



**Item #15-5-8
Action**

Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee

April 30, 2015

Consideration of SB 529 – Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar Project

Issue: Should SACOG support SB 529, which would appropriate \$10 million to the Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar?

Recommendation: That the Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee recommend that the Board support SB 529.

Discussion: SACOG is serving as the project manager for the Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar Project on behalf of the City of Sacramento, the City of West Sacramento, Yolo County Transit District, and Sacramento Regional Transit District.

The project has a plan of finance with a \$75 million local contribution, with \$50 million from the City of Sacramento and \$25 million from the City of West Sacramento. Within the City of Sacramento, the local share is divided between property owners based on square footage, lot size, and other factors. For private property owners, the City of Sacramento is forming a Mello Roos District to amortize the capital costs over 30 years. For public property owners, the assessment was calculated in similar fashion, but public agencies are being asked to make a direct contribution due to participation limitations in a Mello Roos District. The proportional shares are \$7 million from the City of Sacramento, \$3 million from the County of Sacramento, and \$10 million from the State of California. The City and the County already have committed their shares.

As the largest employer and landowner in downtown Sacramento, the State of California's participation is necessary to make this project viable. SB 529 would appropriate \$10 million from the General Fund for the project for this purpose. A one-time investment from the State will continue to benefit the State for years to come without any ongoing costs. The bill is pending before the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:EJ:ts
Attachment

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AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 14, 2015

SENATE BILL

No. 529

Introduced by Senator Pan

February 26, 2015

An act to ~~amend Section 99152 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to transportation.~~ *transportation, and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 529, as amended, Pan. ~~Public transit.~~ *Transportation funding: Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar Project.*

Existing law provides various sources of funding for transportation projects.

This bill would appropriate \$10 million from the General Fund to the Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar Project, connecting Sacramento to West Sacramento, for use in funding the development of the project.

~~Existing law provides that any public transit guideway that is planned, acquired, or constructed on or after January 1, 1979, is subject to regulation by the Public Utilities Commission relating to safety appliances and procedures. That law additionally requires the commission to inspect all work done on those guideways, authorizes the commission to make further additions or changes necessary for the purpose of safety to employees and the general public, and requires the commission to develop an oversight program employing safety planning criteria, guidelines, safety standards, and safety procedures to be met by operators in the design, construction, and operation of those guideways.~~

~~This bill would make nonsubstantive revisions to the above-described law.~~

Vote: ~~majority~~^{2/3}. Appropriation: ~~no~~ yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. *The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
2 *following:*

3 (a) *The City of Sacramento, the City of West Sacramento, the*
4 *Sacramento Regional Transit District, the Yolo County*
5 *Transportation District, and the Sacramento Area Council of*
6 *Governments are planning for the development of the*
7 *Downtown/Riverfront Streetcar Project connecting Sacramento*
8 *to West Sacramento.*

9 (b) *The project will provide an estimated economic impact of*
10 *over \$5.1 billion and will promote economic confidence and serve*
11 *as a catalyst for sustainable types of office, commercial, and*
12 *residential development.*

13 (c) *The project will provide an essential link from neighborhoods*
14 *to downtown Sacramento, shopping, the arts community, sporting*
15 *events, and educational institutions.*

16 (d) *The project will contribute toward a thriving, 24-hour*
17 *community, attracting sustainable development, employment,*
18 *entertainment, and artist pursuits.*

19 (e) *The project will strengthen downtown neighborhoods in*
20 *West Sacramento and Sacramento and concentrate urban services.*
21 *This will conserve energy, reduce the need for expensive*
22 *infrastructure, protect air quality, and make the two cities more*
23 *livable.*

24 (f) *The project will not require separation from automobile*
25 *traffic, is human in scale, will not disrupt on-street parking, will*
26 *not require special platforms, and will reduce emissions.*

27 SEC. 2. *The sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) is hereby*
28 *appropriated from the General Fund to the Downtown/Riverfront*
29 *Streetcar Project for use in funding the development of the project.*

30 SECTION 1. ~~Section 99152 of the Public Utilities Code is~~
31 ~~amended to read:~~

32 99152. ~~(a) Any public transit guideway planned, acquired, or~~
33 ~~constructed, on or after January 1, 1979, is subject to regulations~~
34 ~~of the Public Utilities Commission relating to safety appliances~~
35 ~~and procedures.~~

- 1 ~~(b) The commission shall inspect all work done on those~~
- 2 ~~guideways and may make further additions or changes necessary~~
- 3 ~~for the purpose of safety to employees and the general public.~~
- 4 ~~(c) The commission shall develop an oversight program~~
- 5 ~~employing safety planning criteria, guidelines, safety standards,~~
- 6 ~~and safety procedures to be met by operators in the design,~~
- 7 ~~construction, and operation of those guideways. Existing industry~~
- 8 ~~standards shall be used where applicable.~~
- 9 ~~(d) The commission shall enforce the provisions of this section.~~