and repay them with interest within three years. The LAO also recommended partial suspension of Proposition 42 in FY 2009-10.

The proposed redirection of local gas tax subvention funds would result in a \$184 million loss in funding for Bay Area cities and counties in FY 2009-10 and almost \$140 million in FY 2010-11 and beyond, as shown in Attachment 1. Staff will closely monitor the budget negotiations, particularly the proposal to reduce local streets and road funding, and work to minimize the impact on projects already underway, particularly those that are partially funded by federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds, and thus subject to strict deadlines in order to retain access to the funds.



Steve Heminger