



Advocacy Update

Information

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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.

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None, this item is for information only.

Background:

In Washington, D.C. SACOG's federal lobbyists, Capitol Transportation Consulting and Pavluchuk & Associates, continue to advocate for funding and programs that advance SACOG's priorities. In May, work efforts focused on continued identification and advocacy for programs and funding supportive of Green Means Go; including EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program and various appropriation requests.

In Sacramento, staff have been working closely with SACOG's state lobbyists, Politico Group, monitoring the 2024 legislative year. We continue to focus on advocacy to protect funding for the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 2.0) that funds Green Means Go, identifying legislation and issues of interest to SACOG, and tracking state budget discussions.

Discussion/Analysis:

Advocacy for Green Means Go funding at both the federal and state levels continues. On the federal funding side, staff continue to promote the regional application for the CPRG competitive grant, which is being led by Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. Additionally, SACOG's lobbyists have submitted requests to our delegation to support the PRO Housing grant program, also referred to as the "Yes in My Backyard" program. The PRO Housing grant program could be an important tool to addressing critical housing challenges and transportation connections in our region. Attachment A is a summary of this activity, and other federal updates, prepared by SACOG's federal lobbyists.

On the state side, SACOG has been monitoring the Budget process. Earlier this month, the Governor released a revision of his proposed Budget, and unfortunately, the proposed cut to REAP 2.0 remains in place. We continue our advocacy within the Legislature to urge them to reject the Governor's proposal. The Assembly Budget Subcommittee #5 on housing has identified REAP 2.0 as a priority. Ten jurisdictions have submitted letters of support for REAP 2.0. In addition, 17 city mayors from the Sacramento region have signed on to a joint letter urging the Legislature to protect funding to REAP 2.0. Negotiations between the Assembly, Senate, and Administration are ongoing until the State Budget bill is passed in June.

SACOG staff and SACOG's state lobbyists provided a more detailed update at the committee meeting with the latest information regarding state and federal advocacy efforts. An additional update on the status of the REAP 2.0 program and state budget was also provided.

Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

Included in Overall Work Program/Budget

List of Attachments:

Attachment A- Federal Advocacy Report

Attachment B- State Advocacy Report