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Consulting and Governmental Relations

MEMORANDUM

TO: Contra Costa County
Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Mark Watts

DATE: November 4, 2016

SUBJECT: **November TWIC Report**

Legislative Special Session on Transportation

A coalition of transportation stakeholders continues to mount pressure for a post-election session on transportation funding and reforms in the present Special Session between November 8th and November 30th. The initial target date up to this point had been November 10th, two days after the election, when traditional party caucus meetings will be taking place in Sacramento, although the emphasis has shifted to a bit later in November. The date for the session is absolutely critical given the parliamentary requirements for moving legislation and the obvious intent of limiting the amount of time that legislators need to be present in the Capital City to complete work on a package.

It appears that leadership is more inclined to use the committee structure to get the legislation to the respective floors and to an ultimate vote of both houses, which results in some additional scheduling issues as well. What appears to be emerging is confirmation that there are essentially three timeframes under consideration. First is the week of November 14th -18th, then November 21st - 23rd, the days before Thanksgiving and when members will have completed their travel plans, and finally, the last three days of the month. So process and schedule are very important to getting approval of a transportation bill, and these are matters that will be decided at the leadership level.

Senator Beall has recently been discussing a reduced version of his funding package (SBX1 1) with members of the Senate. It is not yet known how this will be received or shaped. Additionally, The Senator's Office has refined language for a constitutional amendment to provide enhanced and thorough coverage and protections for the new revenues; this measure would go to the voters following legislative approval of the funding package. Other pressing issues include incorporation of Republican reform proposals into the legislative, as well, and the stakeholder coalition has worked to develop a final package of those reforms to get them on the table and these are being drafted into bill language in preparation for their consideration.

In the Assembly, Transportation Committee Chair Frazier continues to engage in discussion with the membership of the Assembly Democratic Caucus to marshal support for the package, ABX1 26.