



## Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee

May 28, 2009

### AB 729 (Evans) — Design-Build for Transit

**Issue:** SACOG is tracking AB 729, which would remove the January 2011 sunset date for design-build authority for transit projects.

**Recommendation:** That the Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee recommends that the Board support AB 729.

**Discussion:** Assemblymember Noreen Evans has introduced AB 729, which would extend the sunset date for design-build authority for transit projects from January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2015.

Existing law authorizes transit operators to use design-build contracts for transit facilities, allowing a single firm to be awarded a single contract for design and construction. For transit operators who do not already have a labor compliance program, existing law would require establishing a program only for design-build contracts.

According to Assembly Transportation Committee staff analysis, a review of reports from transit operators using the existing design-build authority by the Legislative Analyst's Office concluded that almost all reported that compared to the traditional design-bid-build process, design-build took less time to construction and resulted in fewer claims and less litigation.

AB 729 passed the Assembly on May 14, and is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee. It is sponsored by the California Transit Association, which argues that it may help expedite time-sensitive projects, including those funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and Proposition 1B of 2006. Supporters include the California Transit Association, Foothill Transit, Orange County Transportation Authority, Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, San Diego Association of Governments and the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District. It is opposed by the Associated Builders and Contractors of California.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever  
Executive Director

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Attachment

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