



Advocacy Update

Receive & File

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Attachments: Yes

Referring Committee: Policy & Innovation

Issue:

Update on state and federal advocacy activities.

Request:

Receive & File

Recommendation for Board:

None, this item is for information only.

Recommendation for Committee:

None, this item is for information only.

Background:

The Policy and Innovation Committee receives regular updates from both staff and our lobbyists at the regularly scheduled meetings and a summary report of activities that occurred in the prior month. At the last meeting in February, SACOG's federal lobbyists, Capitol Transportation Consulting and Pavluchuk & Associates, provided an overview of the year ahead including a focus on Reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Bill. This included an update on the active transition in the administration as related to the confirmation of Sean Duffy as the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and various Executive Orders. Attachment A, Federal Report, provides an overview of federal activities for the month of February. On the state side, February 21, is the deadline for the Legislature to introduce bills, providing a roadmap of the issues addressed in this legislative session. The Legislature has also initiated a series of informational hearings to discuss the Governor's Budget proposal, the Climate Bond, and housing and homelessness. Attachment B, State Report, provides an overview of state activities.

Discussion/Analysis:

SACOG staff and SACOG's federal and state lobbyists will provide a more detailed update at the meeting with the latest information regarding state and federal advocacy efforts, with a particular focus on recent activities, the year ahead, and federal reauthorization of the Federal Transportation Bill. The California Legislature introduced 2502 bills for this session, reflecting the lowered bill thresholds recently enforced by the Senate and Assembly. In comparison, there were 3,900 bills in the previous session. Many of the introduced legislation are nonsubstantive in language and will be amended in the coming weeks. SACOG is watching several bills related to housing and transportation. Our lobbyist with Politico Group will provide more information regarding legislation of importance to SACOG and other relevant issues at the committee meeting.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Included in the Overall Work Program/Budget

List of Attachments:

Attachment A - Federal Report

Attachment B- State Report