



Final 2008 Legislative Program: State Issues

State Issues: Emphasis Areas

- 1S. Seek state funding for regional priority projects as follows:**
1. US 101 - San Juan Road (Red Barn)
 2. US 101 Prunedale Improvement Project (PIP) – funding shortfall
 3. Airport Boulevard at US 101 Interchange – Phase 1 funding shortfall
 4. Route 68 Holman Highway (Access to Community Hospital), Phase II, construction
 5. State Route 156 widening, Phase I: access improvements to Oak Hills area
 6. US 101 Corridor South of Salinas
- 2S. Seek infrastructure bond implementation that maximizes revenues to Monterey County regional priorities:**
- a. Provide input on development of guidelines and allocation of infrastructure bond funding in Proposition 1B, particularly for Goods Movement/Trade Corridors for the Central Coast and State-Local Partnerships, and Proposition 1C, particularly regarding transit-oriented development funding.
 - b. Ensure that regional priority projects, including San Juan Road at US 101 and the 8th Street Transit-Oriented Development, are eligible.
- 3S. Encourage the state to restore, preserve and augment transportation and transit funding:**
- a. Support efforts by the California Transit Association to maintain statutory spill over revenue to the Public Transportation Account.
 - b. Support efforts by the transportation community to create a permanent fix to the taking of Public Transportation Account funds.
 - c. Support full funding for local streets and roads.
 - d. Support efforts to lower the voter threshold for local sales tax measures from the current two-thirds to a majority or 55% vote for first-time self-help counties.
- 4S. Seek state funding for passenger rail and bus transit facilities and service, including:**
1. Caltrain Extension to Salinas
 2. Monterey Peninsula busway or light rail transit
 3. New Coast Daylight train
 4. Monterey-Salinas Transit priority projects
- 5S. Work with the responsible state agencies to expedite delivery of the Salinas Road at Highway 1 interchange project.**

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- 6S. Streamline project delivery**, via design-build and design-sequencing legislation; promote regional priorities for design-build designation:
1. US 101 - San Juan Road (Red Barn)
 2. Highway 1 Sand City/Seaside area widening
- 7S. Improve roadway safety**, via double-lane zones, safety zones and increased funding for the Freeway Service Patrol.
- 8S. Seek state funding for bicycle and pedestrian trails:**
1. Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail
 2. Carmel Hill to River Trail
 3. Castroville Boulevard Path Railroad Crossing
 4. Highway 156 bike route
 5. Spreckels-Reservation Bicycle Bridge and Pedestrian Project
 6. State Route 218/ Canyon Del Rey Boulevard bike lanes
 7. Chualar School safe access project
- 9S. Monitor climate change legislation** to ensure that proposals will not adversely affect transportation project planning and construction costs, to encourage the state to modify the blueprint requirements for rural counties, and to support Monterey-Salinas Transit bio-fuel pilot project.
- 10S. Support legislation that promotes transit-oriented development**, transit villages and smart growth, and support eligibility for housing bond funds.
- 11S. Mitigate impacts of Highway 101 Prunedale project on North Monterey County Fire Protection District, possibly via funding for a fire station west of US 101.**

State Issues: General Guidance

- 12S. Monitor eminent domain legislation** to ensure that proposals will not adversely affect transportation project timelines, delivery and cost.
- 13S. Support the California High-Speed Rail project, including the southern Pacheco Pass alignment.**
- 14S. Support development guidelines that encourage alternative forms of transportation**, such as transit, bicycle and pedestrian commuting.
- 15S. Support member agencies' requests** for state funding of regionally significant transportation projects, and support partner agency legislative efforts, including:
- a. Support Monterey-Salinas Transit in seeking a "no smoking" rule at bus stops, either through clarifying language establishing Monterey-Salinas Transit as a Public Transportation System Operator in the Public Utilities Code or through enacting city-level ordinances.
 - b. Support Monterey-Salinas Transit funding request for the downtown Monterey transit center.
 - c. Support County efforts to solve the litter problem along state highways and county roads.
 - d. Support Taxi Authority and/or the Consolidated Transportation Services Agency efforts to provide accessible taxi service.
 - e. Support Fort Ord Reuse Authority efforts to secure state legislation that would enable its jurisdictions to provide direct financial assistance to former Fort Ord commercial projects.



Final 2008 Legislative Program: Federal Issues

Federal Issues: Emphasis Areas

- 1F. Continue to pursue the redefinition of the Highway 101 Prunedale-area project in earmark funds to retain eligibility for the Prunedale Improvement safety project, if needed.**
- 2F. Seek federal funding** for the Agency's high priority projects, in priority order:
1. US 101 Prunedale Improvement Project
 2. Airport Boulevard at US 101 Interchange
 3. State Route 156 widening, Phase I: access improvements to Oak Hills area
 4. Passenger rail and bus transit facilities and service: Caltrain Extension to Salinas; Monterey Peninsula busway or light rail transit
 5. Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail
- 3F. In federal reauthorization legislation, stabilize and increase transportation funding sources** in order to avoid the bankruptcy of the federal highway and transit trust funds:
- a. Raise or index the gas tax to keep up with inflation.
 - b. Identify alternate funding sources above and beyond the gas tax.
 - c. Take the National Highway Trust Fund off the national budget, or install a "firewall" to protect transportation funding.
 - d. Identify additional funding sources for maintenance and operations on the existing transportation network.
- 4F. Work with the Federal Transit Administration** to obtain New Starts/ Small Starts funding for Monterey County rail and busway projects.

Federal Issues General Guidance

- 5F. Support an adequate level of funding for Amtrak** in the annual appropriations bill and the Amtrak reauthorization legislation.
- 6F. Streamline the project delivery process:**
- a. Streamline transportation project regulations.
 - b. Relax fiscal constraint requirement.
 - c. Eliminate unfunded mandates.
- 7F. Support member agencies' requests** for federal funding of regionally significant transportation projects, and support partner agency legislative efforts.
- a. Support Monterey-Salinas Transit funding request for bus acquisition
 - b. Support Monterey County funding request for the Spreckels-Reservation Bicycle Bridge and Pedestrian Project.

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- c. Support Monterey-Salinas Transit in seeking legislative action to change former Fort Ord properties from a Public Benefit Conveyance to an Economic Development Conveyance.
- d. Support Monterey-Salinas Transit in seeking legislative interpretation or change to Federal Transit Administration regulations on charter buses.
- e. Support Monterey-Salinas Transit funding request for the downtown Monterey transit center.