



**SamTrans CAC – September 2022**

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# Presentation Overview

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# Federal Update



# FY 2022 Appropriations

- In March President Biden finally signed fiscal year 2022 omnibus appropriations bill
- FY 2022 actually began on October 1, 2021, but federal agencies had been funded by several stopgap Continuing Resolutions (CRs) approved by Congress for five months.
- Package provided \$1.5 trillion across 12 spending bills.
- Provided \$103 billion for DOT, an increase of \$16.2 billion above FY 2021 funding.
- First appropriations bill to include earmarks since 2011

# FY 2023 Appropriations – House

- In July, the House passed a "minibus" package of six FY 2023 spending bills.
- Package included: the Agriculture, Energy-Water, Department of Transportation-HUD (THUD), Interior-Environment, Financial Services, and Military Construction-VA bills.
- The Department of Transportation (DOT) would receive \$105.4 billion, \$2.4 billion above the current funding and \$942 million above the FY 2023 budget request.

# FY 2023 Appropriations – House

## Key DOT Funding:

- \$17.45 billion for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).
- \$13.6 billion for Transit Formula Grants to expand bus fleets and increase the transit state of good repair
- \$200 million for Bus and Bus Facilities program
- \$50 million for Low-No Emission Bus program

# FY 2023 Appropriations - Senate

- In July the Senate Appropriations Committee released draft FY 2023 spending bills.
- Provides \$106.6 billion DOT, \$2.1 billion above FY 2022.
- DOT funding includes:
  - \$16.8 billion for Federal Transit Administration (FTA), \$571 million more than FY 2022.
  - \$220 million for Bus and Bus Facilities Grant Program
  - \$135 million for Low and No Emissions Bus Grant Program

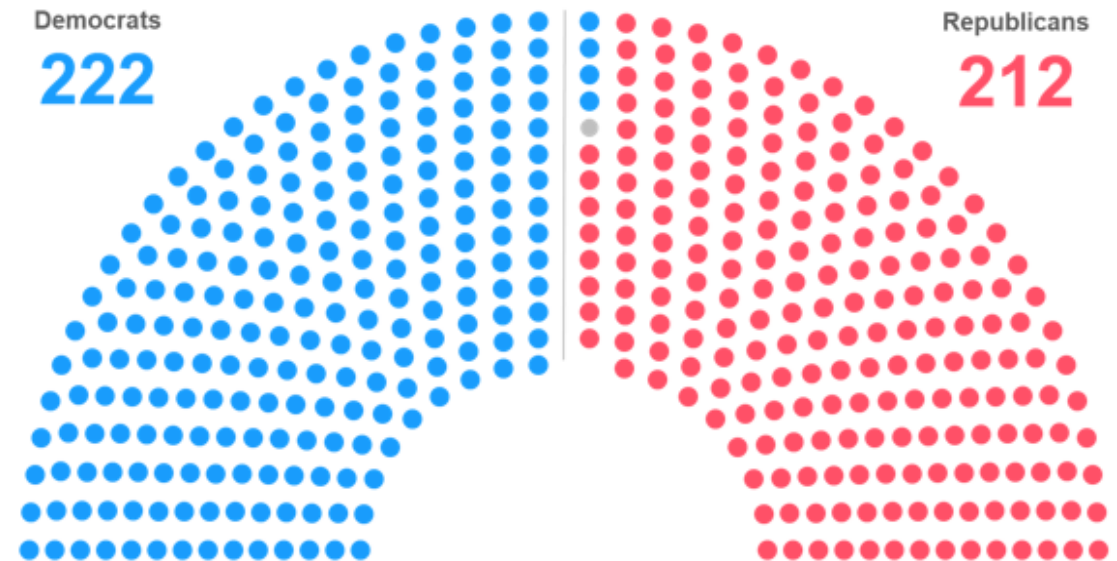
# FY 2023 Appropriations – Next Steps

- House and Senate will not be able to pass all 12 FY 2023 appropriations bills before end of the fiscal year (September 30)
- Congress will have to pass a continuing resolution (CR). The CR would fund the government through mid-December.
- Multiple CRs may be necessary



# 2022 Midterm Elections – House

- All 435 House members are up for election
- Republicans need to net five seats to take control
- 37 members are retiring or seeking other offices
  - 26 Democrats
  - 11 Republicans



# 2022 Midterm Elections – House

## California Outlook

- California lost a seat in the House due to slow population growth, dropping delegation to 52 representatives
- California currently has 11 Republicans and 44 Democrats in Congress
- Jackie Speier retiring

# 2022 Midterm Elections – Senate

- 34 seats are up this year
  - 20 Republicans
  - 14 Democrats
- One net gain would give Republicans control

# State Update



# Bills SamTrans Supported

- SB 922 (Weiner) – CEQA Exemptions: Transportation-Related Projects
  - Would extend exemptions from the requirements of CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) for clean transportation projects that make streets safer for walking and biking; speed up bus service on streets and improve its on-time performance; support faster bus service on state highways; expand carpooling; improve wayfinding for people using transit, biking, or walking. It would also extend exemptions for the construction of infrastructure of facilities to charge or refuel zero-emission transit vehicles, and the building of new bus and light rail stations or terminals.
  - **SamTrans supported**
  - **Sent to Governor**

# Bills SamTrans Supported

- SB 942 (Newman) – Low Carbon Transit Operations Program: Free or Reduced Fare Transit Program
  - Allows transit agencies to operate free or reduced transit fare programs on an ongoing basis without the need to annually demonstrate that these programs reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
  - **SamTrans supported**
  - **Sent to Governor**

# Bills SamTrans Supported

- AB 1919 (Holden) – Free Youth Transit Passes
  - An elective program offering free youth transit passes to students. Transit agencies can partner with educational institutions to apply for grants for free fare programs, and grant funds to be used to maintain, subsidize, or expand an existing fare free program.
  - **SamTrans supported**
  - **Vetoed by Governor**

# Bills SamTrans Supported

- AB 2622 (Mullin) – Sales Tax Exemptions for Transit Buses
  - Would extend, from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2026, the partial sales and use tax exemption for zero-emission buses (ZEBs) purchased by California transit agencies.
  - **SamTrans supported**
  - **Signed by Governor**



# Other Bills of Note

- SB 917 (Becker) – Seamless Transit Transformation Act
  - Would have required the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to develop and adopt a Connected Network Plan, integrated transit fare structure, standardized regional transit mapping and wayfinding system, an implementation and maintenance strategy and funding plan, and establish open data standards to support a more integrated public transportation network in the Bay Area.
  - Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee
- AB 2441 (Kalra) – Autonomous Transit Vehicle Technology
  - Would require transit agencies to provide notice to employees of its intention to initiate a plan to acquire or deploy autonomous transit vehicle technology that would eliminate job functions or jobs of the workforce.
  - Sent to Governor

## 2022 Elections – State

- Democrats have a supermajority which is not likely to change
- New Assemblymember – Diane Papan unopposed
- San Mateo County likely to be continuously be represented by Democrats

# SamTrans Legislative Program

- Adopted annually
- CAC will be given an opportunity to review and comment in winter