



# **AGENDA**

## ***Legislative and Communications Committee Meeting***

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### **Committee Members**

Lisa A. Bartlett, Vice Chairwoman  
Barbara Delgleize  
Michael Hennessey  
Gene Hernandez  
Donald P. Wagner

Orange County Transportation Authority  
Headquarters  
Conference Room 07  
550 South Main Street  
Orange, California

**Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.**

Any person with a disability who required a modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting should contact the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) Clerk of the Board, telephone (714) 560-5676, no less than two (2) business days prior to this meeting to enable OCTA to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

Agenda descriptions are intended to give members of the public a general summary of items of business to be transacted or discussed. The posting of the recommended actions does not indicate what action will be taken. The Committee may take any action which it deems to be appropriate on the agenda item and is not limited in any way by the notice of the recommended action.

All documents relative to the items referenced in this agenda are available for public inspection at [www.octa.net](http://www.octa.net) or through the Clerk of the Board's office at the OCTA Headquarters, 600 South Main Street, Orange, California.

### **Guidance for Public Access to the Board of Directors/Committee Meeting**

On March 12, 2020 and March 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom enacted Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 authorizing a local legislative body to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and make public meetings accessible telephonically or electronically to all members of the public to promote social distancing due to the state and local State of Emergency resulting from the threat of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, and in order to ensure the safety of the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) and staff and for the purposes of limiting the risk of COVID-19, in-person public participation at public meetings of the OCTA will not be allowed during the time period covered by the above-referenced Executive Orders.

Instead, members of the public can listen to AUDIO live streaming of the Board and Committee meetings by clicking the below link:

<http://www.octa.net/About-OCTA/Who-We-Are/Board-of-Directors/Live-and-Archived-Audio/>



**Guidance for Public Access to the Board of Directors/Committee Meeting  
(Continued)**

Public comments may be submitted for the upcoming Board and Committee meetings by emailing them to [ClerkOffice@octa.net](mailto:ClerkOffice@octa.net).

If you wish to comment on a specific agenda Item, please identify the Item number in your email. All public comments that are timely received will be part of the public record and distributed to the Board. Public comments will be made available to the public upon request.

In order to ensure that staff has the ability to provide comments to the Board Members in a timely manner, please submit your public comments **30 minutes prior to the start time of the Board and Committee meeting date.**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Committee Vice Chairwoman Bartlett

**1. Public Comments**

**Special Calendar**

**2. Conference Call with State Legislative Advocate Moira Topp**  
Moira Topp/Lance M. Larson

An update of Legislative items in Sacramento will be provided.

**Consent Calendar (Items 3 and 4)**

All items on the Consent Calendar are to be approved in one motion unless a Committee Member or a member of the public requests separate action or discussion on a specific item.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes of the Legislative and Communications Committee meeting of November 19, 2020.



**4. Amendment to Agreement for Bus Advertising Revenue Program**  
Jennifer O'Connor/Maggie McJilton

**Overview**

On June 22, 2015, the Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors approved an agreement with Outfront Media Group, LLC, to sell, place, and maintain advertisements on its bus vehicles. In response to declining revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic, on July 20, 2020, the Board of Directors approved an amendment to exercise the second option term with a modified payment provision. Due to the extended effects of the pandemic, Outfront Media Group, LLC, is requesting a temporary modification to the existing minimum annual guarantee requirement.

**Recommendation**

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. C-5-3076 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Outfront Media Group, LLC, to eliminate the minimum annual guarantee and adopt a payment term based solely on a 70 percent revenue-sharing arrangement through December 2021.

## **Regular Calendar**

**5. State Legislative Status Report**  
Alexis Leicht/Lance M. Larson

**Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority provides regular updates to the Legislative and Communications Committee on policy issues directly impacting Orange County Transportation Authority programs, projects, and operations. The State has formed several committees to inform guidance on the distribution of the coronavirus vaccine. An update is provided regarding Orange County Transportation Authority engagement on these discussions, including advocacy efforts to prioritize the transportation sector as an essential service within state guidance. With the start of the legislative session and new vacancies existing within the Administration, information is provided on changes related to the State Legislature's committee assignments and new appointments to the California Air Resources Board. As a follow-up to a memo sent to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors, a verbal update will be provided on Governor Newsom's proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 state budget.

**Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.



**6. Federal Legislative Status Report**

Dustin J. Sifford/Lance M. Larson

**Overview**

An update is provided on the enactment of annual appropriations bills and additional economic stimulus legislation. Details are also included on the nomination for a new Secretary of Transportation.

**Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.

**Discussion Items**

**7. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

**8. Committee Members' Reports**

**9. Closed Session**

There are no Closed Session items scheduled.

**10. Adjournment**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2021**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.



# **MINUTES**

## ***Legislative and Communications Committee Meeting***

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### **Committee Members Present**

Laurie Davies, Chair  
Barbara Delgleize  
Michael Hennessey  
Gene Hernandez  
Donald P. Wagner

### **Staff Present**

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
Jennifer L. Bergener, Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Laurena Weinert, Clerk of the Board  
Sara Meisenheimer, Deputy Clerk of the Board

### **Committee Members Absent**

Lisa A. Bartlett, Vice Chairwoman

### **Via Teleconference:**

James Donich, General Counsel

## **Call to Order**

The November 19, 2020, regular meeting of the Legislative and Communications (L&C) Committee was called to order by Committee Chair Davies at 9:02 a.m.

## **Roll Call**

The Deputy Clerk of the Board conducted an attendance Roll Call and announced that there was quorum of the L&C Committee.

## **Pledge of Allegiance**

Committee Chair Davies led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **1. Public Comments**

No public comments were received.

## **Special Calendar**

### **2. Conference Call with State Legislative Advocate Moira Topp**

Moira Topp, State Legislative Advocate, reported on the following:

- With the election completed, there are still a couple of seats in the Assembly and Senate identified by the Secretary of State as close contests.
- If one assumes the seats goes to the incumbents who are leading right now, the legislative make-up will stay the same.
- December 7, 2020, is swearing-in day and this is also the first day that bills can be introduced in the new session.
- There will be a couple of special elections next year to fill vacancies created by the election.
- There won't be any future activity until early January and the Capital will continue to operate under the same COVID-19 rules.



**2. (Continued)**

- State budget discussions will officially kickoff at the beginning of session. Despite the pandemic and economic losses, the fiscal outlook looks strong for the State of California.
- The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) is projecting a \$26 billion one time surplus for the state in 2021-22. They also noted the following:
  - In the transportation arena, LAO notes that sales tax remains flat.
  - While there is a \$26 billion surplus in the current year, the LAO is projecting that there will be a significant budget deficit in the out years, up to \$17 billion in 2024 and 2025.
  - The LAO recommends that the Legislature and Governor put half of that amount into a rainy-day fund or use the other half towards the pandemic. The Governor is not obligated to adopt the LAO's recommendations,
- Most of the cuts in the current fiscal year budget were on the school side, deferrals in K-12 and K-14, state employees, and compensation.

**Consent Calendar (Item 3)**

**3. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Director Wagner, and following a roll call vote, declared passed 5-0, to approve the minutes of the Legislative and Communications Committee meeting of October 15, 2020.

**Regular Calendar**

**4. Agreement for Website Maintenance Support Services**

Ryan Armstrong, Section Manager of Marketing and Customer Engagement, reported on the following:

- Background on the Orange County Transportation Authority's (OCTA) website, its purpose, and the website being an essential communication tool.
- Overview of the procurement process, evaluation criteria, and weightings.
- Summary of the recommendations.



**4. (Continued)**

A motion was made by Director Hennessey, seconded by Director Delgleize, and following a roll call vote, declared 5-0 to:

- A. Approve the selection of Web Advanced as the firm to provide website maintenance support services.
- B. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-0-2524 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Web Advanced in the amount of \$900,000, for a four-year initial term with one, three-year option term, to provide website maintenance support services.

**5. Status Report of State Legislation Enacted in 2020**

Lance Larson, Executive Director of Government Relations, provided opening comments and introduced Kristin Jacinto, Manager of State and Federal Relations, who reported on the following:

- The Staff Report includes all bills that went to the Governor and impacted OCTA in some way.
- A total of 428 bills were sent to the Governor for consideration. This is 614 fewer bills that went to the Governor last year.
- Some of the major policy reforms were within trailer bills and included: a temporary forgiveness provision that removes any financial penalty for transit agency inability to meet farebox recovery requirements and the flexibility for transit agencies to use state of good repair dollars.
- Major bills signed this year beyond the budget trailer bills are: Senate Bill (SB) 1291 and SB 288.
- OCTA has been monitoring SB 1351 and SB 757 (vetoed by the Governor).
- There were several policy areas that did not move forward this year which includes: bills mandating free transit for certain populations like the elderly, the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) seeking authority on a sales tax authority jurisdiction, and bills related to SB 375 reform.
- Staff is working very closely with toll agencies on clarifications related to interoperability and enforcement provisions.

No action was taken on this receive and file information item.

### **6. Final 2021-22 State and Federal Legislative Platforms**

Lance Larson, Executive Director of Government Relations, provided opening comments and introduced Dustin J. Sifford, Senior Government Relations Representative, who reported on the following:

- Due the pandemic, the level of outreach was done differently this year (most of the outreach was done virtually instead of in-person).
- References to the strikeouts in the Attachments of the Staff Report.
- Small changes were made to both platforms to remove any reference of supporting a specific bill or legislation and to broaden the language.
- The substantive changes made to the State and Federal Legislative Platforms are:
  - Language added to the State Legislative Platform to make sure that any transition to the sale of zero emission passengers' vehicles in California does not undermine the historic investment in transportation funding.
  - Additional language was added to the Federal Legislative Platform on tolling and resiliency.
- Overview of recommendations.

A discussion ensued regarding:

- The changes in day-to-day staffing within the modal agencies will have a huge impact on the policy direction that the federal government takes in delivering transportation programs. However, no rumors will facilitate a change to the Federal Legislative Platform.
- The Executive Order to phase out the sale of all gas-powered vehicles by 2035 does not create a mandate; it is simply a direction to the AQMD to start creating regulations. OCTA still needs the ability to obtain a waiver from the federal government to implement stronger regulations required under federal law.
- Staff will continue to monitor a lot of the Executive Orders in Sacramento and Washington, D.C.

A motion was made by Director Delgleize, seconded by Director Hernandez, and following a roll call vote, declared 5-0 to:

- A. Adopt the revised 2021-22 State and Federal Legislative Platforms.
- B. Direct staff to distribute the adopted platforms to elected officials, advisory committees, local governments, affected agencies, the business community, and other interested parties.



**7. Performance Evaluation of Federal Legislative Advocate, Potomac Partners, DC**

Lance Larson, Executive Director of Government Relations, provided opening comments and introduced Kristin Jacinto, Manager of State and Federal Relations, who reported on the following:

- Overview of the evaluation process of Potomac Partners, DC (PPDC), their ratings, and the outcome.
- Passage of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which allowed OCTA to maintain operations with the more than \$150 million provided for emergency relief.
- Examples of why PPDC received an overall very good rating, such as seeking proposed statutory changes to the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act loan process.
- A letter PPDC obtained from U.S. Congressman Lou Correa supporting an OCTA grant application.
- PPDC worked with Representative Harley Rouda to try to get an amendment to reauthorize a proposal that would have given funding advantages to agencies that have passed sales tax measures.
- Highlighted PPDC's efforts to stay engaged with the delegation offices and the administration, despite the impacts of the pandemic.

Director Hennessey thanked PPDC for their efforts, especially their involvement with the CARES Act funding.

Following the discussion, no action was taken on this receive and file information item.

**8. Performance Evaluation of Sacramento Legislative Advocate, Platinum Advisors, LLC**

Kristin Jacinto, Manager of State and Federal Relations, provided opening comments and reported on the following:

- A rating of Very Good was given to State Advocate, Moira Topp, and Platinum Advisors, LLC for their efforts this year.
- Examples of Ms. Topp's accomplishments and her interaction with committee members.
- Earlier this year, staff had the opportunity to be in Sacramento with Mobility 21 and Ms. Topp coordinated individual meetings, including one with Mitch Weiss, California Transportation Commission Executive Director.
- Ms. Topp continues to coordinate virtual meetings with several delegation members as needed.

No action was taken on this receive and file information item.

## **Discussion Items**

### **9. Marketing Update**

Stella Lin, Department Manager of Marketing and Customer Engagement, provided a PowerPoint presentation as follows:

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Safety Communication & Education Campaigns OC Bus June – December 2020;
- October 2020 Service Change and Safety Guidelines;
- Orange County Health Care Agency Partnership;
- American Public Transportation Association National Health and Safety Commitment Campaign;
- College Bus Pass Program;
- Bike to Work (and for Fun) Week Campaign – September 21 – 27;
- Reimagining Rideshare;
- Metrolink Weekend “Daycations” Campaign; and
- Metrolink Campaigns.

Director Delgleize acknowledged Ms. Lin and her team and complimented the slides in the PowerPoint presentation.

### **10. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), stated that this is the final L&C Committee meeting for Committee Chair Davies. Mr. Johnson, CEO, thanked her for being the Chair of the L&C Committee and for her four years of service on the OCTA Board of Directors. She will be recognized more at Monday's Board meeting. On behalf of OCTA, Mr. Johnson, CEO, wished her all the best in the State Assembly and he looks forward to continuing to work with her in her role representing the 73<sup>rd</sup> State Assembly District.

Committee Chair Davies thanked everyone for the opportunity.

### **11. Committee Members' Reports**

Directors Delgleize and Hennessey congratulated Committee Chair Davies on her success in the election and wished her all the best.



**12. Closed Session**

There were no Closed Session items scheduled.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of this Committee will be held at **9:00 a.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2020**, at the Orange County Transportation Authority Headquarters, Conference Room 07, 550 South Main Street, Orange, California.

ATTEST

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Michael Hennessey  
Past Committee Vice Chair

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Sahara Meisenheimer  
Deputy Clerk of the Board



**January 21, 2021**

**To:** Legislative and Communications Committee  
**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
**Subject:** Amendment to Agreement for Bus Advertising Revenue Program

**Overview**

On June 22, 2015, the Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors approved an agreement with Outfront Media Group, LLC, to sell, place, and maintain advertisements on its bus vehicles. In response to declining revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic, on July 20, 2020, the Board of Directors approved an amendment to exercise the second option term with a modified payment provision. Due to the extended effects of the pandemic, Outfront Media Group, LLC, is requesting a temporary modification to the existing minimum annual guarantee requirement.

**Recommendation**

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. C-5-3076 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Outfront Media Group, LLC, to eliminate the minimum annual guarantee and adopt a payment term based solely on a 70 percent revenue-sharing arrangement through December 2021.

**Discussion**

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) has historically contracted with an outside advertising sales firm to sell, place, and maintain advertisements on the interior and exterior of its buses, which provides revenue for OCTA to support bus operations. OCTA has contracted with Outfront Media Group, LLC, (Outfront) for these services since September 1, 2015. The agreement is currently in its second option term, due to end on August 31, 2022.

The initial contract as awarded included revenues to be paid to OCTA from Outfront based on either a minimum annual guarantee amount of \$4 million per year, paid in equal monthly payments of \$333,333, or 70 percent of gross advertising sales revenue, whichever is the greater amount. Since the inception

of the agreement, Outfront has performed in accordance with the provisions in the agreement and provided timely payments.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had a significant impact on OC Bus ridership, resulting in a reduced level of service and a decrease in the number of buses used to provide daily service, thereby creating a substantial decrease in advertising sales revenue. As a result, Outfront requested to amend the payment terms of the contract to be based solely on a revenue-sharing arrangement of 70 percent, eliminating the minimum annual guarantee for the remainder of the first option term ending August 31, 2020. The OCTA Board of Directors (Board) approved this amendment on April 27, 2020.

In response to continued declining revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on July 20, 2020, the Board approved an amendment to exercise the second option term of the agreement whereby OCTA would continue to receive 70 percent of the revenue share until such time that the United States (U.S.) real gross domestic product (GDP), as reported by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, shows positive growth for a one quarter period. U.S. real GDP is an inflation-adjusted measure that reflects the value of all goods and services produced by the U.S. economy. Following the quarter of GDP growth, OCTA would begin receiving the minimum guarantee of \$333,333 per month for the balance of the term ending August 31, 2022.

Preliminary GDP estimates for 2020 show that the second quarter GDP decreased by 31.4 percent and the third quarter increased 33.1 percent. The estimated increase for the third quarter reflects continued efforts to reopen businesses and resume activities that were postponed or restricted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Though an increase in national GDP is positive with nationwide reopenings, it does not accurately reflect the Orange County economy. Because of these unprecedented times, it is difficult to anticipate a universal trigger that would indicate when our local economy, along with transit advertising sales, will begin experiencing positive growth.

The extended impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and recent reissuance of state mandated stay-at-home restrictions have significantly impacted the economy, including transit advertising sales. The stay-at-home order is limiting the public's ability to travel and extended the reduced OC Bus services levels, and as a result, advertising sales have significantly declined, and an unprecedented number of advertising contract cancellations continue to take place. These impacts combined have resulted in a 32.5 percent reduction in Outfront's sales revenue from August through December 2020.

Based on a projected decline in revenue, Outfront is seeking continued relief by asking all of their transit clients to extend the elimination of the minimum annual guarantee through the calendar year 2021. With the new payment provision, Outfront will continue to pay OCTA on a revenue sharing basis of 70 percent of the gross advertising sales revenue through December 2021, with resumption of the minimum annual guarantee in January 2022.

A similar situation occurred during the recession in 2010. At that time, the Board made the decision to accept the former vendor's request to eliminate the annual minimum guarantee and increase the revenue-sharing percentage from 60 percent to 67 percent. While the situation is similar with Outfront's request to eliminate the minimum guarantee, staff is not requesting an increase in revenue share due the substantial reduction of OCTA's in-service vehicle fleet. Additionally, in comparing OCTA's revenue sharing arrangement with Outfront's current transit clients, shown in the chart below, OCTA has the highest revenue sharing percentage at 70 percent. It also indicates the transit authorities that have either agreed, or are in negotiations, to eliminate the minimum annual guarantee for 2021, which would align OCTA with our transit peers.

	Minimum Annual Guarantee	Pre-Pandemic Revenue-Sharing Arrangement	Post-Pandemic Revenue-Sharing Arrangement	Updated Payment Provisions for 2021
OCTA	\$4,000,000	70%	70%	
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority	\$23,500,500	55%	55%	Elimination of MAG* for 2021
Long Beach Transit	\$675,000	60%	60%	Pause of MAG through pandemic
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority	\$2,200,000	65%	65%	Elimination of MAG for 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter 2021 with quarterly review
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority	\$3,840,000	65%	65%	Currently in negotiations
Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority	\$104,167	50%	50%	Pause of MAG through pandemic

\* MAG – Minimal Annual Guarantee

***Procurement Approach***

This procurement was originally handled in accordance with OCTA's Board-approved policies and procedures for professional and technical services. On July 22, 2015, the Board approved the award of the agreement with Outfront. The original agreement was awarded on a competitive basis and includes a three-year initial term with two, two-year option terms. This agreement has been previously amended as shown on Attachment A.

Outfront has offered good customer service for the bus advertising revenue program and has performed in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement including the second option term. This renegotiation for temporary modification to the existing minimum annual guarantee will allow Outfront to continue providing OCTA bus advertising revenues to support bus operations.

**Fiscal Impact**

Pending approval by the Board, OCTA will receive 70 percent of the bus advertising sales gross revenue instead of the minimum guarantee for calendar year 2021 and will begin receiving the minimum annual guarantee of equal monthly payments of \$333,333 beginning January 2022 for the remainder of the contract term ending August 31, 2022. The potential loss in revenue is estimated to be up to \$2 million.

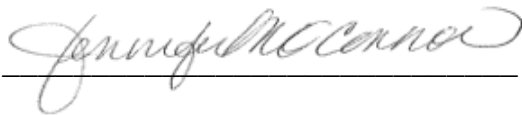
***Summary***

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. C-5-3076 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Outfront Media Group, LLC, to eliminate the minimum annual guarantee and adopt a payment term based solely on a 70 percent revenue-sharing arrangement through December 2021.

***Attachment***

A. Outfront Media Group, LLC, Agreement No. C-5-3076 Fact Sheet

**Prepared by:**



Jennifer O'Connor  
Marketing Specialist, Principal  
(714) 560-5369



Pia Veasapen  
Director, Contracts Administration and  
Materials Management  
(714) 560-5619

**Approved by:**



Maggie McJilton  
Interim Executive Director,  
External Affairs  
(714) 560-5824

## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **Outfront Media Group, LLC Agreement No. C-5-3076 Fact Sheet**

1. June 22, 2015, Agreement No. C-5-3076, in the amount of \$12,000,000 in revenue, for a three-year initial term with two, two-year option terms approved by the Board of Directors (Board).
  - Revenue-generating agreement for selling, placing, and maintaining advertisements on OCTA's transit vehicles.
  - Initial term effective September 1, 2015 through August 31, 2018, with two, two-year option terms.
2. May 25, 2018, Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. C-5-3076, \$8,000,000 minimum in revenue, approved by the Board.
  - Amendment to exercise the first option term of the agreement effective September 1, 2018 through August 31, 2020.
3. April 27, 2020, Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. C-5-3076, 70 percent revenue- share, approved by the Board.
  - Eliminated the annual minimum guarantee and adopted a payment term based solely on a 70 percent revenue-sharing arrangement beginning April 1, 2020 through August 31, 2020.
4. July 27, 2020, Amendment No. 3 to Agreement No. C-5-3076, continue the 70 percent of revenue-sharing arrangement, approved by the Board.
  - Amendment to exercise the second option term of the agreement effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2022.
  - Extended the elimination of the minimum annual guarantee.
5. January 25, 2021, Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. C-5-3076, continue the 70 percent revenue-sharing arrangement, pending approval by the Board.
  - Amendment to temporarily accept revenue-share only payments until December 31, 2021 and resuming the minimum annual guarantee on January 1, 2022.



**January 21, 2020**

**To:** Legislative and Communications Committee

**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** State Legislative Status Report

### **Overview**

The Orange County Transportation Authority provides regular updates to the Legislative and Communications Committee on policy issues directly impacting Orange County Transportation Authority programs, projects, and operations. The State has formed several committees to inform guidance on the distribution of the coronavirus vaccine. An update is provided regarding Orange County Transportation Authority engagement on these discussions, including advocacy efforts to prioritize the transportation sector as an essential service within state guidance. With the start of the legislative session and new vacancies existing within the Administration, information is provided on changes related to the State Legislature's committee assignments and new appointments to the California Air Resources Board. As a follow-up to a memo sent to the Orange County Transportation Authority Board of Directors, a verbal update will be provided on Governor Newsom's proposed fiscal year 2021-2022 state budget.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.

### **Discussion**

#### **Update on Vaccine Distribution Prioritization Advocacy Efforts**

The State has formed three committees to evaluate the approval and distribution process of coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccines within the California Department of Public Health as vaccines become available throughout the country. First, the Scientific Safety Review Committee, charged with reviewing the efficacy of the vaccines that have been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, reviews and confirms that the vaccines meet all safety requirements. Next, the Drafting Guidelines Workgroup (Workgroup) makes phased recommendations for the prioritization of the vaccine distribution

generally informed by the Center for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). The Workgroup then presents their recommendation to the Community Vaccine Advisory Committee (CVAC) where the public has the opportunity to provide input and ensure equitable vaccine distribution and decision-making. The CVAC is made up of a variety of over 80 different stakeholder groups representing the healthcare industry, teachers, seniors, the disabled, minority communities, and more. The Workgroup uses that input to inform their final recommendation, which is then presented to the Governor, with continued feedback from the CVAC.

These phased recommendations are created to target the most at risk for potential exposure and those who are most vulnerable to the virus. Presently, there are three main phases proposed: Phase 1A, Phase 1B, and Phase 1C. Phase 1A, which has been approved and begun implementation, includes healthcare workers and residents in congregate facilities such as skilled nursing and assisted living facilities. Since the planning efforts for Phase 1B began, Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) staff, along with stakeholders including the California Transit Association (CTA), have been working to ensure frontline workers within the transportation sector are prioritized. Specifically, OCTA staff has worked with CTA to help present the case for prioritizing transit workers in Phase 1B, providing data to demonstrate the essential nature of transit, impacts to the economy, and demographics of riders and frontline workers. To further these efforts, on December 18, 2020, OCTA submitted a letter to the Governor outlining the urgent need to include frontline transportation workers in Phase 1B. The letter is included as Attachment A. These public comment letters were discussed at the CVAC meeting on December 23, 2020, and as a result, the CVAC recommended transportation workers for inclusion as part of Phase 1B. On December 30, 2020, the Workgroup met to make their final recommendations for Phase 1B to be submitted to the Governor after receiving the feedback from the CVAC.

On January 6, 2021, the Workgroup presented its final recommendations for Phase 1B to the CVAC. These recommendations were separated into two tiers.

- Tier 1 in Phase 1B includes workers in education and childcare, emergency services, food and agriculture, and all of those 75 years of age and older.
- Tier 2 includes critical manufacturing, facilities and services, transportation and logistics, those between the ages 65 and 74, and those in congregate settings with outbreak risk, including those incarcerated and experiencing homelessness. Phase 1C is proposed to include all other essential industry sectors not included in Phase 1B, those 50 years of age and older, and those between the ages of 16 and 49 that have underlying conditions.

It should be highlighted that the Tier 2 recommendations were not originally considered to be in Phase 1B; however, it was included following the recommendations from the ACIP and advocacy from public transit agencies across the state, including OCTA. Additionally, since the previous CVAC meeting, the Workgroup amended these recommendations to include all individuals between the ages of 65 and 74 in Phase 1B, Tier 2, not solely those with underlying illnesses or considered to be more at risk. Members of the CVAC did not oppose these recommendations for Phase 1B and it is expected it will be approved by the Governor in short order.

As of writing this staff report, it is expected that the distribution process for Phase 1B will begin in late January and February of 2021. Although reports indicate that the State is currently behind the originally estimated schedule in administering the vaccine, public health officials insist that the pace will accelerate as they continue to operationalize distribution and administration processes throughout the State. The CVAC specifically addressed equity-informed strategies for operationalizing the vaccine distribution with local health departments. The CVAC also indicated that they are working with community-based organizations, using social media, and are building registries of eligible recipients on the state and local level. A key strategy is to expand flexibility in order to create larger pool of vaccine administrators, including the addition of more state support for on the ground clinics, pharmacy programs, and training other medical professionals such as dentists to be vaccinators. OCTA staff will continue to engage in the state-level meetings in coordination with other stakeholders to ensure transportation workers are prioritized. At the same time, OCTA staff is also engaged at the county level to inform further guidance and implementation efforts when transportation workers become eligible.

#### Update on Californian State Legislature Committee Memberships

The California State Legislature convened the 2021-22 Legislative Session on December 7, 2020. Both bodies officially returned on January 11, 2021, for legislative business after amending the original return date due to the increase of COVID-19 cases across the state.

With a new legislative session, there were several changes to committee memberships. The full list of Senate committee appointments is included as Attachment B. Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego) appointed Senator Lena Gonzalez (D-Long Beach) to become Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, replacing former Senator Jim Beall (D-Campbell) who term ended out of elected office. It is worth noting that Orange County is well represented on this committee. Specifically, Senator Pat Bates (R-Laguna Niguel) remains as Vice Chair while Senators

Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera), Dave Min (D-Irvine), Josh Newman (D-Fullerton), and Tom Umberg (D-Santa Ana) were all selected to serve on the Senate Transportation Committee. Also, former Senator Holly Mitchell vacated the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee's chairmanship after winning a supervisorial election in Los Angeles County. Senate President pro Tempore Atkins has since appointed Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley) to be the next Chair for the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee and reorganized the Senate Budget Subcommittees. Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles) is now Chair of Budget Subcommittee Number Five on Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor, and Transportation. Orange County Senators Newman and Min will also serve on the full Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee. Senator Pat Bates will continue to serve as Vice Chair on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Within the Assembly, Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) appointed Assembly Member Laura Friedman (D-Glendale) to serve as Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, replacing Assembly Member Jim Frazier (D-Fairfield). Already, Chair Friedman has made it clear that her priorities as chair include helping the state reach its climate goals, investment in mass transit, and promotion of measures regarding traffic safety. Orange County members that have been selected to serve on this committee include Assembly Members Tom Daly (D-Anaheim), Laurie Davies (R-Laguna Niguel), and Janet Nguyen (R-Garden Grove). While there will be no Orange County Assembly Members serving on the Assembly Budget Committee this year, Assembly Member Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) will remain Chair of Assembly Budget Subcommittee Number Three on Resources and Transportation. Assembly Member Davies will be a member of Assembly Appropriations Committee. The full list of Assembly committee appointments is included as Attachment C.

#### California Air Resources Board Chair Appointment

On December 9, 2020, the Governor appointed Liane Randolph to succeed Mary Nichols as Chair of the California Air Resources Board. Nichols' term ended on December 31, 2020 after serving as chair for 13 years. Randolph, an attorney, most recently served as a Commissioner at the California Public Utilities Commission since 2015, has also served in other capacities within the California Natural Resources Agency, the Fair Political Practices Commission, and the City of San Leandro. This appointment requires confirmation by the California State Senate.

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**Governor's Proposed Fiscal Year 2021-2022 State Budget**

As required by the State Constitution, the Governor's proposed budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 is required to be introduced by January 10, 2021. While a memo outlining the proposed budget has been provided to the OCTA Board of Directors, a verbal update will be included as part of the January 21, 2021, meeting of the OCTA Legislative and Communications Committee.

**Summary**

An update is given on vaccine distribution. An overview is provided on the State Legislature's committee changes, and new appointments to the California Air Resources Board. A verbal update will be provided on the state budget.

**Attachments**

- A. Letter from Steve Jones, Chairman, Orange County Transportation Authority, to the Honorable Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California, dated December 18, 2020
- B. Senate Committee Membership for the 2020-2021 Legislative Session
- C. Assembly Committee Membership for the 2020-2021 Legislative Session
- D. Orange County Transportation Authority Legislative Matrix

**Prepared by:**

Alexis Leicht  
Associate Government Relations Representative,  
Government Relations  
(714) 560-5475

**Approved by:**

Lance M. Larson  
Executive Director,  
Government Relations  
(714) 560-5908



## AFFILIATED AGENCIES

Orange County  
Transit District

Local Transportation  
Authority

Service Authority for  
Freeway Emergencies

Consolidated Transportation  
Service Agency

Congestion Management  
Agency

December 18, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) appreciates the magnitude of the challenges the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has created for the State and local agencies, in continuously seeking to ensure evolving guidance and best practices comport with the latest scientific, financial, and safety data. We are hopeful that having new vaccination options will present a path forward to resolving the pandemic and re-establishing a sense of normalcy statewide. With the federal Food and Drug Administration's approval of a vaccine on Friday, December 11, 2020, OCTA is formally requesting that public transportation workers be included in Phase 1B of the state's vaccine distribution plan, following healthcare workers and those in congregate facilities.

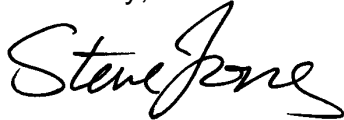
Throughout the pandemic, OCTA has delivered critical services in transporting essential workers to their jobs and residents in need of making essential trips to the grocery store, medical facilities, and more. A large majority of our current ridership have jobs considered essential, which include healthcare, education, utility, and grocery store workers. In providing these services, one of our top priorities has always been the safety and health of our employees, OC Bus riders, and those engaged in constructing capital improvements on our multimodal transportation system. We have closely monitored public health and physical distancing guidance from federal, state, and local officials while we fulfill our responsibility to facilitate those activities deemed essential to fighting the spread of COVID-19. Specifically, the Department of Homeland Security has designated 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors, one of which is the Transportation Systems Sector, and Executive Order N-33-20 identified transportation as essential in preserving the health and safety of Californians.

As we move forward, the transportation sector will be critical in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by both facilitating the movement of people and providing for necessary economic stimulus through the delivery of infrastructure projects. Therefore, the health and safety of our transportation workers must be a top priority for the State and should be prioritized in the forthcoming Phase 1B vaccination distribution guidelines.

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
December 18, 2020  
Page 2

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and if you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Lance Larson, Executive Director of Government Relations, at (714) 560-5908.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steve" and last name "Jones" clearly distinguishable.

Steve Jones  
Chairman

SJ:al

c: David Kim, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency  
Mark Ghaly, Doctor of Medicine, Master of Public Health, Secretary, California  
of Health and Human Services Agency  
Marko Mijic, Deputy Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency  
Tomás J. Aragón, Director, California Department of Public Health  
Erica S. Pan, MD, MPH, Acting State Public Health Officer, California  
Department of Public Health  
Orange County State Legislative Delegation  
Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, OCTA  
Platinum Advisors, LLC  
Topp Strategies, LLC



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 14, 2020

CONTACT: [Niesha.Fritz@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Niesha.Fritz@sen.ca.gov)

**Senate Leader Atkins Announces Committee Membership for the  
2020-2021 Legislative Session**

**SACRAMENTO** – California Senate President pro Tempore, Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego), today announced the Senate’s committee membership assignments for the 2020-2021 Legislative session.

**Standing Committees**

*Agriculture*

- **Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno), Chair.**
- Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger), Vice Chair.
- Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas)
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator Steven M. Glazer (D-Contra Costa)

*Appropriations*

- **Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D-La Cañada-Flintridge), Chair.**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), Vice Chair.
- Senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardena)
- Senator Brian W. Jones (R-Santee)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)
- \*Vacancy

### *Banking and Financial Institutions*

- **Senator S. Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara), Chair.**
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa), Vice Chair.
- Senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardenia)
- Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas)
- Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber)
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego)
- Senator Dave Min (D-Irvine)
- Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge)

### *Budget and Fiscal Review*

- **Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley), Chair.**
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama), Vice Chair.
- Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas)
- Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
- Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber)
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore)
- Senator Dave Min (D-Irvine)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)
- Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)
- \*Vacancy

### *Business, Professions and Economic Development*

- **Senator Richard D. Roth (D-Riverside), Chair.**
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore), Vice Chair.
- Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)
- Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa)
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger)
- Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino)

- Senator Dave Min (D-Irvine)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)

### *Education*

- **Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino), Chair.**
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita), Vice Chair.
- Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
- Senator Steven M. Glazer (D-Contra Costa)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)

### *Elections and Constitutional Amendments*

- **Senator Steven M. Glazer (D-Contra Costa), Chair.**
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama), Vice Chair.
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)

### *Energy, Utilities and Communications*

- **Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego), Chair.**
- Senator, Brian Dahle (R-Bieber), Vice Chair.
- Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
- Senator Andres Borgeas (R-Fresno)
- Senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardena)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa)
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator Lena A. Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Dave Min (D-Irvine)
- Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)

### *Environmental Quality*

- **Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Santa Monica), Chair.**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), Vice Chair.
- Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber)
- Senator Lena A. Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)
- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)
- Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)

### *Governance and Finance*

- **Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg), Chair.**
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama), Vice Chair.
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Scott D. Wiener (San Francisco)

### *Governmental Organization*

- **Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa), Chair.**
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita), Vice Chair.
- Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Santa Monica)
- Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
- Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
- Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno)
- Senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardena)
- Senator Steven M. Glazer (D-Contra Costa)
- Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego)
- Senator Brian W. Jones (R-Santee)
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)
- Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge)
- Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
- \*Vacancy

### *Health*

- **Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento), Chair.**
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore) Vice Chair.
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator Lena A. Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
- Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield)
- Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger)
- Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino)
- Senator S. Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara)

- Senator Richard D. Roth (D-Riverside)
- Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
- Senator Scott D. Wiener (D-San Francisco)

### *Housing*

- **Senator Scott D. Wiener (D-San Francisco), Chair.**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), Vice Chair.
- Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas)
- Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa)
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)
- Senator Thomas J. Umberg (D-Santa Ana)
- Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)

### *Human Services*

- **Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger), Chair.**
- Senator Brian W. Jones (R-Santee), Vice Chair.
- Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- \*Vacancy

### *Insurance*

- **Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park), Chair.**
- Senator Brian W. Jones (R-Santee), Vice Chair.
- Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)
- Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa)
- Senator Steven M. Glazer (D-Contra Costa)
- Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego)
- Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger)
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore)
- Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge)
- Senator Richard D. Roth (D-Riverside)

### *Judiciary*

- **Senator Thomas J. Umberg (D-Santa Ana), Chair.**
- Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno), Vice Chair.
- Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas)
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)

- Senator Lena A. Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Brian W. Jones (R-Santee)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)
- Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)
- Senator Scott D. Wiener (D-San Francisco)

*Labor, Public Employment and Retirement*

- **Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose), Chair.**
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa), Vice Chair.
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)

*Natural Resources and Water*

- **Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park), Chair.**
- Senator Brian W. Jones (R-Santee), Vice Chair.
- Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Santa Monica)
- Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno)
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator S. Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara)

*Public Safety*

- **Senator Steven Bradford (D-Gardena), Chair.**
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa), Vice Chair.
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)
- Senator Scott D. Wiener (San Francisco)
- \*Vacancy

*Rules*

- **Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego), Chair.**
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita), Vice Chair.
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)

### *Transportation*

- **Senator Lena A. Gonzalez (D-Long Beach), Chair.**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), Vice Chair.
- Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Santa Monica)
- Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera)
- Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
- Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
- Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore)
- Senator Dave Min (D-Irvine)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)
- Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)
- Senator Thomas J. Umberg (D-Santa Ana)
- Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)

### *Military and Veterans Affairs*

- **Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera), Chair.**
- Senator Shannon Grove (R-Bakersfield), Vice Chair.
- Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton)
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)
- Senator Richard D. Roth (D-Riverside)
- Senator Thomas J. Umberg (D-Santa Ana)

### **Budget Sub-Committees**

#### *Budget Subcommittee #1 on Education*

- **Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz), Chair.**
- Senator Dave Min (D-Irvine)
- Senator Rosilicie Ochoa-Bogh (R-Yucaipa)

#### *Budget Subcommittee #2 on Resources, Environmental Protection and Energy*

- **Senator Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont), Chair.**
- Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)

*Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services*

- **Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman (D-Stockton), Chair.**
- Senator Melissa Melendez (R-Lake Elsinore)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)

*Budget Subcommittee #4 on State Administration and General Government*

- **Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas), Chair.**
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)
- \*Vacancy

*Budget Subcommittee #5 on Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor and Transportation*

- **Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles), Chair.**
- Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)

**Joint Committees**

*Joint Legislative Audit Committee*

- **Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz), Vice Chair.**
- Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park)
- Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno)
- Senator Steven M. Glazer (D-Contra Costa)
- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino)
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)

*Joint Committee on the Arts*

- **Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Santa Monica), Chair.**
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)
- \*Vacancy

*Joint Legislative Committee on Climate Change Policies*

- **Senator Josh Becker (D-Menlo Park), Vice Chair.**
- Senator Benjamin Allen (D-Santa Monica)
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)

- Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park)

*Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management*

- **Senator Henry I. Stern (D-Canoga Park), Chair.**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa)
- Senator S. Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)

*Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture*

- **Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg), Chair**
- Senator Ben Hueso (D-San Diego)
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)
- \*Vacancy

*Joint. Committee on Fairs Allocation and Classification*

- **Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas), Vice Chair.**
- Senator Steve Bradford (D-Gardenia)
- Senator Brian Dahle (R-Bieber)
- Senator Bill Dodd (D-Napa)
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- \*Vacancy

*Joint Legislative Budget Committee*

- **Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley), Chair**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)
- Senator Anna M. Caballero (D-Salinas)
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- Senator Anthony J. Portantino (D-La Cañada Flintridge)

*Joint Committee on Rules*

- Senate President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins (D-San Diego)
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)
- Senator Maria Elena Durazo (D-Los Angeles)

- Senator Robert M. Hertzberg (D-Los Angeles)
- Senator Melissa Hurtado (D-Sanger)
- Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
- Senator Connie M. Leyva (D-Chino)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- Senator Richard D. Roth (D-Riverside)
- Senator Susan Rubio (D-Baldwin Park)
- Senator Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley)
- Senator Thomas J. Umberg (D-Santa Ana)
- Senator Scott Wilk (R-Santa Clarita)

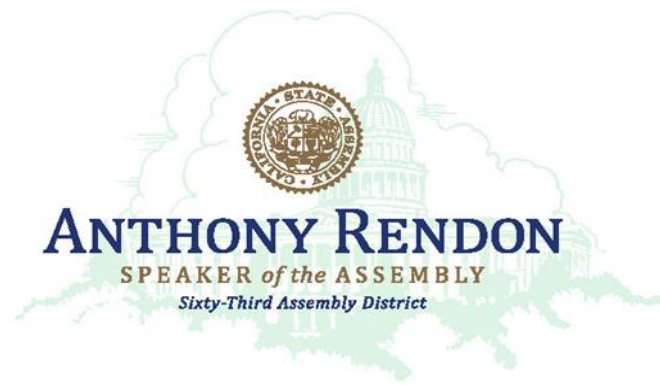
### **Special Committee**

#### *Special Committee on Pandemic Emergency Response*

- **Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton), Chair.**
- Senator Patricia C. Bates (R-Laguna Niguel), Vice Chair
- Senator Andreas Borgeas (R-Fresno)
- Senator Lena A. Gonzalez (D-Long Beach)
- Senator S. Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara)
- Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg)
- Senator Richard Pan (D-Sacramento)
- Senator Richard D. Roth (R-Riverside)

###

**Website of President pro Tempore Toni G. Atkins:** [www.senate.ca.gov/Atkins](http://www.senate.ca.gov/Atkins).



December 12, 2020

Sue Parker  
Chief Clerk of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3196  
Sacramento, California

Dear Ms. Parker:

Please be advised that I have made appointments to the following committees for the 2021-22 Regular Session:

**Accountability and Administrative Review**

Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Autumn Burke  
Assemblymember Adam Gray  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey  
Assemblymember Jose Medina  
Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez

**Aging and Long-Term Care**

Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian, Chair  
Assemblymember Randy Voepel, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath  
Assemblymember Lisa Calderon  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes  
Assemblymember Blanca Rubio

**Agriculture**

Assemblymember Robert Rivas, Chair  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham  
Assemblymember Heath Flora  
Assemblymember Adam Gray  
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin  
Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer

**Agriculture (continued)**

Assemblymember Marc Levine  
Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua  
Assemblymember Jim Wood

**Appropriations**

Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez, Chair  
Assemblymember Frank Bigelow, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Rob Bonta  
Assemblymember Lisa Calderon  
Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo  
Assemblymember Ed Chau  
Assemblymember Megan Dahle  
Assemblymember Laurie Davies  
Assemblymember Vince Fong  
Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel  
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia  
Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember Marc Levine  
Assemblymember Bill Quirk  
Assemblymember Robert Rivas  
I have decreased the size of the committee from 18 to 16 members.

**Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media**

Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, Chair  
Assemblymember Suzette Valladares, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember David Chiu  
Assemblymember Steven Choi  
Assemblymember Laura Friedman  
Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian

**Banking and Finance**

Assemblymember Timothy Grayson, Chair  
Assemblymember Phillip Chen, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan  
Assemblymember Autumn Burke  
Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes  
Assemblymember Steven Choi  
Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Janet Nguyen  
Assemblymember Mark Stone  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber  
Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

**Budget**

Assemblymember Phil Ting, Chair  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo  
Assemblymember David Chiu  
Assemblymember Jim Cooper  
Assemblymember Jim Frazier  
Assemblymember James Gallagher  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey  
Assemblymember Alex Lee  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Jose Medina  
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin  
Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian  
Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson  
Assemblymember James Ramos  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes  
Assemblymember Luz Rivas  
Assemblymember Blanca Rubio  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith  
Assemblymember Mark Stone  
Assemblymember Suzette Valladares  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber  
Assemblymember Jim Wood

**Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health and Human Services**

Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula, Chair  
Assemblymember Jim Frazier  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson  
Assemblymember James Ramos  
Assemblymember Blanca Rubio  
Assemblymember Jim Wood  
Assemblymember Phil Ting, Democratic Alternate  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Republican Alternate

**Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance**

Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, Chair  
Assemblymember James Gallagher  
Assemblymember Alex Lee  
Assemblymember Jose Medina  
Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes  
Assemblymember Suzette Valladares  
Assemblymember Phil Ting, Democratic Alternate  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Republican Alternate

**Budget Subcommittee No. 3 on Climate Crisis, Resources, Energy, and Transportation**

Assemblymember Richard Bloom, Chair  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson  
Assemblymember Luz Rivas  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith  
Assemblymember Phil Ting, Democratic Alternate  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Republican Alternate

**Budget Subcommittee No. 4 on State Administration**

Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo, Chair  
Assemblymember David Chiu  
Assemblymember Jim Cooper  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey  
Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian  
Assemblymember Phil Ting, Democratic Alternate  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Republican Alternate

**Budget Subcommittee No. 5 on Public Safety**

Assemblymember Shirley Weber, Chair  
Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey  
Assemblymember Mark Stone  
Assemblymember Suzette Valladares  
Assemblymember Phil Ting, Democratic Alternate  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Republican Alternate

**Budget Subcommittee No. 6 on Budget Process, Oversight and Program Evaluation**

Assemblymember Phil Ting, Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo  
Assemblymember Vince Fong

**Budget Subcommittee No. 6 on Budget Process, Oversight and Program Evaluation**  
**(continued)**

Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Thurston “Smitty” Smith  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber

**Business and Professions**

Assemblymember Evan Low, Chair  
Assemblymember Heath Flora, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Marc Berman  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Phillip Chen  
Assemblymember David Chiu  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham  
Assemblymember Megan Dahle  
Assemblymember Vince Fong  
Assemblymember Mike Gipson  
Assemblymember Timothy Grayson  
Assemblymember Chris Holden  
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Jose Medina  
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin  
Assemblymember Rudy Salas  
Assemblymember Phil Ting

**Communications and Conveyance**

Assemblymember Miguel Santiago, Chair  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath  
Assemblymember Rob Bonta  
Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes  
Assemblymember Laurie Davies  
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia  
Assemblymember Chris Holden  
Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember Evan Low  
Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva  
Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez  
Assemblymember Suzette Valladares

### **Education**

Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell, Chair  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Megan Dahle  
Assemblymember Alex Lee  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber

### **Elections**

Assemblymember Marc Berman, Chair  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Evan Low  
Assemblymember Chad Mayes  
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber

### **Emergency Management**

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, Chair  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
Assemblymember Lisa Calderon  
Assemblymember James Gallagher  
Assemblymember Adam Gray  
Assemblymember Christopher Ward

### **Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials**

Assemblymember Bill Quirk, Chair  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan  
Assemblymember Megan Dahle  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Chris Holden  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi

### **Governmental Organization**

Assemblymember Jim Frazier, Chair  
Assemblymember Frank Bigelow, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
Assemblymember Marc Berman  
Assemblymember Rob Bonta  
Assemblymember Ken Cooley  
Assemblymember Jim Cooper

**Governmental Organization (continued)**

Assemblymember Tom Daly  
Assemblymember Laurie Davies  
Assemblymember James Gallagher  
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia  
Assemblymember Mike Gipson  
Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey  
Assemblymember Evan Low  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva  
Assemblymember James Ramos  
Assemblymember Robert Rivas  
Assemblymember Blanca Rubio  
Assemblymember Rudy Salas  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith  
I have increased the size of the committee from 21 to 22 members.

**Health**

Assemblymember Jim Wood, Chair  
Assemblymember Chad Mayes, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
Assemblymember Frank Bigelow  
Assemblymember Rob Bonta  
Assemblymember Autumn Burke  
Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo  
Assemblymember Heath Flora  
Assemblymember Brian Maienschein  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian  
Assemblymember Luz Rivas  
Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez  
Assemblymember Miguel Santiago  
Assemblymember Marie Waldron

**Higher Education**

Assemblymember Jose Medina, Chair  
Assemblymember Steven Choi, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel  
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Marc Levine  
Assemblymember Evan Low  
Assemblymember Miguel Santiago

**Higher Education (continued)**

Assemblymember Suzette Valladares  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber

**Housing and Community Development**

Assemblymember David Chiu, Chair  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel  
Assemblymember Ash Kalra  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Brian Maienschein  
Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva  
Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

**Human Services**

Assemblymember Lisa Calderon, Chair  
Assemblymember Janet Nguyen, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Steven Choi  
Assemblymember Mike Gipson  
Assemblymember Mark Stone  
Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua  
Assemblymember Christopher Ward

**Insurance**

Assemblymember Tom Daly, Chair  
Assemblymember Chad Mayes, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Marc Berman  
Assemblymember Frank Bigelow  
Assemblymember Phillip Chen  
Assemblymember Ken Cooley  
Assemblymember Jim Cooper  
Assemblymember Jim Frazier  
Assemblymember Mike Gipson  
Assemblymember Timothy Grayson  
Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez  
Assemblymember Randy Voepel  
Assemblymember Jim Wood

**Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy**

Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath  
Assemblymember Ed Chau  
Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva

**Jobs, Economic Development, and the Economy (continued)**

Assemblymember James Ramos  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith

**Judiciary**

Assemblymember Mark Stone, Chair  
Assemblymember James Gallagher, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Ed Chau  
Assemblymember David Chiu  
Assemblymember Laurie Davies  
Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez  
Assemblymember Chris Holden  
Assemblymember Ash Kalra  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Brian Maienschein  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes

**Labor and Employment**

Assemblymember Ash Kalra, Chair  
Assemblymember Heath Flora, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez  
Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto  
Assemblymember Christopher Ward

**Local Government**

Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath  
Assemblymember James Ramos  
Assemblymember Luz Rivas  
Assemblymember Robert Rivas  
Assemblymember Randy Voepel

**Military and Veterans Affairs**

Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, Chair  
Assemblymember Randy Voepel, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath  
Assemblymember Tom Daly  
Assemblymember Jim Frazier  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi  
Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris  
Assemblymember James Ramos

**Military and Veterans Affairs (continued)**

Assemblymember Rudy Salas  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith

**Natural Resources**

Assemblymember Luz Rivas, Chair  
Assemblymember Heath Flora, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Ed Chau  
Assemblymember Laura Friedman  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto  
Assemblymember Mark Stone  
Assemblymember Jim Wood

**Privacy and Consumer Protection**

Assemblymember Ed Chau, Chair  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham  
Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel  
Assemblymember James Gallagher  
Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin  
Assemblymember Alex Lee  
Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

**Public Employment and Retirement**

Assemblymember Jim Cooper, Chair  
Assemblymember Randy Voepel, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Lisa Calderon  
Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes  
Assemblymember Ken Cooley  
Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto

**Public Safety**

Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Chair  
Assemblymember Tom Lackey, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan  
Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember Bill Quirk

**Public Safety (continued)**

Assemblymember Miguel Santiago  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto  
Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

**Revenue and Taxation**

Assemblymember Autumn Burke, Chair  
Assemblymember Janet Nguyen, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Adam Gray  
Assemblymember Timothy Grayson  
Assemblymember Marc Levine  
Assemblymember Chad Mayes  
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin  
Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris  
Assemblymember Bill Quirk  
Assemblymember Luz Rivas  
Assemblymember Kelly Seyarto

**Rules**

Assemblymember Ken Cooley, Chair  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Heath Flora  
Assemblymember Mike Gipson  
Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager  
Assemblymember Alex Lee  
Assemblymember Marc Levine  
Assemblymember Brian Maienschein  
Assemblymember Devon Mathis  
Assemblymember James Ramos  
Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua  
Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, Democratic Alternate  
Assemblymember Suzette Valladares, Republican Alternate

**Transportation**

Assemblymember Laura Friedman, Chair  
Assemblymember Vince Fong, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Marc Berman  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham  
Assemblymember Tom Daly  
Assemblymember Laurie Davies  
Assemblymember Mike Gipson  
Assemblymember Ash Kalra  
Assemblymember Alex Lee  
Assemblymember Jose Medina  
Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian

**Transportation (continued)**

Assemblymember Janet Nguyen  
Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell  
Assemblymember Christopher Ward  
Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

**Utilities and Energy**

Assemblymember Chris Holden, Chair  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan  
Assemblymember Autumn Burke  
Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo  
Assemblymember Phillip Chen  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia  
Assemblymember Chad Mayes  
Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi  
Assemblymember Bill Quirk  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes  
Assemblymember Miguel Santiago  
Assemblymember Phil Ting

**Water, Parks, and Wildlife**

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia, Chair  
Assemblymember Megan Dahle, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Steve Bennett  
Assemblymember Frank Bigelow  
Assemblymember Laura Friedman  
Assemblymember Cristina Garcia  
Assemblymember Ash Kalra  
Assemblymember Marc Levine  
Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi  
Assemblymember Janet Nguyen  
Assemblymember Blanca Rubio  
Assemblymember Rudy Salas  
Assemblymember Thurston "Smitty" Smith  
Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua  
Assemblymember Christopher Ward  
I have increased the size of the committee from 14 to 15 members.

**Joint Legislative Audit**

Assemblymember Rudy Salas, Chair  
Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Jim Patterson

**Joint Legislative Audit (continued)**

Assemblymember Blanca Rubio  
Assemblymember Randy Voepel  
Assemblymember Jim Wood

**Joint Legislative Budget**

Assemblymember Phil Ting, Vice Chair  
Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula  
Assemblymember Richard Bloom  
Assemblymember Vince Fong  
Assemblymember Kevin Kiley  
Assemblymember Kevin McCarty  
Assemblymember Luz Rivas  
Assemblymember Shirley Weber

**Legislative Ethics**

Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, Co-Chair  
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, Co-Chair  
Assemblymember Marc Berman  
Assemblymember Steven Choi  
Assemblymember Heath Flora  
Assemblymember Eloise Reyes

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Rendon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**ANTHONY RENDON**  
Speaker of the Assembly



**Orange County Transportation Authority Legislative Matrix**  
**2021 State Legislation Session**  
**January 21, 2021**

▶ AB 5	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Fong [R]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: High Speed Rail</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b>  Suspends the appropriation to the High-Speed Rail Authority for the 2021-22 and 2022-23 fiscal years and requires the transfer of those amounts from moneys collected by the State Air Resources Board to the General Fund. Specifies that the transferred amounts shall be available to support K-12 education and to offset any funding reduction for K-12 education.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b>  12/07/2020                      INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Rail and Transit</p>
▶ AB 11	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Ward [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Climate Change: Regional Coordinating Groups</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b>  Requires the Strategic Growth Council to establish up to 12 regional climate change coordinating groups to develop and work on climate adaptation for their communities. Authorizes the regional climate change coordinating groups to engage in certain activities to address climate change.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b>  12/07/2020                      INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Environment</p>
▶ AB 29	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Cooper [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> State Bodies: Meetings</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b>  Requires that the notice of a meeting of a state body include all writings or materials provided for the noticed meeting to a member of the state body by the staff of a state agency, board, or commission, or another member of the state body that are in connection with a matter subject of discussion or consideration at the meeting.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b>  12/07/2020                      INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Miscellaneous</p>

▶ AB 43	<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Friedman [D]
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Traffic Safety
	<b>INTRODUCED:</b>	12/07/2020
	<b>LOCATION:</b>	Assembly
	<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Requires the California Department of Transportation to convene a committee of external design experts to advise on revisions to the Highway Design Manual. Requires the California Traffic Safety Program to include a traffic safety monitoring program that identifies and addresses locations with pedestrian- and bicyclist-related crashes, upon appropriation of state funds for this purpose.
	<b>STATUS:</b>	12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.
	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Planning

▶ AB 50	<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Boerner Horvath [D]
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Climate Adaptation Center and Regional Support Network
	<b>INTRODUCED:</b>	12/07/2020
	<b>LOCATION:</b>	Assembly
	<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Establishes the Climate Adaptation Center and Regional Support Network in the Ocean Protection Council to provide local governments facing sea level rise challenges with information and scientific expertise necessary to proceed with sea level rise mitigation.
	<b>STATUS:</b>	12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.
	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Environment

▶ AB 51	<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Quirk [D]
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Regional Climate Adaptation Planning Groups
	<b>INTRODUCED:</b>	12/07/2020
	<b>LOCATION:</b>	Assembly
	<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Requires the Strategic Growth Council, by July 1, 2022, to establish guidelines for the formation of regional climate adaptation planning groups. Requires the council, by July 1, 2023, and in consultation with certain state entities, to develop criteria for the development of regional climate adaptation plans.
	<b>STATUS:</b>	12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.
	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Planning

► AB 67	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Petrie-Norris [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Sea Level Rise: Working Group: Economic Analysis</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Requires a state agency to take into account the current and future impacts of sea level rise when planning, designing, building, operating, maintaining, and investing in infrastructure located in the coastal zone or otherwise vulnerable to flooding from sea level rise or storm surges, or when otherwise approving the allocation of state funds for those purposes.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Environment</p>
► AB 72	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Petrie-Norris [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Environmental Protection: Coastal Adaptation Projects</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Enacts the Coastal Adaptation Permitting Act of 2021. Requires the Natural Resources Agency to explore, and authorize it to implement, options within the agency's jurisdiction to establish a more coordinated and efficient regulatory review and permitting process for coastal adaptation projects.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Environment</p>
► AB 95	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Low [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Employees: Bereavement Leave</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Enacts the Bereavement Leave Act of 2021. Requires an employer with 25 or more employees to grant an employee up to 10 business days of unpaid bereavement leave upon the death of a spouse, child, parent, sibling, grandparent, grandchild, or domestic partner, in accordance with certain procedures, and subject to certain exclusions. Requires an employer with fewer than 25 employees to grant up to 3 business days of leave.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Employment Terms &amp; Conditions</p>

► AB 96	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> O'Donnell [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Clean Truck, Bus, and Off-Road Vehicle and Technology</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b>  Extends the requirement that 20 percent of funding be made available to support early commercial deployment of existing zero- and near-zero-emission heavy-duty truck technology until December 31, 2026. The bill would further require at least 20 percent of that funding support early commercial deployment of existing near-zero-emission heavy-duty truck technology.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b>  12/07/2020                      INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Funding</p>
► AB 108	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Cunningham [R]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Governor's Emergency Orders and Regulations: Approval</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/16/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b>  Permits an order or regulation, or an amendment or rescission thereof, issued pursuant to specified California Emergency Services Act provisions 60 or more days after the proclamation, to take effect only if approved by a concurrent resolution of the Legislature.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b>  12/07/2020                      INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Emergency Service Response</p>
► AB 111	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Boerner Horvath [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> San Diego Association of Governments: LOSSAN Rail</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/17/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b>  Appropriates \$5 million from the General Fund to the San Diego Association of Governments to conduct a study of higher speed and safety alternatives for the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo passenger rail corridor in the County of San Diego. Requires the San Diego Association of Governments to conduct the study, and requires the San Diego Association of Governments to submit a report to the Legislature and specified committees of the Legislature summarizing the results of the study.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b>  12/07/2020                      INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Rail and Transit</p>

► AB 117	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Boerner Horvath [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Air Quality Improvement Program: Electric Bicycles</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/18/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Specifies projects providing incentives for purchasing electric bicycles as projects eligible for funding under the Air Quality Improvement Program. Requires the State Air Resources Board, by July 1, 2022, to establish and implement and administer, until January 1, 2028, the Electric Bicycle Rebate Pilot Project to provide rebates for purchases of electric bicycles.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Funding</p>
► AB 123	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Gonzalez [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Paid Family Leave: Weekly Benefit Amount</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/18/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Revises the formula for determining benefits available pursuant to the family temporary disability insurance program, for periods of disability commencing after January 1, 2022, by redefining the weekly benefit amount to be equal to 90 percent of the wages paid to an individual for employment by employers during the quarter of the individual's disability base period in which these wages were highest, divided by 13, but not exceeding the maximum workers' compensation disability indemnity weekly benefit amount.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Employment Terms &amp; Conditions</p>
► ACA 1	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Aguiar-Curry [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> Local Government Financing: Affordable Housing</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Assembly</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Creates an additional exception to the 1 percent ad valorem tax rate limit on real property that would authorize a city, county, or special district to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing, if the proposition proposing the tax is approved by 55 percent of the voters of the city or county, and the proposition includes accountability requirements.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Miscellaneous</p>

► SB 10	<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Wiener [D]
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Planning and Zoning: Housing Development: Density
	<b>INTRODUCED:</b>	12/07/2020
	<b>LOCATION:</b>	Senate
	<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Authorizes a local government to pass an ordinance to zone any parcel for up to 10 units of residential density per parcel, at a height specified in the ordinance, if the parcel is located in a transit-rich area, a jobs-rich area, or an urban infill site, as those terms are defined. Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to determine jobs-rich areas and publish a map of those areas on a certain frequency.
	<b>STATUS:</b>	12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.
	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Housing

► SB 30	<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Cortese [D]
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Building Decarbonization
	<b>INTRODUCED:</b>	12/07/2020
	<b>LOCATION:</b>	Senate
	<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Prohibits a state agency from designing or constructing a state facility that is connected to the natural gas grid. Requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to develop the California State Building Decarbonization Plan that will lead to the operational carbon-neutrality of all state-owned buildings by January 1, 2035.
	<b>STATUS:</b>	12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.
	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Environment

► SB 44	<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Allen [D]
	<b>TITLE:</b>	California Environmental Quality Act: Judicial Review
	<b>INTRODUCED:</b>	12/07/2020
	<b>LOCATION:</b>	Senate
	<b>SUMMARY:</b>	Establishes specified procedures for the administrative and judicial review of the environmental review and approvals granted for environmental leadership transit project, as defined, undertaken by a public agency.
	<b>STATUS:</b>	12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.
	<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Environment

► SB 66	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Allen [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> California Council on the Future of Transportation</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/07/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Senate</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Requires the Secretary of Transportation to establish an advisory committee, the California Council on the Future of Transportation, to provide the Governor and the Legislature with recommendations for changes in state policy to ensure that as autonomous vehicles are deployed, they enhance the state's efforts to increase road safety, promote equity, and meet public health and environmental objectives.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Miscellaneous</p>
► SB 83	<p><b>AUTHOR:</b> Allen [D]</p> <p><b>TITLE:</b> California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank</p> <p><b>INTRODUCED:</b> 12/15/2020</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Senate</p> <p><b>SUMMARY:</b> Creates the Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Program within the I-Bank to provide low-interest loans to local jurisdictions for the purchase of coastal properties in their jurisdictions identified as vulnerable coastal property. Requires the California Coastal Commission in consultation with the State Lands Commission, and any other applicable state, federal, and local entities, as specified to determine criteria and guidelines for the identification of eligible vulnerable coastal properties.</p> <p><b>STATUS:</b> 12/07/2020 INTRODUCED.</p> <p><b>CATEGORY:</b> Funding</p>



**January 21, 2021**

**To:** Legislative and Communications Committee

**From:** Darrell E. Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** Federal Legislative Status Report

### **Overview**

An update is provided on the enactment of the annual federal appropriations bills and additional economic stimulus legislation. Details are also included on the nomination for a new Secretary of Transportation.

### **Recommendation**

Receive and file as an information item.

### **Discussion**

#### **Bipartisan Federal Funding Agreement**

In the closing months of 2020, a bipartisan group of Senators began negotiating coronavirus (COVID-19) economic relief legislation. Congressional leaders did not release or vote on the annual funding bills, which were written and largely agreed to, so the more contentious COVID-19 relief provisions could be finalized, specifically decisions about which types of relief were necessary before the end of the year. To facilitate this effort, a total of four continuing resolutions were passed and enacted in the month of December, as reported to the Board of Directors (Board) in a memo sent on December 22, 2020, before a bipartisan compromise was reached and ultimately signed into law.

On December 27, 2020, the President signed the wide-ranging legislative package into law. The Orange County Transportation Agency (OCTA) will realize two primary benefits from its enactment. First, the comprehensive end-of-year legislation contains all 12 of the regular annual appropriations bills, including the transportation funding that will provide certainty on federal transportation funding that OCTA receives and budgets for as part of its annual federal funding distributions. Second, the spending package also provides emergency spending in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically

\$14 billion in emergency transit spending and \$10 billion in emergency highway funding. As discussed in greater detail below, this emergency funding, which is in addition to the funding in the annual appropriations bills, flows through formula programs but is governed by a different set of legislative language than the annualized transportation funding.

OCTA, through its advocacy efforts, worked with state, federal, and local partners, notably other transit agencies, the California Transit Association and the American Public Transportation Association, to advocate that any stimulus relief effort provide funding for transportation purposes. A key part of this effort was correspondence, included as Attachment A, from a broad coalition of stakeholders across the State of California voicing support for additional transit funding in any stimulus deal. Building upon previous advocacy efforts, this coalition letter reiterated the need for \$32 billion in transit funding that includes \$3.1 billion for transit agencies in California, which is the same request OCTA and its partners have made in previous letters detailed for the Board.

#### Annual Transportation Funding Bill

The end-of-year legislative package contains an omnibus appropriations bill to provide funding for the entirety of government operations through the remainder of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021. The \$1.4 trillion omnibus included a transportation funding bill that provides \$86.7 billion in total transportation funding, which is \$553 million above last year's funding level. While there are some minor adjustments within the bill, most transportation programs are funded at or above authorized funding levels. With the one-year extension of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, the authorized level for most programs is very similar to the funding amount provided last year.

A program-specific breakdown of the funding provided by the transportation funding bill is included as Attachment B. These funding amounts represent the levels in the annual transportation funding bill and do not include the emergency funding. The emergency funding is governed by unique legislative language since this funding is intended to help agencies respond to the ongoing effects of the pandemic. Funding provided by the transportation funding bill, governed by the authorizing language in FAST Act, facilitates the routine annual distribution process. With this distinction in mind, this section of the staff report discusses the transportation funding bill.

Similar to previous years, the transportation funding bill provides \$2 billion from the General Fund for Federal-aid Highways formula programs, representing a \$166 million decrease from last year. Of this funding, \$1.08 billion for bridge replacement and \$640.65 million for Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) eligible projects, including an alternative fuel charging

infrastructure. Both these amounts track closely to the funding set-asides contained in previous transportation funding bills.

The transportation funding bill also provides \$1 billion for the competitive Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) program, the same amount of funding as last year provided for multimodal surface transportation projects. Similar to previous transportation funding bills, BUILD grants must be split evenly between rural and urban areas, which are defined as areas with a population over 200,000, and no more than ten percent of BUILD funds may go to any one state. The bill language specifies that BUILD grant awards should be between \$5 million and \$25 million. Unlike previous bills, there is a one percent, or \$10 million, planning set-aside for projects in “areas of persistent poverty,” defined as counties that have with at least 20 percent of the population living in poverty for the 30 years preceding the bill’s enactment according to census estimates.

The legislation also provides \$510 million in funding above authorized levels for transit formula programs out of the General Fund. As detailed in Attachment B, the transit funding increase largely benefits transit bus programs, with \$368 million directed to the three main bus programs (Section 5339). The bill also provides \$2.014 billion in funding for the Capital Investments Grants (CIG) program, which includes \$1.169 billion for New Starts projects, \$525 million for Core Capacity projects, \$200 million for Small Starts projects, and \$100 million for the CIG delivery pilot project authorized by the FAST Act. The overall CIG funding level is slightly higher than last year’s enacted level, and the bill maintains language from previous bills directing that CIG projects continue to move through the project approval process.

The funding bill’s more than \$2.5 billion in intercity passenger rail funding provides \$2 billion to Amtrak, \$200 million to the Federal Railroad Administration’s Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair grants, and \$375 million to the Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements program, among other programs. Of the \$2 billion for Amtrak, the bill allocates \$700 million for Northeast Corridor grants and \$1.3 billion for the National Network, both of which are the same amounts as last year.

The legislative package also extends certain tax provisions by one year, including the Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit. Based on fuel usage, this tax incentive provides OCTA with more than \$4 million each year it is in effect. Given OCTA’s transition, pursuant to state law, to zero-emission bus technology, staff has been working with the Orange County legislative delegation and other transit stakeholders to explore potential changes to this credit that might further assist with financing the cost of zero-emission fuels.

With the extension of the FAST Act through September 30, 2021, Congress and the incoming Presidential Administration will begin work on surface transportation authorization legislation early next year. Staff will continue to keep the Board updated on how the incoming administration's transportation policy priorities might impact both the appropriations process and OCTA's operations.

#### Emergency Transportation Funding in Response to COVID-19

In addition to the funding in the omnibus appropriations bill, the stimulus package provides more than \$900 billion in COVID-19 relief, featuring another round of direct payments to individuals and families, an extension of unemployment benefits, and additional funding for small business programs. Notably for OCTA, the bill provides \$25 billion in highway, transit, and rail funding to facilitate continued delivery of essential mobility services as the pandemic persists.

Most of the \$14 billion in emergency Federal Transit Administration (FTA) formula funding, \$13.2 billion is allocated through the Urbanized Area Formula Grants program (Section 5307) and the FTA State of Good Repair Grants program (Section 5337), two of the largest, most reliable sources of federal transit funding for OCTA. The distribution of this round of emergency FTA funding varies from previously-enacted methods and includes a new mechanism that redistributes funding based on cumulative COVID-19 relief provided. Pursuant to the bill, each urbanized area will be limited to receiving 75 percent of their 2018 operating costs combined with the funds from this package and those received under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Based on initial estimates, it appears that OCTA will be eligible for funding from this package, although that is not the case for other areas within California that have already exceeded the 75 percent threshold when considering the funding provided by the CARES Act.

Unfortunately, the complexity of implementing this limitation makes it difficult to currently estimate exactly how much funding OCTA will receive from this unprecedented funding formula. While there are several unknowns still, the bill language requires that FTA allocate funding within 30 days. OCTA continues to work through the normal channels, specifically with regional FTA officials and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to determine exactly how this funding will flow to Orange County.

The COVID-19 relief section also appropriates \$10 billion in supplemental highway funding. Almost all the emergency highway funding is allocated to states for STBG-eligible projects, one of the most flexible federal transportation sources that can also be used for certain transit purposes. The bill language provides states with the flexibility to use funds for preventative and routine maintenance, operations, personnel, debt service, and coverage for other revenue losses. The bill language does not, however, specify how much states

can or should make use of the different eligible uses, potentially complicating how this emergency highway funding will be distributed within the State of California. In addition, the bill language also grants states broad discretion to transfer some of these funds to public toll agencies operating, as of 2020, a tolled facility that provides a “public transportation benefit.” The bill language does not specifically define this phrase or provide further clarity on what such transfers might look like, creating even more uncertainty on how this particular provision will operate in practice.

Despite these potential challenges, the bill language does require that this emergency highway funding be apportioned within 30 days of enactment. The bill does maintain the statutory requirement that 55 percent of STBG funding be suballocated to urbanized areas with populations over 200,000. As a result, the SCAG region, and in turn OCTA, can expect that this emergency highway funding will be apportioned in a way that resembles the annual STBG distribution process. However, due to these anticipated technical complications discussed, OCTA staff will be closely monitoring the implementation of this emergency highway funding and working with its transportation partners to ensure that this funding benefits Orange County.

The bill also includes a few other provisions of interest to OCTA, including \$1 billion in emergency funding to support Amtrak’s ability to continue to operate passenger rail service during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, there are two labor provisions of note. First, the bill extends through March 31, 2021, the provision in the CARES Act that permits contractors to be reimbursed for administrative leave. Second, the bill allows the previously mandated paid leave requirement to expire, although the payroll tax credits for private businesses that voluntarily provide paid or sick leave extends until March 31, 2021. Staff will continue to work with its transportation partners to track any future proposals and advocate for funding and policies that benefit OCTA’s operations, providing updates to the Board as developments arise.

#### Nomination of Transportation Secretary

On December 16, 2020, the President-elect announced that Pete Buttigieg will be his nominee for Secretary of Transportation. Mr. Buttigieg served as the Mayor of South Bend, Indiana from 2012 until 2020 before running for President. Prior to holding elected office, Mr. Buttigieg served as a Naval intelligence officer and then worked as a management consultant. The nomination will officially be filed in the Senate after the President-elect is inaugurated, at which time the relevant committees of jurisdiction will have the prerogative to schedule confirmation hearings. As of the writing of this staff report, the President-elect had not formally announced nominees for any of the modal agencies. Staff will provide updates to the Board as information on the incoming administration becomes available.

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***Summary***

An update is provided on enacted federal transportation funding relevant to Orange County and the nomination for a new Secretary of Transportation.

***Attachments***

- A. Letter from Transit Stakeholders to Congressional Leaders, dated December 11, 2020
- B. Fiscal Year 2021 Funding Breakdown
- C. Potomac Partners DC, Monthly Legislative Report – November 2020
- D. Potomac Partners DC, Monthly Legislative Report – December 2020

**Prepared by:**



Dustin J. Sifford  
Senior Government Relations Representative,  
Government Relations  
(714) 560-5389

**Approved by:**



Lance M. Larson  
Executive Director,  
Government Relations  
(714) 560-5908



December 11, 2020

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President-Elect  
United States of America  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

President-Elect Biden, Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer:

Our coalition of transit, labor, business, local governments, infrastructure, environmental and social justice leaders respectfully **urges you to provide at least \$32 billion in new funding to transit agencies nationwide, inclusive of no less than \$3.1 billion for California's transit agencies to address their operating budget shortfalls resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Transit agencies statewide have seen steep declines in ridership and revenues due to the pandemic-induced economic downturn, putting immense strain on operating budgets. As a result, they have been forced to dramatically reduce or suspend services and have begun, in some cases, to delay much needed infrastructure investments.

California's public transit agencies need **\$3.1 billion in funding relief *this year (through December 2021)*** to address their immediate operational needs and to prevent service reductions from becoming permanent. A viable public transit network is necessary to help support essential and frontline workers as well as communities disproportionately hurt by the pandemic, to protect strong and healthy communities, avoid the loss of thousands of good-paying local jobs, and to support a balanced economic recovery.

Surveys have found that the majority of Californians who continue to rely on transit during the pandemic are using the service to get to work, are overwhelmingly low-income and/people of color, and lack access to a personal vehicle. Reduced transit service disproportionately harms these communities, making it more difficult for them to provide for their families and threatening the health of local economies.

Transit agencies themselves have significant impacts on local economies. The California Transit Association estimates that more than 35,000 Californians are directly employed by transit agencies, but many agencies are considering or have already made cuts to personnel due to the severe budget shortfalls. Should these cuts continue, consumer spending would drop, leading to job losses in other sectors and further perpetuating the pandemic-induced economic downturn.

These agencies are also weighing other cuts, including delaying capital improvement projects and transit vehicle procurements, and deferring payments to contractors, as operating budget shortfalls place new pressure on capital budgets. These cuts will compromise the condition of transit assets, undermine the role of California's transit agencies in meeting our state's environmental goals, slow the deployment of zero-emission buses, and result in job losses in construction as well as domestic and California-based manufacturing. Without additional support for transit operations, the economic impacts from a transit agency's failure will be widespread.

Ensuring California's public transit agencies can continue to provide essential service and invest in capital projects is critical to a balanced economic recovery, our quality of life, and to achieving our state's ambitious environmental goals.

Please help us save local public transit.

Sincerely,

Michael Pimentel, Deputy Executive Director  
**California Transit Association**

Tim Elder, President  
**National Federation of the Blind California**

Michael Quigley, Executive Director  
**California Alliance for Jobs**

Shane Gusman, Director  
**California Teamsters Public Affairs Council**

Bill Higgins, Executive Director  
**California Association of Councils of Government (CALCOG)**

Shane Gusman, Legislative Advocate  
**California Conference Board of the Amalgamated Transit Union**

Nancy McPherson, State Director  
**AARP California**

Kiana Valentine, Executive Director  
**Transportation California**

Rick L. Callender, President  
**California – Hawaii State Conference NAACP**

Louie Costa, Director  
**California State Legislative Board  
SMART-Transportation Division**

Denny Zane, Executive Director  
**MoveLA**

Eileen Wenger Tutt, Executive Director  
**California Electric Transportation Coalition**

Julian Canete, President & CEO  
**California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce**

Colin Fiske, Executive Director  
**Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities**

Jason Baker, Vice President, Transportation, Housing & Community Development  
**Silicon Valley Leadership Group**

Ruben Guerra, President and Chair  
**Latin Business Association**

Gwen Litvak, Senior Vice President  
**Bay Area Council**

Jonathon Kass, Interim Transportation Policy Director  
**SPUR**

Jessica Lall, President & CEO  
**Central City Association – Los Angeles**

John Hakel, Executive Director  
**Rebuild SoCal Partnership**

Dr. Tecoy Porter, President  
**National Action Network Sacramento**

Mike Woodman, Chair  
**North State Super Region**

Barbara Leslie, Chamber President/CEO  
**Oakland Chamber of Commerce**

Jack Swearingen, Chair  
**Friends of SMART**

Bee Mittermiller, Public Policy Team Co-Chair  
**350 San Diego**

Darnell Grisby, Executive Director  
**TransForm**

Glenda Marsh, Steering Committee  
**Sacramento Metro Advocates for Rail and Transportation**

Jacklyn Montgomery, Executive Director  
**California Association for Coordinated Transportation (CalACT)**

Richard Marcantonio, Managing Attorney  
**Public Advocates, inc.**

Jay King, President  
**California Black Chamber of Commerce**

Adrian Martinez, Staff Attorney, Right to Zero  
**Earthjustice**

Alberto Ayala, PhD, MSE, Executive Director and Air Pollution Control Officer  
**Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District**

Maria S. Salinas, President & CEO  
**Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce**

Michael Lawson, President & CEO  
**Los Angeles Urban League**

Colin Parent, Executive Director & General Counsel  
**Circulate San Diego**

Stuart Waldman, President  
**Valley Industry & Commerce Association**

Brandon Black, Director of Public Policy  
**Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce**

Laura Raymond, Director  
**Alliance for Community Transit Los Angeles**

Barry Broome, President & CEO  
**Greater Sacramento Economic Council**

Brian Ling, Executive Director  
**Sonoma County Alliance**

Pat Fong Kushida, President & CEO  
**Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce**

Bill Manis, President & CEO  
**San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership**

Dave Campbell, Advocacy Director  
**Bike East Bay**

**CC: Members and Staff, United States Congress**  
**The Honorable Gavin Newsom**, Governor, State of California  
**David Kim**, Secretary, California State Transportation Agency  
**Phil Washington**, Lead, Department of Transportation - Agency Review Team; CEO, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
**Therese McMillan**, Member, Department of Transportation - Agency Review Team; Executive Director, Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
**Toks Omishakin**, Member, Department of Transportation – Agency Review Team; Director, California Department of Transportation

**Fiscal Year 2021 Funding Breakdown\***

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>Funding Level</b>	<b>Authorized Level</b>
FHWA	Supplemental Highway Formula Funds from General Fund	\$2,000,000,000	\$0
FHWA	Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program	\$2,499,000,000	\$2,499,000,000
FHWA	Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grants	\$1,000,000,000	\$1,000,000,000
FHWA	Surface Transportation Block Grant Program	\$12,137,000,000	\$12,137,000,000
FRA	Amtrak Grants	\$2,000,000,000	\$1,800,000,000
FRA	Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) Program	\$375,000,000	\$330,000,000
FRA	Federal-State Partnership for State of Good Repair Program	\$200,000,000	\$300,000,000
FRA	Restoration and Enhancement Grants	\$4,720,000	\$20,000,000
FTA	Urbanized Area Formula Program Grants [§5307]	\$4,929,452,499	\$4,929,452,499
FTA	Capital Investment Grants Program [§5309]	\$2,014,000,000	\$2,301,785,760
FTA	Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities [§5310]	\$285,574,688	\$285,574,688
FTA	State of Good Repair Grants [§5337]	\$2,723,798,369	\$2,683,798,369
FTA	Bus and Bus Facilities Formula [§5339(a)]	\$582,609,736	\$464,609,736
FTA	Bus and Bus Facilities Discretionary [§5339(b)]	\$469,044,179	\$344,044,179
FTA	Low or No Emission Vehicle Program [§5339(c)]	\$180,000,000	\$55,000,000
FTA	High Density States Program [§5340(d)]	\$309,364,074	\$269,364,074
OST	Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Program	\$1,000,000,000	\$0

*\*does not include emergency funding as part of the COVID-19 response in Division M of the stimulus deal*

**Agency Acronyms**

FHWA – Federal Highway Administration

FRA – Federal Railroad Administration

FTA – Federal Transit Administration

OST – Office of the Secretary of Transportation



## Monthly Legislative Report – November 2020

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### November Advocacy Meeting Summary

**House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)** – We have spoken on the phone with Speaker Pelosi's staff this month to discuss FY21 Appropriations legislation and the possibility that COVID-19 stimulus legislation will be attached to an "omnibus" bill. We also discussed the possibility for a limited return to congressionally directed spending or "earmarks" next Congress.

**Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell** – We have been communicating with Senator McConnell's leadership staff this month to discuss the need for additional local government funding, as well as the need for additional transit and formula funding in a COVID-19 relief package framework.

**Congresswoman Katie Porter (D-CA)** – We have been in communication with staff in Congresswoman Porter's office to discuss our funding requests for the next Congress and the possibility of a return to earmarks. We also discussed the Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit and provided additional briefing materials to the Congresswoman's new staff assistant for transportation.

**Congressman Harley Rouda (D-CA)** – We have been in contact with Congressman Rouda's office to discuss priorities for the lame duck session. We discussed FY21 appropriations, and the need for additional funding for transit operations during the COVID-19 crisis and additional flexibilities for existing formula accounts.

**Congressman Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)** – We have been in contact this month with Congressman Lowenthal's office to discuss next steps on Surface Transportation Reauthorization. We discussed the possible priorities for T&I committee in the next congress, and the timeline for a reauthorization in the new year. We also discussed transportation funding in the FY21 THUD appropriations bill, and any opportunities to address the need for additional spending flexibilities for formula funds to help address revenue reductions, and COVID-19 response activities. We also discussed the possibility of a return to earmarks and the likely procedures for submitting requests if they do return.

**Congressman Lou Correa (D-CA)** – We have been in close communication with Congressman Correa and his staff regarding FY21 appropriations negotiations, and opportunities for new flexibilities that would allow more flexible usage of formula transit funds. We also discussed progress on negotiations for a new stimulus and the procedures for submitting requests if the earmark ban is lifted. We also discussed committee leadership changes and opportunities to brief new Chairs on OCTA's priorities.

**Congressman Mike Levin (D-CA)** – We have been in regular contact with Congressman Levin's senior staff to discuss the Alternative Fuel Tax Credit issue and opportunities for including language in the FY21 appropriations or tax extenders packages before the end of the year. We reiterated support for additional transit formula funds in the upcoming stimulus bill and discussed the likelihood of a deal before the end of the year.

**Congressman Gil Cisneros (D-CA)** – We followed-up with senior staff in Congressman Cisneros' office to discuss the lame duck session and the need for new funding to support transit operations.

**Congressman Mike Garcia (R-CA)** – We have been in communication with Congressman Garcia's staff this month to discuss the Highway Bill and support for long-term robust funding. We also discussed the possibility of a return to earmarks and the preferred procedures for submitting requests should the ban be lifted.

**Congressman Pete Aguilar (D-CA)** – We have been in close contact with Congressman Aguilar's office to discuss FY21 appropriations and opportunities to provide input. We reiterated the need to include additional infrastructure funding for "shovel-ready" projects that could provide additional economic stimulus. We also discussed committee leadership changes and the ongoing race to replace outgoing House Appropriations Committee Chair Nita Lowey (D-NY). On this topic, we discussed the likelihood of a return to earmarks, even in a limited fashion, and the most effective methods for submitting funding requests. Finally, we discussed opportunities to support funding and policy flexibilities to support service during the pandemic.

**House Appropriations: Transportation, Housing and Urban Development** – We have been in communication with senior staff on the House THUD Appropriations Committee to discuss new possible CIG funding in a COVID-19 stimulus legislation and how that may differ from the funding included in the amended HEROES Act. We also discussed the timeline for FY21 appropriations, and the need for additional transit formula funding and ongoing transportation projects that may see additional revenue impacts in 2021. We also discussed a possible return to earmarks and how committee leadership changes are expected to affect the annual appropriations process.

**Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA)** – We have been communicating with Senator Feinstein's staff this month to discuss negotiations on FY21 appropriations and reiterate the need for additional transit funding and formula spending flexibilities. We also discussed the possibility of a return to earmarks in the Senate.

**Senator John Thune (R-SD)** – We have been in contact with Senator Thune's staff to discuss the COVID-19 relief framework released late in the month, and support for additional funding and flexibilities for transit providers. We discussed the impact of COVID-19 on transit operations and construction.

**House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee** – We continue to be in regular communication with both Majority and Minority staff. We have also been discussing

progress on the Highway Bill and the likelihood of a more bipartisan process in 2021 that could include some of the provision in the Republican alternative bill, the *STARTER Act* (H.R. 7248). We also discussed how a return to earmarks may affect the drafting and negotiations process.

**Senate Environment and Public Works Committee** – We followed-up with EPW staff (minority and majority) on OCTA's Surface Transportation Reauthorization policy asks. We discussed the possibility of bi-cameral agreement on key Highway Bill provisions.

**Senate Banking Committee** – We followed-up again with senior staff this month to discuss progress on a Senate Surface Transportation reauthorization transit title and the likelihood of progress on negotiations with the House in 2021.

### **Senator Barrasso Seeks New Position, Leaving Highway Chairmanship**

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) announced that if Republicans retain control of the Senate in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, he will take over the Chairman position on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources (ENR) Committee. Following seniority rules, the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee will be Chaired by Senator Shelly Moore Capito (R-WV). The EPW Committee has jurisdiction over highway policy and is responsible for that portion of the Surface Transportation Reauthorization. Senator Moore Capito is currently Chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on EPW. Additionally, she was a member of the 2012 conference committee on the MAP-21 bill.

### **Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Update**

On Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, House and Senate Appropriators reportedly reached a bipartisan agreement on an outline for a FY21 discretionary spending omnibus. Congress will need to pass all twelve spending bills by December 11<sup>th</sup> to avoid a partial government shutdown, or another Continuing Resolution to extend funding authority at FY20 levels. The House and Senate versions of the topline spending allocations were not far apart. The House included more funding for the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Interior, EPA, Transportation, and Housing Urban Development. The Senate favored more funding for Defense, Homeland Security, Energy, and the US Army Corps of Engineers. One major difference was the inclusion of \$233 billion in emergency spending to address the COVID-19 pandemic in the House bills. Senate Republicans have been opposed to including COVID-19 relief funding in the regular appropriations bills, favoring a stimulus package approach. Despite reports that a deal has been reached, the agreed-upon numbers have not been made public and are expected to be released once the text of the bills have been finalized.

President Trump has signaled support for signing an omnibus, but Congress will need to work quickly with only a few legislative days remaining before the current Continuing Resolution expires on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Included below are links to the subcommittee

allocations, as well as the legislative text, explanatory statement, and highlights for each of the FY21 appropriations bills.

**SENATE FY21 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS:**

[302\(b\) Subcommittee Allocations](#) (Topline spending for each bill)

**Agriculture:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Commerce-Justice-Science:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Defense:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Energy-Water:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Financial Services:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Homeland Security:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Interior-Environment:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Labor-HHS-Education:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Legislative Branch:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Military Construction-VA:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**State-Foreign Operations:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Transportation-HUD:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**HOUSE FY21 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS:**

[302\(b\) Subcommittee Allocations](#) (Topline spending for each bill)

**Agriculture:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Commerce-Justice-Science:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Defense:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Energy-Water:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Financial Services:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Homeland Security:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Interior-Environment:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Labor-HHS-Education:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Legislative Branch:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Military Construction-VA:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**State-Foreign Operations:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

**Transportation-HUD:** [Text](#) | [Summary](#) | [Report](#)

## **COVID-19 Stimulus Negotiations**

With the clock running out, Congress continues to work on a COVID-19 stimulus package. Other priority items like FY21 appropriations, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), and a series of tax extenders are also expected to take up much of the limited floor time remaining in the year. After a meeting with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) just before Thanksgiving, Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) told reporters that the discussion focused solely on reaching a consensus on an FY21 omnibus package. Meanwhile, Treasury Secretary Mnuchin has been trying to restart negotiations with Speaker Pelosi, but House Democrats have not wavered in their initial offer of \$2.4 trillion. The White House has indicated a willingness to support a stimulus totaling up to \$1.8-2 trillion, but this amount may not be tenable in the Senate, where Republicans fear that oversized bailouts will not only contribute too much to the debt but could also spawn a political movement similar to the Tea Party in 2009. Despite political complications in the negotiations, the biggest barrier to a COVID-19 stimulus is the limited floor time remaining in both chambers. Congressional staff are being told to expect the end of the session to begin on December 11<sup>th</sup>, leaving only eight legislative days on the calendar for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress.

A bipartisan group of 9 Senators including Democratic Senators Chris Coons (DE), Joe Manchin (WV), Mark Warner (VA), Michael Bennet (CO) and Dick Durbin (IL), and Republican Senators Mitt Romney (UT), Susan Collins (ME), Lisa Murkowski (AK) and Rob Portman (OH) released a “framework” COVID-19 stimulus that outlines a spending breakdown on November 30<sup>th</sup>. This framework has not been approved or endorsed by leadership in either chamber, but both Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY) and Minority Leader Schumer (D-NY) voiced support for a new stimulus. The framework is included below:



### **COVID Emergency Relief Framework**

Major Issues	Cost Estimate
State, Local, and Tribal Governments	\$160 billion
Additional Unemployment Insurance (UI)	\$180 billion
Support for small businesses including Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), EIDL, restaurants, stages, and deductibility	\$288 billion
CDFI/MDI Community Lender Support	\$12 billion
Transportation (Airlines, Airports, Buses, Transit and Amtrak)	\$45 billion
Vaccine Development and Distribution & Testing and Tracing	\$16 billion
Healthcare Provider Relief Fund	\$35 billion
Education	\$82 billion
Student Loans	\$4 billion
Housing Assistance (Rental)	\$25 billion
Nutrition/Agriculture	\$26 billion
U.S. Postal Service	\$10 billion
Child Care	\$10 billion
Broadband	\$10 billion
Opioid Treatment	\$5 billion
Provide short term Federal protection from Coronavirus related lawsuits with the purpose of giving states time to develop their own response.	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$908 billion</b>

## **House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Hearing on Passenger Rail**

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled “*Examining the Surface Transportation Board’s Role in Ensuring a Robust Passenger Rail System*”. During his opening statements, Chairman Lipinski (D-IL) said 1) there needs to be an increase in investments in public rail infrastructure, 2) the domestic rail supply industry needs to be expanded to meet demand, and 3) Congress needs to establish more balanced and efficient processes to utilize existing trackage, much of which is owned by freight railroads. He also discussed support for public investments while encouraging private investments. He also discussed the success of BNSF in increasing efficiency by helping expand passenger rail capacity.

Ranking Member Crawford, conversely, discussed the vital services provided by freight rail. Full Committee Chairman DeFazio (D-OR) highlighted the impacts and burdens resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and expressed his support for assistance to passenger rail entities. Amtrak Vice Chairman Gardner suffered technical difficulties during questions with Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Crawford, and the committee requested his written testimony as a result. The remainder of the hearing focused mostly on funding for Amtrak with support and opposition falling mostly along party lines.

Ann Bergman discussed the STB’s role as a mediator between public rail and commuter entities, and freight rail providers. She discussed a number of cases where the STB mediated conflicts between Amtrak and freight rail entities, including the modification of previously approved rail lines.

### **Witness List**

- **Surface Transportation Board** - Ann D. Begeman, Chairman
  - [Testimony](#)
- **Surface Transportation Board** - Martin J. Oberman, Vice Chairman
  - [Testimony](#)
- **Metra** - Romyne C. Brown, Chair of the Board of Directors
  - [Testimony](#)
- **Amtrak** - Stephen Gardner, Senior Executive Vice President
  - [Testimony](#)
- **Association of American Railroads** - Ian Jefferies, President and CEO
  - [Testimony](#)
- **Cato Institute** - Randal O’Toole, Senior Fellow
  - [Testimony](#)
- **American Public Transportation Association** - Paul Skoutelas, President and CEO
  - [Testimony](#)

## **Possible Return for Congressionally Directed Spending in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress**

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) told reporters that earmarks are slated to make a return in the new session of Congress. Once the new House Appropriations Chairwoman is elected, she will begin soliciting House lawmakers to “ask for Congressional initiatives for their districts and their states”. Connecticut’s Rosa DeLauro has received the steering committee endorsement for the Chairmanship and will likely take the gavel. Delauro has voiced strong support for the return of earmarks.

Senate Republicans made their earmark ban permanent last year, but Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Richard Shelby (R-AL) has indicated openness to earmarks with proper transparency measures in place if it will help Congress “return to regular order” when working on the annual appropriations bills.

## **2020 Election Wrap-up**

As of this report, the Presidential Election has been called for Joe Biden by all major news outlets. The results have been undergoing official certification by the states according to individual deadlines. For example, Georgia certified their votes by 5:00pm on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, followed by Pennsylvania and Michigan on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Minnesota, Nevada, and North Carolina certified their votes on Tuesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, followed by Ohio on the 28<sup>th</sup>, and Arizona, Iowa, and Nebraska on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Another key date in the process is December 8<sup>th</sup>. If by December 8<sup>th</sup>, states have resolved all disputes and certified all results, the vote count will no longer be open to legal challenges. The governor of each state will compile the results and submit them to Congress along with the names of the state’s electors. The Electoral College will then meet on December 14<sup>th</sup> and cast their votes. On January 6<sup>th</sup>, the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress will meet to count and certify the votes cast by the Electoral College, followed by inauguration on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

To summarize key dates:

<b>November 20<sup>th</sup></b>	..... Georgia Vote Certification Deadline
<b>November 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	..... Pennsylvania and Michigan Vote Certification Deadline
<b>November 24<sup>th</sup></b>	..... Minnesota, Nevada, and North Carolina Vote Certification Deadline
<b>November 30<sup>th</sup></b>	..... Arizona, Iowa, and Nebraska Vote Certification Deadline
<b>December 8<sup>th</sup></b>	..... Federal Vote Certification Deadline
<b>December 14<sup>th</sup></b>	..... Electoral College Vote
<b>January 6<sup>th</sup></b>	..... 117 <sup>th</sup> Congress Counts and Certifies Electoral College Votes
<b>January 20<sup>th</sup></b>	..... President Sworn into Office (Inauguration)

## **117<sup>th</sup> Congress – House (2021-2022)**

**Democrats** ✓

**Republicans**

**222** -10

Toss-up  
1

+11 **212**



### 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – House (2018-2020)

**Democrats**

**232**

**Republicans**

**197**



Democrats will maintain control of the House, surpassing the 218 Member threshold to have a majority. However, Republicans have gained 11 seats in an election year where Democrats were expected to greatly expand their Majority. Democrats did pick up three seats, but two of these seats were essentially uncontested after North Carolina drew new district borders that made them significantly more Democratic. The only remaining House race that has yet to be called is in New York CD-22, between Claudia Tenny (R) and Anthony Brindisi.

Additionally, Louisiana Representative Cedric Richmond (D) has announced plans to resign from Congress to serve as a senior advisor to President Joe Biden and as Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement. It is unlikely that his seat will flip for a Republican in a special election, but Richmond has been a key ally to Democratic Leadership and additional departures for the Administration may shrink the Democratic Majority even more in the coming months.

Congressman Aguilar (D-CA) was also elected to be the Vice Chairman of the Democratic Caucus, the 6<sup>th</sup> ranking position in the House Democratic Caucus after a tight race. Reps. Ted Lieu (D-CA) and Joe Neguse (D-CO) were also elected to serve as Democratic Policy and Communications Committee Co-Chairs along with Reps. Debbie Dingle (D-MI) and Matt Cartwright (D-PA). Speaker Pelosi (D-CA), Majority Leader Hoyer (D-MD), Whip Clyburn (D-SC), and Caucus Chairman Jeffries (D-NY) were all nominated without opposition.

### 117<sup>th</sup> Congress – Senate (2021-2022)

**Republicans**

**50** -1

Toss-up  
2

**Democrats**

+1 **48**



### 116<sup>th</sup> Congress – Senate (2018-2020)

**Republicans**

**Democrats**

53

47\*

\*Includes 2 Independents who caucus with Democrats

Republicans are favored to maintain their majority control of the Senate in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress according to current projections of the two Georgia Senate runoff races. Control of the chamber will come down to the upcoming runoff races in Georgia. The two Senate races in Georgia (Purdue [R] v. Ossoff [D]) and (Warnock [D] v. Loeffler [R] v. Collins [R]) failed to cross the 50% threshold. Therefore, a state-wide runoff will be held on January 5, 2021.

In Georgia, any Congressional candidate must win over 50% of the vote. If the 50% threshold is not crossed by any candidate, the two candidates must enter a runoff election in which voters can only vote for one of the two as opposed to a general election that does not limit the number of candidates. The latest projections suggest Republican voters in the state split between Senator Loeffler and Congressman Doug Collins (R-GA) will likely unite behind Loeffler in the runoff. If Democrats are able to win both seats, the Senate will be split into a 50-50 Republican-Democrat no-majority, giving Vice President Harris the tie-breaking vote.

### **Biden Cabinet and Transition Update**

On Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, President-elect Joe Biden announced his intent to nominate **Alejandro Mayorkas** as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Mayorkas was born in Havana and has been serving as an Assistant US Attorney in the Central District of California specializing in white collar crime. He has been confirmed by the Senate three times for prior roles, including Director of the US Citizen and Immigration Services office. He also worked on the Obama Administration's team in response to the Ebola outbreak. The Biden campaign has said that combatting COVID-19 will be a top priority for DHS and the Administration.

**Antony Blinken** is expected to be nominated to serve as Secretary of State. He previously served as the Deputy Secretary of State from 2015 to 2017 and as Deputy National Security Advisor from 2013 to 2015.

Former Chair of the Federal Reserve **Janet Yellen** has been tapped to be nominated as Secretary of the Treasury. She formerly served as Chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisors under President Clinton.

Positions that do not need a Senate Confirmation include the following:

**Ron Klain** will be Chief of Staff to the President. Klain has served as Chief of Staff to both Vice President Al Gore and Vice President Joe Biden.

**Neera Tanden** will be the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Tanden has previously served as senior advisor to Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at HHS, helping to draft the Affordable Care Act. She has also been a longtime senior Vice President of the Centers for American Progress think tank.

**Avril Haines** will be the National Intelligence Director. Haines previously served as Deputy National Security Advisor for the Obama Administration and as Deputy Director of the CIA.

**Jake Sullivan** will be National Security Advisor. Sullivan previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff at the Department of State, and as Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor to Vice President Biden.

**Linda Thomas-Greenfield** will be Ambassador to the United Nations. She previously served as Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

Former Secretary of State **John Kerry** will be joining the Biden Administration as an advisor on climate change. Kerry said that as the “President’s Climate Envoy”, the federal government will treat climate change as an urgent national security threat.

The Biden team is also expected to announce **Brian Deese** to be President Biden’s top economic advisor in the White House. Deese previously served in the Obama Administration as Deputy Director (and later Acting Director) of OMB, and Deputy Director of the National Economic Council.

**Kate Bedingfield** will be White House Communications Director.

**Jen Psaki** will be Press Secretary.

“These officials will start working immediately to rebuild our institutions, renew and reimagine American leadership to keep Americans safe at home and abroad, and address the defining challenges of our time — from infectious disease, to terrorism, nuclear proliferation, cyber threats, and climate change,” the Biden team said in a statement. A Secretary of Transportation has not yet been announced along with other key USDOT positions.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) released the official calendar for the House in 2021. It is linked [HERE](#) and included below:

# HOUSE CALENDAR

REPUBLICAN LEADER KEVIN MCCARTHY 117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

## JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

## MARCH

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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## MAY

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## JUNE

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		1	2	3	4	5
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## JULY

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## AUGUST

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## NOVEMBER

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

GOPLeader
 RepKevinMcCarthy

GOPLEADER.GOV



## Monthly Legislative Report – December 2020

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### December Advocacy Meeting Summary

**House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA)** – We spoke with Congressman McCarthy's leadership staff this month regarding the negotiations surrounding the FY21 spending package and COVID-Relief/stimulus framework. We discussed the need for additional transportation funding in the COVID-19 relief package.

**House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)** – We spoke with Speaker Pelosi's personal office staff regarding the FY21 omnibus appropriations negotiations, and we reiterated support for emergency funding for transit operations and transportation projects.

**Congressman Pete Aguilar (D-CA)** – We have been in close contact with Congressman Aguilar's office to discuss FY21 omnibus appropriations legislation and COVID-19 relief funding. We discussed the need for transit operations funding, and support for new flexibilities in the use of existing formula accounts. We also discussed possible changes to the House rules in 2021. On this topic, we further discussed the likelihood of earmarks and the process for submitting funding requests depending on committee rules.

**Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA)** – We spoke with the Congresswoman's Chief of Staff to discuss possible T&I subcommittee assignment changes. We also discussed transportation funding in the FY21 omnibus appropriations bill.

**Congressman Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)** – We communicated with Congressman Lowenthal's office to discuss next steps on Surface Transportation Reauthorization with the new Biden Administration. We also discussed transportation funding in the FY21 omnibus appropriations bill and support for additional spending flexibilities for formula funds to help address revenue reductions, and COVID-19 response activities.

**Congresswoman Katie Porter (D-CA)** – We followed up with staff in Congresswoman Porter's office regarding OCTA funding requests for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress and the process for a possible return to earmarks. We also discussed the *Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit* (AFETC) and OCTA provided additional follow up information via email.

**Congressman Mike Levin (D-CA)** – We have been in regular contact with Congressman Levin's staff to discuss the Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit, which was extended in the FY 21 omnibus package. We also discussed some of the negative provisions in H.R. 2 that would have phased out tax credit. We also reiterated support for additional transit formula funds.

**Congressman Lou Correa (D-CA)** – We had several calls with Congressman Correa’s legislative staff regarding the FY21 omnibus appropriations negotiations. We discussed support for new flexibilities that would allow more effective usage of formula transit funds, as well as support for additional transit operations funding.

**House Appropriations: Transportation, Housing and Urban Development** – We have been regular contact with senior staff on the House THUD Appropriations Committee throughout the month to discuss the timeline for FY21 omnibus appropriations, and the need for additional transit formula funding and ongoing transportation projects that may see additional revenue impacts in 2021. We also discussed a possible return to earmarks for the FY22 appropriations process.

**House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee** – We were in phone and email communication throughout the month with both majority and minority committee staff. We discussed possible new priorities for the Highway Bill, and how specific projects might be addressed in a 2021 Highway Bill. We also discussed reports that President-Elect Biden would like to restart negotiations on an infrastructure package, and possible new priorities for the incoming administration as it relates to environmental issues to include new funding programs to deploy zero-emission busses.

**Senate Banking Committee** – We followed-up again with senior staff this month to discuss progress on a Senate Surface Transportation reauthorization transit title and possible changes to some of the transit formula programs in the next Highway Bill.

### **Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Update**

On Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, the House and Senate met to pass [H.R. 133](#) – Consolidated Appropriations Act. On December 27<sup>th</sup>, President Trump signed the omnibus/relief package into law. While signing the Omnibus package, President Trump issued a statement (found [HERE](#)) denouncing the package, announcing his intent to submit a rescission request to Congress. House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey (D-NY) responded in a statement, saying “The House Appropriations Committee has jurisdiction over rescissions, and our Democratic Majority will reject any rescissions submitted by President Trump. By turning the page on this request, we will allow the Biden-Harris Administration to begin to Build Back Better.”

**Omnibus** division-by-division summary, appropriations provisions [HERE](#).

- Full Legislative Text [HERE](#)
- Explanatory Statements (Table of Contents [HERE](#))
  - [Division A](#) - Agriculture
  - [Division B](#) - Commerce-Justice-Science
  - [Division C](#) - Defense
  - [Division D](#) - Energy and Water Development
  - [Division E](#) - Financial Services

- [Division F](#) - Homeland Security
- [Division G](#) - Interior and Environment
- [Division H](#) - Labor-Health and Human Services
- [Division I](#) - Legislative Branch
- [Division J](#) - Military Construction-Veterans Affairs
- [Division K](#) - State-Foreign Operations
- [Division L](#) - Transportation-Housing and Urban Development

**COVID-19 Relief** division-by-division summary [HERE](#)

- \$14 billion for Transit Emergency Relief for operating assistance.
- \$10 billion to support State Departments of Transportation. Funds may be used to replace amounts lost as a result of coronavirus for preventative maintenance, routine maintenance, operations, and personnel costs, and may support tolling agencies and ferry systems.
- \$4.5 billion for State, local, Territorial, and Tribal Public Health Departments through the CDC.
- \$2 billion for assistance through states to families with funeral expenses related to COVID-19 without a state match.

**Extensions**

- Extends the date by which state and local governments may make expenditures with CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund awards from December 30, 2020 to December 31, 2021.
- Extends through March 14, 2021 the CARES Act provision which reimbursed states for the cost of waiving the “waiting week” for regular unemployment compensation. Sets the reimbursement percentage for weeks ending after December 26, 2020 at 50 percent.
- Extends through March 14, 2021 the CARES Act provision which gave state unemployment offices temporary, emergency authority to use “non-merit” staff.
- Extends Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) to March 14, 2021 and allows individuals receiving benefits as of March 14, 2021 to continue through April 5, 2021, as long as the individual has not reached the maximum number of weeks.
- Increases the number of weeks of benefits an individual may claim through the PEUC program from 13 to 24.
- Extends through March 14, 2021 the CARES Act provision which provided temporary 100 percent federal financing for Short-Time Compensation (“worksharing”) programs which are established in state law.

- Extends through March 14, 2021 the CARES Act provision which provided a 50 percent subsidy to non-statutory, temporary state Short-Time Compensation programs.
- Extends through March 14, 2021 the provision in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act which provided temporary full federal financing of Extended Benefits (EB) for high-unemployment states. States are normally required to pay 50 percent of the cost of EB, which is a program in permanent law.
- Provides rules for states about sequencing these benefits with other unemployment benefits.
- Ensures individuals who are otherwise eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance do not have their benefits terminated because of inadvertent or state system failure errors in past required weekly benefit recertifications, so long as the state made good faith efforts to implement the program.
- Provides a temporary waiver of the mandatory “EB freeze period” for states that trigger back onto the program because of fluctuations in their unemployment rates, beginning November 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2021.
- On August 8, 2020, the President of the United States issued a memorandum to allow employers to defer withholding employees’ share of social security taxes or the railroad retirement tax equivalent from September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 and required employers to increase withholding and pay the deferred amounts ratably from wages and compensation paid between January 1, 2021 and April 31, 2021. Beginning on May 1, 2021, penalties and interest on deferred unpaid tax liability will begin to accrue. The provision extends the repayment period through December 31, 2021. Penalties and interest on deferred unpaid tax liability will not begin to accrue until January 1, 2022.
- Extends the period of eligibility for FY19 TIGER/Build Grants.
- Child Care Access Means Parents in Schools (CCAMPIS) extension until December 31, 2021

**Authorizing Matters** division-by-division summary [HERE](#)

The Omnibus package also included the House-passed Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), authoring US Army Corps of Engineers projects. The bill was included in [H.R. 133, in Division AA](#). To access the provision directly and a section-by-section summary, click [here](#) and [here](#).

### **117<sup>th</sup> Congress**

The House and Senate convened the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress - First Session on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon. All legislation that has not been signed into law during the previous session expires at the commencement of a new Congress, with the exception of treaties.

The **House** follows a well-established first-day routine. The proceedings included:

- A call to order by the Clerk of the House
- A prayer led by the Chaplain and the Pledge of Allegiance led by the Clerk
- A quorum call ordered by the Clerk
- The election of the Speaker, ordered by the Clerk and conducted with the assistance of tellers
- Remarks by the Speaker-elect, followed by his or her swearing-in by the dean of the House
- The oath of office for the newly elected and re-elected Members, administered by the Speaker
- Adoption of the rules of the House for the new Congress
- Adoption of various administrative resolutions and unanimous consent agreements
- Announcement of the Speaker's policies on certain floor practices

On Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, the House met to adopt the Rules of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress ([H.Res. 5](#)). This package codifies the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and makes other important improvements to promote diversity like requiring committees to include in their oversight plans a discussion on how their work will address inequities and supporting efforts to increase diversity among witnesses who testify before House committees.

The House rules maintain the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis, the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, and the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis as well as creating a new Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth. The new rules bans former Members convicted of corruption from the House floor, codifies the Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds, and protects whistleblowers from retaliation and from having their identities disclosed without their consent. The rules package allows Congress to continue investigations into the census and coronavirus response. It maintains the longstanding PAYGO rule while including exceptions for responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change. The package also strengthens Truth in Testimony disclosure requirements for witnesses appearing before committees, and it creates a process for House Members to formally lend their support to Senate-passed bills.

The package continues remote voting by proxy and remote committee activity put in place in the 116th Congress during the pandemic. It maintains a motion to recommit for the minority while reforming it so it is a true procedural vote without specific instructions and debate and no longer can be used to hijack the legislative process for political gamesmanship.

Click [here](#) for the bill text.

Click [here](#) for a section-by-section from the Rules Committee.

Click [here](#) for a press release from Speaker Pelosi and Chairman McGovern.

In the **Senate**, the first day procedures are as follows:

- Swearing in Senators elected or reelected in the most recent general election (approximately one-third of the Senate) or newly appointed to the convening Senate
- Establishing the presence of a quorum
- Adopting administrative resolutions
- Adopting standing orders for the new Congress
- Agreeing by unanimous consent to a date, other than the convening date, on which bills, and joint resolutions may begin to be introduced
- Electing a new President pro tempore and one or more Senate officers if there is a vacancy or a change in party control.

Negotiations between parties over committee sizes and ratios, parties' action on committee assignments, is ongoing in the Senate. The committee assignment process may continue after the beginning days of a new Congress. (**Note:** These procedures may not begin in earnest until the Georgia runoff election results are clear on January 5<sup>th</sup> or later if the vote margins are close.)

The Senate has designated January 21<sup>st</sup> as the first day bill introductions will be accepted, but they will meet along with the House on January 6<sup>th</sup> to count and certify the electoral votes.

Both parties in the House and Senate have voted on their leadership positions and selected new committee leaders for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress, First Session. New leaders are **highlighted** in the charts below. Additionally, each name is hyperlinked to the Member's website that corresponds with the position (e.g., because Liz Cheney is the GOP Conference Chair, her name is linked to [www.gop.gov](http://www.gop.gov), the House Republican Conference website).

House Leadership Democrat (Majority)					
Speaker	Majority Leader	Majority Whip	Assistant Speaker	Caucus Chair	Caucus Vice Chair
<a href="#">Nancy Pelosi</a>	<a href="#">Steny Hoyer</a>	<a href="#">James Clyburn</a>	<a href="#">Katherine Clark</a>	<a href="#">Hakeem Jeffries</a>	<a href="#">Pete Aguilar</a>
Republican (Minority)					
Minority Leader	Minority Whip	Conference Chair	Policy Committee Chair	Conference Vice Chair	NRCC Chair
<a href="#">Kevin McCarthy</a>	<a href="#">Steve Scalise</a>	<a href="#">Liz Cheney</a>	<a href="#">Gary Palmer</a>	<a href="#">Mike Johnson</a>	<a href="#">Tom Emmer</a>

Senate Leadership						
Republican (Majority)* pending GA elections						
Majority Leader	President Pro Tempore	Majority Whip	Conference Chair	Policy Committee Chair	Conference Vice Chair	NRSC Chair
<a href="#">Mitch McConnell</a>	<a href="#">Chuck Grassley</a>	<a href="#">John Thune</a>	<a href="#">John Barrasso</a>	<a href="#">Roy Blunt</a>	<a href="#">Joni Ernst</a>	<a href="#">Rick Scott</a>
Democrat (Minority)						
Leader & Conference Chair	Minority Whip	Assistant Minority Leader	Policy and Comms Chair	Conference Vice Chair	Steering Chair	DSCC Chair
<a href="#">Chuck Schumer</a>	<a href="#">Richard Durbin</a>	<a href="#">Patty Murray</a>	<a href="#">Debbie Stabenow</a>	<a href="#">Elizabeth Warren</a>	<a href="#">Amy Klobuchar</a>	<a href="#">Chris Van Hollen</a>

Furthermore, the House Committee leadership positions are included in the table below. While all of the House Committee leadership positions have been determined, the Senate is waiting to determine new Chairs and Ranking Members until after the Georgia Runoff Elections. Once again, each Member named in the chart below is hyperlinked to their respective website and newly elected leaders are highlighted.

House Committees									
Agriculture		Appropriations		Armed Services		Budget		Ed and Labor	
Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking
<a href="#">David Scott</a>	<a href="#">GT Thompson</a>	<a href="#">Rosa DeLauro</a>	<a href="#">Kay Granger</a>	<a href="#">Adam Smith</a>	<a href="#">Mike Rogers</a>	<a href="#">John Yarmuth</a>	<a href="#">Jason Smith</a>	<a href="#">Bobby Scott</a>	<a href="#">Virginia Foxx</a>
Energy and Commerce		Financial Services		Foreign Affairs		Homeland Security		Judiciary	
Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking
<a href="#">Frank Pallone</a>	<a href="#">McMorris Rodgers</a>	<a href="#">Maxine Waters</a>	<a href="#">Patrick McHenry</a>	<a href="#">Gregory Meeks</a>	<a href="#">Mike McCaul</a>	<a href="#">Bennie Thompson</a>	<a href="#">John Katko</a>	<a href="#">Jerrold Nadler</a>	<a href="#">Jim Jordan</a>
Natural Resources		Oversight and Reform		Science, Space, and Tech		Small Business		T&I	
Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking	Chair	Ranking
<a href="#">Raul Grijalva</a>	<a href="#">Bruce Westerman</a>	<a href="#">Carolyn Maloney</a>	<a href="#">James Comer</a>	<a href="#">Eddie Bernice Johnson</a>	<a href="#">Frank Lucas</a>	<a href="#">Nydia Velazquez</a>	<a href="#">Blaine Luetkemeyer</a>	<a href="#">Peter DeFazio</a>	<a href="#">Sam Graves</a>
Veterans Affairs				Ways and Means					
Chair		Ranking		Chair		Ranking			
<a href="#">Mark Takano</a>		<a href="#">Mike Bost</a>		<a href="#">Richard Neal</a>		<a href="#">Kevin Brady</a>			

## **Biden Administration – Nominations and White House Advisors**

In December the Biden team began announcing expected nominees for Cabinet appointments, White House Staff, and other positions. An ongoing list of announced names is included below:

### **Require Senate Confirmation:**

**Pete Buttigieg** will be nominated as Secretary of Transportation. He previously served as Mayor of South Bend, Indiana.

**Dr. Miguel Cardona** will be nominated as the next Secretary of Education. He has been a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Principal, and Assistant Superintendent.

**Katherine Tai** will be nominated as US Trade Representative. Tai served in the USTR's Office of the General Counsel, first as Associate General Counsel from 2007 to 2011 and then as Chief Counsel for China Trade Enforcement with responsibility for the development and litigation of U.S. disputes against China at the World Trade Organization (WTO).

**Marcia Fudge** will be nominated to serve as the next Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Marcia Fudge has been a Member of the US House of Representatives since 2008 in Ohio's 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, covering much of Cleveland and Akron. Prior to the House, she was Mayor of Warrensville Heights, Ohio.

**Tom Vilsack** will be nominated as Secretary of US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Tom Vilsack was USDA Secretary for all eight years of the Obama Administration and is the former governor of Iowa.

**Denis McDonough** will be nominated as Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA). He is a former White House Chief of Staff under President Obama, serving from January 2012 until January 2017. Prior to this role, he held a number of legislative aide positions in the Senate, focusing on foreign affairs.

**Llyod Austin** will be nominated to serve as the next Secretary of Defense. He is a retired Army General and former Commander of CENTCOM. Austin retired in 2016, so the House and Senate would need to pass a waiver to override a law requiring the top position in the DOD to be filled by a civilian who has not been in the military for at least seven years. This law is designed to provide a "cooling off" period and ensure civilian control of the military. Secretary Mattis received this waiver in 2016 before President Trump was inaugurated, and while this is only one of two times in history a waiver has been granted.

**Alejandro Mayorkas** is expected to be nominated as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Mayorkas previously served as a US Attorney, Director of US Citizenship and Immigration Services, and Deputy Secretary of DHS.

**Xavier Becerra** has been named to be the next Secretary of Health and Human Services. Becerra was previously a US Representative from California (1993-2017) and Chair of the House Democratic Caucus. He is currently serving as the Attorney General for the State of California.

**Antony Blinken** is expected to be nominated to serve as Secretary of State. He previously served as the Deputy Secretary of State from 2015 to 2017 and as Deputy National Security Advisor from 2013 to 2015.

Former Chair of the Federal Reserve **Janet Yellen** has been tapped to be nominated as Secretary of the Treasury. She formerly served as Chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisors under President Clinton. If confirmed, she will be the first woman to serve as Secretary of the Treasury.

**Wally Adeyemo** will be nominated as Deputy Secretary of the Treasury. He previously served in the Obama administration as Deputy Director of the National Economic Council and Deputy National Security Advisor.

**Dr. Vivek Murthy** will be nominated to become the next Surgeon General of the United States. Dr. Murthy previously served as Surgeon General under President Obama. He will also serve as co-chair of President Biden's COVID-19 Advisory Board.

**Katherine Tai** will be nominated as US Trade Representative. She previously served as Chief Trade Counsel on the House Ways and Means Committee.

**Linda Thomas-Greenfield** will be nominated to serve as Ambassador to the United Nations. She previously served as Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

**Avril Haines** will be the National Intelligence Director. Haines previously served as Deputy National Security Advisor for the Obama Administration and as Deputy Director of the CIA.

**Neera Tanden** will be nominated to serve as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Tanden has previously served as senior advisor to Secretary Kathleen Sebelius at HHS, helping to draft the Affordable Care Act. She has also been a longtime senior Vice President of the Centers for American Progress think tank.

**Cecilia Rouse** will be nominated as Chair of the White House Council of Economic Affairs. She is a former member of the Obama-Biden Council of Economic Advisers, and dean of the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs.

**Brenda Mallory** will be nominated as the Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Mallory has served in both Democratic and Republican administrations, including as General Counsel on the White House Council on Environmental Quality and as the Principal Deputy General Counsel at the Environmental Protection Agency during the Obama-Biden Administration.

*Positions that do not require a Senate Confirmation include the following:*

**Ron Klain** will be Chief of Staff to the President. Klain has served as Chief of Staff to both Vice President Al Gore and Vice President Joe Biden.

**Jen O'Malley Dillon** will be Deputy Chief of Staff. Jen O'Malley Dillon served as the Campaign Manager for the Biden-Harris campaign.

**Symone Sanders** will be Senior Advisor and Chief Spokesperson for the Vice President. Symone Sanders served as a Senior Advisor on the Biden-Harris campaign and in 2016 on the Bernie Sanders campaign for President.

**Jake Sullivan** will be National Security Advisor. Sullivan previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff at the Department of State, and as Deputy Assistant to the President and National Security Advisor to Vice President Biden.

Former Secretary of State **John Kerry** will be joining the Biden Administration as an advisor on climate change. Kerry said that as the "President's Climate Envoy", the federal government will treat climate change as an urgent national security threat.

**Jared Bernstein** will be a member of the Council of Economic Advisors. He previously Served as Vice-President Biden's Chief Economist during in the first years of the Obama Administration.

**Heather Boushey** will be a member of the Council of Economic Advisors. Boushey served as chief economist for Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential transition team, and previously served as an economist for the Center for American Progress, the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress, the Center for Economic and Policy Research, and the Economic Policy Institute.

**Brian Deese** will be Director of the National Economic Council. During the Obama Administration, he served as Special Assistant to the President for Economic Policy after the 2008 financial crisis, as Deputy Director of the National Economic Council, and as Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

**Julie Rodriguez** will be Director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. During the Obama-Biden administration, Chavez Rodriguez served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Deputy Director of Public Engagement in the Office of Public Engagement.

**Louisa Terrell** will be the Director of the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. She previously served as a Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs under President Obama.

**Reema Dodin** and **Shuwanza Goff** will be Deputy Directors of the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. Reema Dodin serves as Deputy Chief of Staff and Floor Director to the Senate Democratic Whip, Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL). Shuwanza Goff served as Floor Director for the House of Representatives under House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer.

**Dana Remus** will be White House Counsel. During the Obama-Biden administration, Remus was the Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Counsel for Ethics. Previously, she was a Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina School of Law, where she specialized in legal and judicial ethics and the regulation of the legal profession. Remus clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. and Judge Anthony J. Scirica of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and was an associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP.

**Kate Bedingfield** will be White House Communications Director.

**Jen Psaki** will be Press Secretary.

**Anthony Fauci** will stay on as Chief Medical Advisor to the President on COVID-19.

**Dr. Rochelle Walensky** is expected to be appointed as Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The position does not require Senate confirmation.

**Jeff Zients** will be coordinator of the COVID-19 Response and Counselor to the President. He previously served as Director of the National Economic Council, Acting Director of OMB, and is responsible for the 2013 healthcare.gov “tech surge” and the “Cash for Clunkers” program.

**Natalie Quillian** will be Deputy Coordinator of the COVID-19 Response. Previously served as Advisor to the White House Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the Deputy National Security Advisor during the Obama Administration.