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AB 2558 (Metro Greenhouse Gas Fee) Passes State Assembly

Today, AB 2558 was approved by the Assembly on a 41-27 vote. During the vote Assembly Member Feuer noted that Legislative Counsel has opined that the bill meets the requirements of a fee and not a tax.

A number of Republican members spoke in opposition to the bill noting that the California Air Resources Board process should be respected and that the bill is premature. Assembly Members from Los Angeles County asked about the distribution of funds and asked that an equitable distribution formula be developed.

AB 2321 (Metro's sales tax authority) to be considered in the Assembly

AB 2321, which modifies our authority to implement a half-cent sales tax, is expected to be considered in the Assembly tomorrow. Staff has issued a [floor alert](#) for this measure.

Media Inquiry into Record Ridership on the Metro Gold Line

The Pasadena Star News is preparing a story looking at the ridership growth of the Metro Gold Line over the years. The reporter was told that in both March and April of this year ridership on the Gold Line topped 22,000 average weekday boardings setting record ridership for the line. The reporter also received daily ridership stats for the Metro Red, Blue and Green lines and was told that ridership on Metro Rail rose 4.48 percent compared to a year ago. The story is expected to run tomorrow. The Wall Street Journal, CNN and LA Independent Newspapers also inquired today regarding ridership growth resulting in the high cost of gas in recent months.

Additional stories may appear tomorrow.

Reserve the Dates

Sustainability Summit, Wednesday, May 28, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Metro Headquarters, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, California

Summit attendees will learn about environmental issues facing public agencies and cities in Los Angeles County and explore ways of improving environmental practices and policies.

Board Members who wish to attend can contact my office for more information so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

APTA Rail Conference – Visioning Panel, Monday, June 2, 2008 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Listening session about the new TransitVision 2050 document. The visioning task force panel will talk about how they have used a visioning process/document in their community – to address funding issues, to plan new services, to build community support for transit, to look at technology issues.

Western Regional Audit Conference, Monday, June 9 through Wednesday, June 11, 2008 in the Board Room, One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, California

Conference attendees are provided professional education on issues relevant to government auditors. Participants will be given a chance to network with other audit and control professionals, hear about the direction of the profession and learn techniques to improve professional effectiveness.

Mobility 21 Steering Committee Meeting, Friday, June 13, 2008 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Windsor Conference Room (15th Floor), One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, California

The Mobility 21 Summit Steering Committee meets to plan the seventh annual Southern California transportation summit by suggestion speakers and helping to shape the breakout sessions.

Board Members who wish to attend can contact my office for more information so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Access Sacramento, Monday and Tuesday, June 16-17, 2008, Sacramento California

Access Sacramento is a unique opportunity to share your business perspective with

the state's top decision makers. Open to members of the L.A. Area Chamber and special guests.

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