



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

Agenda Item 7a

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TDD/TTY 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

TO: Legislation Committee

DATE: October 28, 2011

FR: Executive Director

W. I. 1131

RE: FY 2011-12 Federal Appropriations

At the time this memorandum was finalized, Congress had yet to adopt an appropriations bill to provide funding for the remainder of FY 2012, which began on October 1, 2011. The most recent stop-gap funding bill, known as a “continuing resolution”, provided funding until November 18, while the six-month extension adopted in September extends the authorizing law for the surface transportation program through March 2012. As in past years, it appears likely that Congress will adopt a last moment spending measure to keep the programs funded.

The overall funding proposed for the Transportation-Housing and Urban Development (THUD) bill in the House and Senate are almost identical, with \$55.1 billion proposed in the House and \$55.2 billion proposed in the Senate. This is a slight reduction from the \$55.4 billion enacted for FY 2011. The key difference in transportation funding in the House and Senate bill is that the Senate bill provides \$1.3 billion more in discretionary funding to the Department of Transportation, including \$550 million for the Transportation Improvement Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program, \$352 million more for Amtrak, and \$401 million more for the Federal Transit Administration’s New Starts funding. In addition, the Senate bill includes \$100 million for high-speed rail, which is zeroed out in the House bill.

The Senate is scheduled to vote on their version of the bill, S. 1572, on October 31, while the House has not yet scheduled a vote. Both chambers are eager to wrap up FY 2012 appropriations before Thanksgiving so that December can be dedicated to the deficit reduction bill proposed by the so-called “Super Committee.” Staff will provide any updates on further developments related to FY 2012 federal appropriations at your November 4 meeting.

Steve Heminger

SH:RL

J:\COMMITTEE\Legislation\Meeting Packets\Legis2011\11_Legis_Nov2011\7a_FY 2012 Approps.doc