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| **California State Assembly Approves High Speed Rail Funding**  Earlier today, the California State Assembly voted to approve [SB 1029](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120705_SB_1029.pdf), the budget trailer bill which provides funding for the California High Speed Rail Project in a vote of 51-27.  Also, the Senate Budget Committee hosted an informational hearing on the High Speed Rail trailer bills. Attached is a [summary](http://libraryarchives.metro.net/DB_Attachments/120705_Senate%20Budget_Trans_Informational_Hearing_Agenda.pdf) of the information provided for the hearing.    This trailer bill includes appropriations for:   * The Central Valley in the amount of $2.61 billion in Prop 1A funding for construction of the initial operating segment. * “Bookend” Investments pursuant Memoranda of Understanding for Northern and Southern California in the amount of $1.1 billion. This funding will allow Southern California agencies to begin construction on the projects in our region, which will form the building blocks for High Speed Rail, and provide immediate benefit to the Metrolink system. * Connectivity Projects in the amount of $713.3 million to local rail agencies around the state. These funds will provide Metro with over $100 million for the Regional Connector.   This bill will now be referred to the Senate for concurrence. The Senate is expected to consider the bill tomorrow. |
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