



**SACOG Board of Directors**

February 10, 2010

**Support Small Transit Intensive Cities Funding in the TEA-3 Re-Authorization Bill**

**Issue:** SACOG support of proposed TEA-3 re-authorization funding for small urbanized transit intensive cities through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

**Recommendation:** The Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee unanimously recommends that the Board support the City of Davis/Unitrans efforts to continue special funding for small urbanized transit intensive cities in the TEA-3 reauthorization bill.

**Committee Action/Discussion:** The Unitrans General Manager, Geoff Straw, requests the support of SACOG in Unitrans' efforts to secure transit funding to meet burgeoning demand in the City of Davis. Unitrans provides high quality transit service to the University and City of Davis but is severely capacity-constrained with a fleet of 45 buses providing over 3.5 million passenger-trips annually.

The FTA small urbanized transit intensive cities program is designed to encourage and reward local investment in smaller urbanized area transit agencies by providing a federal incentive tier for those committed to increasing service levels. This program measures success through six service factors which include revenue vehicle miles and hours per capita, passenger miles and hours per revenue mile and hour, passenger miles per capita and passengers per capita. Unitrans has scored well under all six criteria and receives about \$750,000 a year through this program. In order for Unitrans and other small urbanized operators to have the opportunity to continue to receive these incentive funds it is important that the Small Transit Intensive Cities program be continued in the upcoming reauthorization bill.

The City of Davis/Unitrans seeks support and coordination from SACOG as they continue to lead the lobbying efforts to include funding for small urbanized transit intensive cities program in the final TEA-3 bill. The language being supported by the City of Davis/Unitrans is in the Senate's preliminary mark-up of the bill that includes an annual total of \$35 million for the qualified cities.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever  
Executive Director

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