Memorandum

From: Capitol Transportation Consulting and Pavluchuk & Associates

To: James Corless, Executive Director

Date: July 26, 2022

Subject: Federal Policy Monthly Report

_____

House Appropriations Bill
The House passed the FY23 funding bill, which included increased funding for several transportation programs. There is still considerable work to be done before a final appropriations bill becomes law. The Senate must release their bills and a topline number must be agreed upon. This summary only reflects what has been passed by the House – we will watch for topline numbers from the Senate.

The House FY23 funding bill includes a twelve percent increase in total funding compared to FY22, including a $2.4 million increase in resources for DOT, with a total of $105.4 billion in DOT funding.

- $775 million in national infrastructure investments, including RAISE discretionary grant program
- $646 million in Transit Infrastructure Grants for agencies to purchase reduced emissions busses and to support clean transit programs and new smart mobility grants
- $3 billion in Capital Investment Grants (CIG) to create new transit routes, including $600 million to assist certain transit agencies with gaps in their full funding grant agreements
- $555 million for federal-state partnership grants to support passenger rail projects
- $630 million for CRISI grants for rail safety and infrastructure projects
- $477 million for Highway Infrastructure Grants, including $100 million for Safe Streets and Roads for All, $100 million for Active Transportation Infrastructure, and $55 million for Healthy Streets

Additionally, the THUD bill included 1,827 earmarks for a total $3.7 billion for airport, highway, and transit projects. (Attached list)

FHWA Nominee
President Biden nominated Shailen P. Bhatt to be the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration. Bhatt was most recently Senior VP of Global Transportation Innovation and Alternative Delivery at AECOM. He also served as the Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Transportation, Cabinet Secretary of the Delaware Department of Transportation, as a presidential appointee at the U.S. Department of Transportation, and worked as the CEO

of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America. His nomination is moving through the Senate.

GHG Reduction Proposal
FHWA announced a proposed rulemaking for states and municipalities to track and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The new rule would:

1. Establish a national framework for tracking state-by-state progress by adding a new GHG performance management measure to the existing FHWA national performance measures to help states track performance and make more informed investment decisions.
2. Create a flexible system under which State DOTs and MPOs would set their own declining targets for on-road greenhouse gas emissions from roadway travel on the National Highway System.

The proposed rule would require State DOTs and MPOs to report biennially on their progress in meeting the declining targets they establish and require FHWA to assess significant progress toward achieving those targets. FHWA is accepting comments on the proposed rule through October 13, 2022.

Buy America Waiver for Mini-Vans Proposed
The Federal Transit Administration has proposed a partial 2-year Buy America waiver for passenger vans and minivans. Under the proposed partial waiver, agencies may procure passenger vans and minivans or procure services that use those vehicles so long as final assembly of those vehicles is in the United States and the engine is from the US (new requirement). Agencies often use these vehicles in vanpool, micro-transit, and demand response projects. This waiver comes nearly 3-years since the last waiver expired. If the proposed waiver is made final, agencies providing the services above will be able to acquire services or vehicles immediately. The request for comments is open through August 3rd and can be found **here**.

Recent Grant Announcements

Bridge Investment Grants	July 25th planning applications, August 9th large grants, September 8th small grants
All Stations Accessibility Grants	September 30th
Reconnecting Communities	October 13th
Railroad Crossing Elimination	October 4th

Upcoming grants: FTA Rail Vehicle Replacement, Thriving Communities, CRISI, SMART Grants

EARMARKS

Garamendi

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs I–505 Vaca Valley Parkway Corridor Multi-Modal Improvement Project City of Vacaville 4,000,000 Garamendi
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Jepson Parkway Phase 2B (Access to Travis AFB and Canon Road Safety Improvements) City of Fairfield 4,000,000 Garamendi
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs SR128/I–505 Overcrossing (Br. 22–0110)/Russell Blvd Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements City of Winters 2,000,000 Garamendi
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Stevenson Bridge Rehabilitation Project Solano County 3,387,619 Garamendi
- Department of Transportation Transit Infrastructure Grants Diesel Ferry Particulate Filters San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority 1,520,000 Garamendi
- Department of Transportation Transit Infrastructure Grants SolTrans 100% Battery Electric Buses Solano County Transit (SolTrans) 2,000,000 Garamendi, Thompson (CA)

LaMalfa

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Cohasset Road Widening and Fire Safety Project County of Butte 1,400,000 LaMalfa
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Roe Road Extension Project Town of Paradise 1,800,000 LaMalfa
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Fix 5 Cascade Gateway Project Shasta Regional Transportation Agency 3,000,000 LaMalfa

Matsui

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Laguna Creek Inter-Regional Trail Crossing at State Route 99 (SR–99) City of Elk Grove 2,000,000 Bera, Matsui
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs City of Sacramento ZEV Fleet Infrastructure Program City of Sacramento 4,300,000 Matsui
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs I Street Bridge Deck Conversion for Active Transportation City of West Sacramento 4,933,861 Matsui

Bera

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Capital SouthEast Connector—D3a Class I Multi-Use Path Elk Grove-Rancho Cordova- El Dorado Connector Authority 4,000,000 Bera

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Riley Street Safety Improvements City of Folsom 4,000,000 Bera
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Old Town Streetscape Project Phase 2 City of Elk Grove 2,000,000 Bera
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs White Rock Road — 0.5 Mile East of Rancho Cordova Parkway to Rio Del Oro Parkway City of Rancho Cordova 4,000,000 Bera
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Laguna Creek Inter-Regional Trail Crossing at State Route 99 (SR–99) City of Elk Grove 2,000,000 Bera, Matsui
- Department of Transportation Transit Infrastructure Grants Gold Line Light Rail Station Conversions Sacramento Regional Transit District 3,647,591 Bera

McNerney

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs State Route 99/120 Connector Project Phase 1B San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG) 5,000,000 Harder (CA), McNerney
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Grant Line Road Realignment San Joaquin County 2,500,000 McNerney

Thompson

- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs State Route 121/12 & 8th Street East Intersection Improvements, Sonoma, CA–05 Sonoma County Transportation Authority 1,500,000 Thompson (CA)
- Department of Transportation Highway Infrastructure Programs Napa Valley Vine Trail: Yountville to St. Helena Gap Closure Napa Valley Vine Trail Coalition 4,000,000 Thompson (CA)
- Department of Transportation Transit Infrastructure Grants SolTrans 100% Battery Electric Buses Solano County Transit (SolTrans) 2,000,000 Garamendi, Thompson (CA)