

Smith, Watts & Company, LLC.

Consulting and Governmental Relations

August 5, 2020

TO: Transportation, Water, and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Mark Watts

SUBJECT: Legislative Report – August 2020 TWIC Meeting

This report provides a brief status update on legislative or state budget activities.

State Legislature

It has been some time coming, but the Senate Transportation Committee conducted their final bill hearing of 2020 this week.

The agenda was quite interesting in that there were 22 measures on file, with all but one set for Consent. The consent agenda included the Transportation Omnibus bill, AB 2038 and AB 2285, which is the Assembly Committee bill.

Next week, on August 10, the Assembly Transportation Committee is set to consider its last slate of bills for the year. The agenda includes SB 1291, the Senate Transportation Committee bill, and SB 1351, Senator Beall's measure to accelerate implementation of State major repair and restoration projects through revenue bonds.

As recently as this morning, discussions have been ongoing relative to SB 1351, with an emphasis on technical aspects of the measure. Concerns have been raised by CSAC and the League about the provision in the bill that reserves the SB 1 car fee revenues to a special subaccount to gain optimum bond rates. On behalf of local governments everywhere, CSAC and the League sought a change in the bill structure to ensure that SB 1 local road repair funds would continue to flow uninterrupted for local roads purposes. This change has been agreed to and the bill will be amended.

For bills that successfully pass these hearings, the next step for most is to be scheduled for consideration in Appropriations committees, which are now intended for the week of August 10 and August 17. The final date of legislative action is August 31.

Executive Order on Climate Resiliency – Survey on Draft Implementation Strategies

CalSTA has released its [survey](#) to gather feedback on its draft strategies to implement Governor Newsom's Executive Order on Climate Resiliency (N-19-19). A review of the draft strategic action plan finds that the focus on safety, reducing public vulnerability, assessing our physical climate risk, and investing in zero-emission-vehicle deployment and infrastructure appropriate.

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Moreover, the EO call for focused funding for the policy strategies will likely maximize the Plan's effectiveness.

California Transportation Commission

The Commission (CTC) has scheduled its next meeting for August 12-13, 2020 as a webinar at which it is anticipated that they will at on more than \$1.8 billion in allocation requests, associated with an estimated 20,000 jobs.

Additionally, the CTC has also set for a public hearing via webinar the Road User Charge Technical Advisory Committee (RUC) on September 4. It has been in hiatus for nearly one year.