

Fresno Council of Governments

November 2014 Legislative Update

2014 Election Results (see attached):

According to the Fresno County Clerk's office, as of November 5, 2014, Fresno County still has about 32,500 vote-by-mail ballots and 10,100 Provisional's to be counted. The next update will be Friday, November 7, 2014 at 3:00 P.M.

Election results will **change throughout the canvass period** as vote-by-mail ballots, provisional ballots and other ballots are processed. Depending on the volume of these types of ballots, it may take up to 28 days for county elections officials to verify voter records and determine if ballots have been cast by eligible voters. The frequency of updated results will vary based on the size of each county and the process each local elections office uses to tally and report votes.

County elections officials must report their final results to the Secretary of State by December 5. The Secretary of State then will certify the results of the election by December 12. (Elections Code sections 15210, 15375, 15400, 15401, 15501, 15503)

STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION:

August 31st was the deadline for bill to be passed out of the Legislature to the Governor for action and September 30th was the deadline for the Governor to sign or veto bills. The legislature will adjourn for recess on November 30th and will reconvene on December 6th to begin a new two-year session.

Fresno Co. Supervisor District 1	100% of precincts reporting
Brian Pacheco	Blong Xiong
9,528	6,613
59%	41%
Fresno Co. Supervisor District 4	100% of precincts reporting
Buddy Mendes	Daniel Parra
11,454	6,860
62.50%	37.50%
Coalinga City Council	100% of precincts reporting
Steve Raine	Ron Ramsey
745	705
21.30%	20.20%
Nathan Vosburg	Tony Garcia
656	560
18.80%	16%
Richard E. Hill	Luis E. Gonzales
469	360
13.40%	10.30%
Firebaugh City Council	100% of precincts reporting
Marcia E. Sablan	Felipe De J. Perez
277	196
35.90%	25.40%
George Conklin	Mario Perez
183	115
23.70%	14.90%
Fresno City Council District 1	100% of precincts reporting
Cary Catalano	Esmeralda Soria
3,803	3,783
50.10%	49.90%
Huron Mayor	100% of precincts reporting
Sylvia V. Chavez	
164	
100%	
Huron City Council	100% of precincts reporting
Roberto C. Pimentel	Daniel Tamayo, Jr.

105
20.50%

Mike A. Morales
91
17.80%

Maria Pimentel
79
15.40%

97
18.90%

Jorge Solorio
82
16%

Farah Gonzalez
58
11.30%

Kerman Mayor 100% of precincts reporting

Stephen B. Hill
694
53.60%

Kanwaldeep Dhaliwal
600
46.40%

Kerman City Council 100% of precincts reporting

Rhonda Armstrong
702
34.50%

Gary K. Yep
596
29.30%

Jagrup Sidhu
386
18.90%

Kevin W. Nehring
353
17.30%

Kingsburg City Council 100% of precincts reporting

Staci Person Smith
1,097
21.30%

Bruce A. Blayney
1,019
19.80%

Michelle Roman
875
17%

Sherman Dix
830
16.10%

Stanley E. Ruiz
818
15.90%

Charlie L. Soto
506
9.80%

Mendota City Council 100% of precincts reporting

Rolando Jose Castro
257
20.50%

Robert Silva
219
17.50%

Joseph Amador
218
17.40%

Oscar H. Rosales
212
16.90%

Liberty Lopez	S. Leo Capuchino
175	174
13.90%	13.90%

Orange Cove Mayor	100% of precincts reporting
Victor P. Lopez	Glenda Hill
368	322
46.50%	40.70%

Gabriel Jimenez
102
12.90%

Orange Cove City Council	100% of precincts reporting
Gilbert Garcia	Minerva M. Pineda
321	308
21.70%	20.80%

Josie Cervantes	Irene Alvarado
307	296
20.80%	20%

Bertha A. Del Bosque	Ralph J. Pardo
141	106
9.50%	7.20%

Parlier Mayor	100% of precincts reporting
Alma Beltran	Armando Lopez
399	318
40.50%	32.30%

Juan M Montano	Rose Velasco
209	58
21.20%	5.90%

Parlier Council District 2	100% of precincts reporting
Yolanda Padilla	Trinidad Pimentel
126	93
57.50%	42.50%

Parlier Council District 4	100% of precincts reporting
Diane Maldonado	
169	
98.83%	

Reedley Council District 2	100% of precincts reporting
Mary L. Fast	

2,345
97.59%

Reedley Council District 4	100% of precincts reporting
Ray H. Soleno	Pete Perez
1,351	839
52.70%	32.70%

Jesus Pimentel
372
14.50%

Sanger Mayor	100% of precincts reporting
Joshua Mitchell	
2129	
92.65%	

Sanger City Council District 2	100% of precincts reporting
Humberto Garza	Rodney Alan Nielson
236	135
63.60%	36.40%

Sanger City Council District 4	100% of precincts reporting
Eli F. Ontiveros	Adan Beltran
389	350
52.60%	47.40%

San Joaquin City Council	100% of precincts reporting
Jose Ornelas	Betty R. Vallejo
100	85
32.10%	27.20%

Raul Hernandez	Mary Helen Reynaga
75	52
24%	16.70%

Selma City Council	100% of precincts reporting
Yvette Montijo	Michael Derr
1,409	1,010
35.70%	25.60%

Shawn R. Smith	Karnail Sindher
779	747
19.70%	18.90%

Fresno Co. Superior Court Judge 15	100% of precincts reporting
Lisa M. Gamoian	Rachel Hill

56,016
51.30%

53,147
48.70%

Measure Z Chaffee Zoo 100% of precincts reporting

Yes
82,582
71.30%

No
33,187
28.70%

Featured Races Results

Last Updated: November 6, 2014, 7:13 p.m

CA Governor	100% of precincts reporting
Jerry Brown	Neel Kashkari
3,222,249	2,258,729
58.80%	41.20%
CA Lieutenant Governor	100% of precincts reporting
Gavin Newsom	Ron Nehring
3,017,749	2,368,054
56.00%	44.00%
CA Secretary of State	100% of precincts reporting
Alex Padilla	Pete Peterson
2,794,933	2,523,531
52.60%	47.40%
CA Controller	100% of precincts reporting
Betty Yee	Ashley Swearengin
2,800,036	2,498,754
52.80%	47.20%
CA Treasurer	100% of precincts reporting
John Chiang	Greg Conlon
3,079,098	2,251,142
57.80%	42.20%
CA Attorney General	100% of precincts reporting
Kamala Harris	Ronald Gold
3,019,255	2,337,926
56.40%	43.60%
CA Insurance Commissioner	100% of precincts reporting
Dave Jones	Ted Gaines
2,975,226	2,300,284
56.40%	43.60%
U.S. House District 4	100% of precincts reporting
Tom McClintock	Art Moore
93,425	61,896
60.10%	39.90%
U.S. House District 16	100% of precincts reporting
Johnny Tacherra	Jim Costa
35,207	34,471
50.50%	49.50%

U.S. House District 21	100% of precincts reporting
David Valadao	Amanda Renteria
37,657	25,886
59.30%	40.70%

U.S. House District 22	100% of precincts reporting
Devin G. Nunes	Suzanna "Sam" Aguilera-Marrero
69,139	26,671
72.20%	27.80%

CA St. Sen. District 8	100% of precincts reporting
Tom Berryhill	Paulina Miranda
111,368	55,584
66.70%	33.30%

CA St. Sen. District 12	100% of precincts reporting
Anthony Cannella	Shawn K. Bagley
54,039	33,059
62.00%	38.00%

CA St. Sen. District 14	100% of precincts reporting
Andy Vidak	Luis Chavez
41,842	33,514
55.50%	44.50%

CA Assm. District 21	100% of precincts reporting
Adam Gray	Jack Mobley
25,433	23,120
52.40%	47.60%

CA Assm. District 23	100% of precincts reporting
Jim Patterson	
61,744	
100.00%	

CA Assm. District 31	100% of precincts reporting
Henry T. Perea	Walter O. Villarreal
25,258	13,051
65.90%	34.10%

Proposition 1 - Water Quality	100% of precincts reporting
Yes	No
3,388,499	1,686,450
66.80%	33.20%

Proposition 2 - State Budget	100% of precincts reporting
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Yes	No
3,432,204	1,561,972
68.70%	31.30%

Proposition 45 - Healthcare Insurance 100% of precincts reporting

No	Yes
3,033,644	2,037,696
59.80%	40.20%

Proposition 46 - Doctor Drug Testing 100% of precincts reporting

No	Yes
3,425,935	1,675,817
67.20%	32.80%

Proposition 47 - Criminal Sentences 100% of precincts reporting

Yes	No
2,963,414	2,106,816
58.40%	41.60%

Proposition 48 - Indian Gaming Compacts 100% of precincts reporting

No	Yes
3,018,314	1,934,414
60.90%	39.10%

Melissa Garza

From: Len Simon <len.simon@simoncompany.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2014 1:49 PM
To: 'Len Simon'
Subject: SPECIAL REPORT: The Morning After - Perspectives on the Mid-Term Elections and Beyond, November 5, 2014

Friends:

Now that the 2014 midterm elections are behind us (and not a moment too soon!) we will be preparing these periodic “*Special Reports*” dealing with the aftermath, events and developments resulting from the ballots cast. Here’s our initial *Top Ten* for this “*Morning After*”:

(1) **Overview**. When you see that many shifts from one party to another – in the Senate, the House and in Governorships -- there’s a word for it, and that word is “*wave*”. But what is being widely interpreted as a rebuke from the voters and an expression of dissatisfaction on the **President Obama’s** performance, does not in any way limit the fact that the show must go on! The Administration has more than 25% of its tenure left – just a few months short of the entire Gerald Ford Administration and only 10 months less than the entire John F. Kennedy Administration. Executive Authority and the inherent powers of the Office of the President – domestically and as Commander in Chief – are significant – so despite a recalibration brought on by the election results, we expect vigorous action and engagement –and productivity – between the Congress and the Administration in the next two-plus years. But to look at the scope of the wave, click on [New York Times Election Results Map](#), [Washington Post Election Results Map](#), or [Politico Election Results Map](#)

(2) **The President and the Congress**. The biggest potential impact of the election is the “reset” it could bring about in relations between the President and the Congress. For most of the last four years, since the President’s party lost the *House* majority, bills have passed the House and ended up not being taken up by the Senate, with the reverse also being true. Now there is a greater likelihood that the House and Senate, controlled by the same party, will pass legislation and send it to the President’s desk for signature (*figuring out how to get around or accommodate the Senate’s 60 vote rule if necessary*). The President can veto those bills and likely have his veto upheld. But at least on some measures, the President and his team can engage the congressional leadership from the outset and seek to steer the legislative output towards a range he can sign. There are historical analogies: both Presidents **Reagan** and **George W. Bush** faced a Congress where both Houses were run by the other party in the last two years of their presidency, for the first time. In both cases, it nudged them closer to the center on a number of issues and they had important successes. To learn more about what Congressional leaders said last night after the results came in, click on (a) [With victory, McConnell pledges Change](#); (b) [Statement by Senator Reid Congratulating Senator McConnell](#); (c) [Statement by Speaker Boehner On Outlook For The 114th Congress](#) and (d) [Democratic disaster casts shadow on Nancy Pelosi](#). There’s some hope there on all sides.

(3) **The Pen and the Phone**. For the last two years the President has emphasized action’s he can take to advance priorities which do not require legislation. These have included Executive Orders such as the “*Dreamers*” action he took two years ago to not prosecute certain young people brought illegally to the U.S. by their parents. The work done by the White House on programs such as “*My Brother’s Keeper*” is another example. The President has described these efforts as the effective use of his “*pen and phone*”. The President had already indicated that a major new immigration initiative via Executive Order was to be forthcoming after the election. Facing a new Congressional power equation, the Administration will need to review how it uses “*pen and phone*” tools to advance its goals.

(4) **Budget and Policy**. The budget for the fiscal year beginning October 1 is on a temporary “*continuing resolution*” which expires in December, during the lame-duck session of Congress convening next week. The new Senate Majority needs to determine whether it wants to exert significant influence on it after it formally

assumes authority in January or allow the current majority to wrap it up so that it doesn't have to deal with "last year's business" at the start of its new majority reign. Early indication is that it will allow the current powers-that-be to wrap up FY15 into a year-long Omnibus, combining all spending into one bill. Funding for TIGER, COPS, CDBG, Housing, transportation, parks, and many other programs will be impacted by that decision. The President will submit the FY16 proposed budget in March which will be a test of the Congressional majorities interest in cutting spending further from what has already been cut in recent years. Sen. **McConnell** and House Speaker **Boehner** are quietly laying plans for a series of quick votes in January on items with bipartisan support such as fast-tracking international trade agreements, repeal of the unpopular tax on medical devices and approval of the Keystone XL pipeline. On the *Marketplace Fairness Act*, we have been working towards House passage and then House and Senate agreement in the lame duck session. Senator McConnell opposed the bill when the Senate passed it by an overwhelming bipartisan vote in May of 2013. With his impending elevation as Majority Leader, he may have more of an ability to block further progress on this bill than he had before. We'll keep you up to date on this.

(5) **Afternoon Press Conferences**. This afternoon, Majority Leader to-be McConnell and President Obama both held press conferences. At his, Senator McConnell noted that: *"The Committees need to be relevant again.....We can work with the President on international trade agreements, tax reform.... Democrats will follow their President... We'll be addressing the issue [of the Affordable Care Act] in various ways....Bureaucratic strangulation is a major part of what's holding back economic progress.... The appropriations process is the best tool we have in our government toolkit to make changes in the regulatory process....there will be no government shutdowns and no default on the debt...Divided government is not a reason to do nothing"*. He also expressed support for the extenders package. *The President followed Senator McConnell and said: "Republicans had a good night....Senator McConnell has always delivered on his promises....I would love to have a Kentucky bourbon with Mitch McConnell.... "I feel obliged to do everything with my executive power to take lawful action on immigration...I'm certainly going to be spending a lot more time with them [McConnell and Boehner] now."*

(6) **The New Leaders Chairs**. Through our work for Louisville, we have always found that Senator McConnell's office is gracious and good to work with and look forward to working with his team in their new role. With a new Senate Majority comes new Committee Chairs –We have worked with Senator **Orinn Hatch**, the new Chairman of Senate Finance for many years through our work for Salt Lake City and County and he has always been interested in the concerns of local government. We look forward to working with all the new Senate Chairs. We will miss having Senator **Patty Murray** as Chairman of the Transportation-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee. In that role she was outstanding in protecting our transportation and HUD programs, and is the godmother of the TIGER program. It's too early to tell who will chair THUD – there is usually a series of musical chairs when parties shift control. Click on [Senate committee chairmen in a GOP majority](#) to see who the likely new chairs of Senate Committees will be.

(7) **Transportation Cooperation**. Should there be any areas where a new spirit of cooperation can be tested between the White House and the Congress, we are hearing that transportation is high on the list. The short extension of the MAP-21 transportation program expires May 15 so the timing is good to try out the working together model on that one. And both sides have done serious work in preparing for reauthorization. Secretary of Transportation **Anthony Foxx** has been pushing hard for enactment of the Administration's "Grow America Act" and is ready to work with the Congress on next steps.

(8) **Busting the Conventional Wisdom**. As students of history, we thought it was fascinating last night to see that the political conventional wisdom, fueled largely by consuming polling data and "fighting the last war" – extrapolating the 2012 election to 2014 - was wildly off in many cases. The "razor thin closeness" of many of the races we had been prepped to experience on Election Night were wrong in most of the Senate races. And the vaunted "data driven ground game" which worked so well for the President in 2012 did not show up in most of the Senate races. Another example was "We may not know anything until the Louisiana runoff in December or even the Georgia runoff in January (the former won't matter in terms of the majority control and the latter won't happen).

(9) **Former Mayors**. It looks like former Mayor of Anchorage **Mark Begich** is in the fight of his life to try to hold on to his Senate seat. He's about 5% behind, with votes still coming in. Governors **Dan Malloy** of

Connecticut and **John Hickenlooper** of Colorado, the former Mayors of Stamford and Denver respectively, had long nights of catch-up from vote deficits but appear to be in the lead as of now.

(10) **On the Ballot.** Mayor **Greg Fischer** of Louisville was re-elected to a second term by a more than two thirds margin! Mayor **Ashley Swearengin** of Fresno ran a fantastic race for California State Comptroller and came very close to pulling off a remarkable upset. Though she tallied a few percentage points short of victory, she made a great impression on the entire state and comes back to Fresno City Hall enhanced by the experience. Congratulations to Mayor **Al Nagy** of Newark, re-elected for another term as Mayor. Our friends Council members **Pauline Cutter** and **Diane Souza** had a spirited contest for Mayor of San Leandro. Council member Cutter prevailed and will become Mayor in January. Sacramento Mayor **Kevin Johnson's** "Measure L" to adopt the "*strong Mayor*" form of government was not passed. Our friend **Jenny Wilson** was elected to the Salt Lake County Council, which she served on a number of years earlier. The Alameda County Transportation Commission's "Measure BB" ½ cent sales tax for transportation projects was approved by a supermajority of the county's voters.

Hope this is helpful – we'll keep these "Morning After" Special Reports coming your way – please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions

Talk with you soon,

Len

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Garamendi Challenges DeFazio For House T&I Ranking Member Post

The surprise transportation news out of Capitol Hill late yesterday was that Rep. John Garamendi (D-CA), the fifteenth-most-senior Democrat eligible to return to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, is challenging senior Rep. Pete DeFazio (D-OR) for the job of head Democrat (ranking minority member) on the panel.

The following table lists all members eligible to return to T&I in the next Congress, along with the year they first joined the panel.

Current House T&I Members Eligible To Return to the Panel Next Congress

(Not all of these will return to T&I - some, especially on the majority side, may forsake T&I in exchange for a more coveted spot on Appropriations, Ways and Means, or Energy and Commerce.)

<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Joined</u>	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Joined</u>
Bill Shuster (PA), chairman	2001	Peter DeFazio (OR)	1987
Don Young (AK)*	1975	Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)	1991
John Duncan, Jr. (TN)	1989	Jerrold Nadler (NY)	1993
John Mica (FL)	1995	Corrine Brown (FL)	1993
Frank LoBiondo (NJ)	1997	Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX)	1993
Sam Graves (MO)	2001	Elijah Cummings (MD)	1996
Candice Miller (MI)	2007	Rick Larsen (WA)	2001
Duncan Hunter (CA)	2011	Michael Capuano (MA)	2002
Rick Crawford (AR)	2011	Grace Napolitano (CA)	2007
Lou Barletta (PA)	2011	Daniel Lipinski (IL)	2007
Blake Farenthold (TX)	2011	Timothy Walz (MN)	2007
Larry Buschon (IN)	2011	Steve Cohen (TN)	2007
Bob Gibbs (OH)	2011	Albio Sires (NJ)	2008
Patrick Meehan (PA)	2011	Donna Edwards (MD)	2008
Richard Hanna (NY)	2011	John Garamendi (CA)	2009
Daniel Webster (FL)	2011	Andre Carson (IN)	2013
Jeff Denham (CA)	2011	Janice Hahn (CA)	2013
Reid Ribble (WI)	2011	Richard Nolan (MN)	2013
Thomas Massie (KY)	2013	Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ)	2013
Tom Rice (SC)	2013	Dina Titus (NV)	2013
Markwayne Mullin (OK)	2013	Sean Patrick Maloney (NY)	2013
Roger Williams (TX)	2013	Elizabeth Etsy (CT)	2013
Mark Meadows (NC)	2013	Lois Frankel (FL)	2013
Scott Perry (PA)	2013	Cheri Bustos (IL)	2013
Rodney Davis (IL)	2013		
Mark Sanford (SC)	2013		
David Jolly (FL)	2014		

*Don Young joined the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee in about 1975. When that panel was abolished and merged into what became Transportation and Infrastructure in 1995, Young joined T&I and got to bring his MM&F seniority with him.

Garamendi has not yet served five years on T&I (he was first elected to the committee on November 19, 2009). The House Democratic Steering Committee, a leadership-dominated panel of forty-odd Democrats, will hear presentations from all contestants for all open committee ranking slots and will then recommend candidates to the full Democratic Caucus, who must confirm them by secret-ballot vote in a closed caucus session. A list of Steering members is here: <http://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RS21165.pdf>

While House Democrats have begun going outside strict seniority from time to time in recent years in the selection of chairmen or ranking minority members, the seniority norm is still very strong within the Democratic Caucus. But other issues come into play as well, including geographic diversity, a demonstrated ability to raise funds for the party, and a host of other issues.

There is no way to discuss seniority politics within the House Democratic Caucus without talking about race. For decades, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus have believed that the only way they can be guaranteed to get their fair share of senior committee posts is through rigid adherence to the seniority system, even when that seniority system benefits white members, because black members tend to represent safer districts and therefore can stay in Congress longer. (Slow and steady wins the race.)

When the GOP took back the House in the 2010 elections, it was clear that the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee was going to be the focus of Inquisition-like hearings on Obama Administration misdeeds, led by the hyper-aggressive Darrell Issa (R-CA). The top Democrat on Oversight would be the public face of Democratic rebuttals of Issa's attacks and needed to be skilled at on-camera debate and, preferably, be an attorney.

Minority Leader Pelosi felt that the senior Democrat on the panel, Ed Towns (D-NY), was not up to the task of Obama Administration defender-in-chief, and she quietly urged him not to seek the post.¹ Senior panel members Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), 3rd in seniority, and Elijah Cummings (D-MD), 4th, sought the post. Black Caucus members were reportedly split because Maloney, the more senior, is white and Cummings, the less senior candidate, is black – however, since Towns is also black and was being shunted aside, most Black Caucus members publicly backed Cummings (and he had wider support amongst the rest of House Democrats). Cummings won the Steering and Policy vote 33 to 13 and was confirmed by the entire Democratic Caucus, 119 to 61.² But the fact is that the seniority norm is so ingrained in Black Caucus members that some supported Maloney over Cummings, and many others felt torn.

At the moment, Leader Pelosi is taking a lot of grief from elements of the Democratic Caucus for backing the 3rd most senior Democrat returning to Energy and Commerce, Anna Eshoo (D-CA), over the most senior returning Democrat, Frank Pallone (D-NJ), for the open ranking spot. But that is reaching down from first to

third, and that by itself is controversial. And while bypassing octogenarian John Dingell (D-MI) in favor of Henry Waxman (D-CA) for the E&C chairmanship back in 2007 was hailed as some kind of major defeat for the seniority system, Waxman was second in line, had 32 years on the panel, and was on the side of stringent clean air regulations (whereas Dingell represents Detroit and the Big Three and had long opposed stricter emissions restrictions on cars and industry).

By selecting Garamendi for the T&I job, Democrats would be reaching down from first all the way to fifteenth. This would mean bypassing not only DeFazio but also bypassing four Black Caucus members – Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), Corrine Brown (D-FL), Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), and Cummings – who have served on T&I 24 years, 22 years, 22 years, and 19 years, respectively. And there are several well-regarded white T&I Democrats who significantly outrank Garamendi as well who would be interested in the top job if DeFazio did not serve.

Between the Black Caucus being about 22 percent of the Democratic Caucus in the upcoming Congress, and the Democratic Caucus as a whole still having a strong pro-seniority norm, it is literally inconceivable that House Democrats will reach all the way down to the 15th member in seniority, bypassing DeFazio, Norton, Nadler (D-NY), Brown, Johnson, Larsen (D-WA), Capuano (D-MA), and the rest, in favor of John Garamendi.

(Even Republicans, who walked away from the seniority system twenty years ago, only reached down as far as seventh in seniority to select Bill Shuster (R-PA) as chairman four years ago, not fifteenth.)

However, it is possible that Garamendi could be a stalking horse for someone else – a sacrificial candidate designed to test potential weakness in DeFazio’s candidacy so that someone much more senior might then take DeFazio down.

When Pete DeFazio disagrees with someone, he tends to say so, loudly and publicly, and sometimes in harsh terms. Most of the time, this gets directed at Republicans, but he has also been a thorn in the side of the Democratic leadership from time to time when he does not like what the leadership is doing. (Famously, DeFazio was the only liberal Democrat to vote “no” on the 2009 stimulus law, on the grounds that it did not spend enough on infrastructure, and then he picked an argument with President Obama in a closed-door caucus meeting some time later on the subject. DeFazio also voted against two of the other three primary Democratic objectives of that Congress, cap-and-trade and Dodd-Frank.³)

As a result, Pelosi is not expected to exert tremendous energy to preserve DeFazio’s candidacy for the ranking spot on T&I. But unless someone much more senior steps forward to challenge DeFazio, expect his Democratic colleagues to give him the job.

¹ <http://goo.gl/wwFUCE>

² <http://goo.gl/2x7RH8>

³ <http://goo.gl/zofB5G>

Melissa Garza

From: Bill Higgins <bhiggins@calcog.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2014 8:39 AM
Subject: Fwd: TW: Election Update - 9:00 a.m. Wed.
Attachments: Nov 2014 Trans-Infra Balloting 0830 Wed.pdf

This includes an interesting summary of transportation measures nationwide

TRANSPORTATION WEEKLY ELECTION UPDATE - (edited)

The big news: Republicans will hold at least 52 seats in the Senate next year, and the number could rise as high as 55. As of this hour, in Virginia, incumbent Mark Warner (D) leads by 12,150 votes out of almost 2.2 million cast, about 49.0 percent to 48.4 percent, and the race has not yet been called by news organizations. In Alaska, incumbent Mark Begich (D) trails by 8,149 votes (48.7 percent to 45.1 percent) with about three-fourths of the votes counted. And Louisiana is going to a runoff on December 6.

GOP Starts At	45
Alaska (D)	Undecided
Arkansas (D)	+1
Colorado (D)	+1
Georgia (R)	0
Iowa (D)	+1
Kansas (R)	0
Kentucky (R)	0
Louisiana (D)	Runoff
Montana (D)	+1
New Hampshire (D)	0
North Carolina (D)	+1
South Dakota (D)	+1
Virginia (D)	Undecided
West Virginia (D)	+1
GOP Ends At	52

The attached PDF one-pager updates the various transportation and infrastructure ballot questions nationwide. In California and Hawaii, voters rejected the national trend and pro-transit and pro-infrastructure ballot questions. California's \$7.1 billion water projects bonding plan passed easily. Alameda County passed a 1 percent sales tax for transportation, 70%-30%, and San Francisco passed a \$500 million general obligation

bond issue for transportation, 71%-29% and rejected a pro-parking policy by 38%-62%. Hawaii amended its constitution to allow special purpose bonds to make loans for dam upgrades at privately owned dams.

But the nationwide electorate was sharply anti-transit and pro-driver, as noted below, which simply repeats what we sent out at 1:30 this morning.

Motor fuel taxes. If you were thinking, “which state will be the first to have its tax-weary voters rise up and repeal a gasoline tax increase passed by the legislature, even though the tax goes to fund much-needed transportation upgrades,” you probably answered your own question by naming some conservative red state. You probably did not say “Massachusetts.” How wrong you were. Back in 2013, the Massachusetts legislature enacted a law indexing their gasoline tax to inflation to preserve its purchasing power – a course of action that many transportation advocates have recommended that Congress follow for the federal motor fuels taxes. Yesterday, Bay State voters, by a 53% to 47% margin, passed an initiative repealing that 2013 law. In addition, another blue-blue-blue state (Maryland) elected a Republican governor in a stunning upset yesterday, and that GOP candidate has based his entire campaign around opposition to the tax increases of the outgoing Democratic governor, and high on that list of tax increases was an increase in the gasoline tax for transportation purposes.

Hands off my trust fund. Two states – Maryland and Wisconsin – passed constitutional amendments establishing permanent segregation for their transportation trust funds to prevent revenues from being diverted to non-transportation purposes. In the case of Wisconsin, the measure also prevents the legislature from finding new transportation-related purposes for the transportation trust fund that were not already being funded on December 31, 2010.

Take the easy money. Voters in Texas approved the permanent transfer of up to half of the oil and gas production tax revenues that are currently deposited in the state “Rainy Day Fund” to the state Highway Fund if the economic circumstances permit (the constitutional amendment sets up a procedure to determine if a day is rainy or not) by an 80%-20% vote. This is not an increase in user revenues for transportation, but it is a real revenue stream.

No bonds for mass transit. Ballot initiatives that would authorize new mass transit systems, usually paid for with sales tax increases to pay off bond issuances, failed across the board. In Florida, Alachua County (Gainesville) and Pinellas County (St. Petersburg) voters turned down mass transit tax/bonding plans by roughly 40%-60% margins. In liberal Austin, Texas, voters rejected a \$600 million light rail bond issuance by a 42%-58% margin. And in Wichita, Kansas, voters rejected a sales tax/bond issuance for water infrastructure and mass transit by a 37%-62% margin. (Voters in Seattle and Kansas City rejected mass transit initiatives that were put on the ballot by cranks that did not have the backing of local politicians, particularly the silly monorail vote in Seattle.) However, Seattle did also vote in favor of a small (\$45 million per year) revenue plan to preserve existing mass transit service. Also, Clayton County, Georgia did vote for a 1 percent sales tax to allow the county to joint the Atlanta-area MARTA service, but this is a bit misleading – Clayton County is mostly Hartsfield Airport, which already has MARTA rail service.

Other. Cobb County, Georgia did vote for a 1 percent sales tax devoted primarily to road and water infrastructure improvements. Louisiana voters defeated a constitutional amendment that would allow public funds to be used to capitalize a state infrastructure bank, by a 32%-68% margin.

State and Local Transportation and Infrastructure Referenda, Ballot Initiatives, and Constitutional Amendments - November 4, 2014 - As of 8:30 a.m. EST Nov. 5

<u>State</u>	<u>Locality</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Issue Description</u>	<u>More Information</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>By</u>
California	Statewide	Proposition 1	Authorize \$7.1 billion in general obligation bonds for water supply infrastructure projects. (The legislature originally placed an \$11 billion bond plan on the ballot, Gov. Brown counter-proposed \$6 billion, and they compromised at \$7.1 billion.)	http://goo.gl/ZQr6Wt	Pass	67%-32%
California	Alameda County	Measure BB	Renew the 0.5% sales tax enacted in 2000 and increase the tax an additional 0.5% through 2045, dedicated to transportation.	http://goo.gl/Slte7l	Pass	70%-30%
California	San Francisco	Proposition A	Authorizes \$500 million in general obligation bonds to meet transportation needs.	http://goo.gl/bZ07X2	Pass	71%-29%
California	San Francisco	Proposition B	Amend the city charter to tie the city's base contribution to the regional MTA to population increase instead of overall revenue.	http://goo.gl/bZ07X2	Pass	61%-39%
California	San Francisco	Proposition L	Declares city/county parking policy to be more pro-motorist, with no meters running on Sundays or outside business hours, and freezing parking garage, meter and ticket rates for five years (plus annual CPI adjustments).	http://goo.gl/bZ07X2	Fail	38%-62%
Florida	Alachua County	Question 1	New 1% sales tax for eight years, dedicated to road/bridge, bus, and bike/ped projects.	http://goo.gl/0KzWpe	Fail	40%-60%
Florida	Pinellas County	County Question	New 1% sales tax, indefinitely, for operation, maintenance and financing of public transit including new BRT and light rail.	http://goo.gl/LSP4NC	Fail	38%-62%
Georgia	Clayton County	MARTA Question	Whether or not to approve a 1% sales tax dedicated to transit that would allow the county to join MARTA.	http://goo.gl/DFzfwj	Pass	72%-28%
Georgia	Cobb County	Cobb SPLOST	Approve a new 1% sales tax for six years, most of which would go to transportation improvements.	http://goo.gl/y2H1O5	Pass	53%-47%
Hawaii	Statewide	Amendment 5	Allows state special purpose bonds to be issued to offer loans to private owners of dams and reservoirs for facility improvements.	http://goo.gl/TCI8WO	Pass	63%-37%
Kansas	Wichita	Proposition 1	New 1% sales tax for 5 years with \$250 million of the proceeds for water infrastructure, \$40 million for mass transit and \$28 million for street maintenance and repairs.	http://goo.gl/GgVRpQ	Fail	37%-62%
Louisiana	Statewide	Amendment 4	Constitutional amendment to authorize, and allow the use of state funds to capitalize, a state infrastructure bank for eligible transportation projects.	http://goo.gl/J35s4N	Fail	32%-68%
Maryland	Statewide	Question 1	Constitutional amendment to prohibit transfers from the Transportation Trust Fund to the general fund.	http://goo.gl/38pG7r	Pass	81%-19%
Massachusetts	Statewide	Question 1	Repeal the 2013 law that provides for motor fuels taxes to be automatically indexed to inflation.	http://goo.gl/zYldxW	Pass	53%-47%
Missouri	Kansas City	Question 1	New 0.25% sales tax for 25 years to pay for "capital improvements"	http://goo.gl/LDfdVu	Fail	28%-71%
Missouri	Kansas City	Question 2	New 0.125% sales tax for 25 years, dedicated to public transportation in general.	http://goo.gl/LDfdVu	Fail	30%-69%
Rhode Island	Statewide	Question 6	Permit state issuance of \$35 million in bonds to fund enhancements and renovations to mass transit hub infrastructure throughout the state.	http://goo.gl/x1FeGy	Pass	60%-40%
Texas	Statewide	Proposition 1	Transfer up to half of the oil and gas production taxes that currently go each year to the state Rainy Day Fund to the state Highway Fund, depending on overall state finances.	http://goo.gl/Lg2Gbg	Pass	80%-20%
Texas	City of Austin	Bond Election	Approve a \$600 million bond issue for "rail systems, facilities, and infrastructure" if the city obtains a matching grant from FTA and if the city provides \$400 million for roadway improvements.	http://goo.gl/uTjUJJ	Fail	42%-58%
Washington	Seattle	Citizen Petition #1	Monorail. Monorail. Monorail.	http://goo.gl/leWdkW	Fail	20%-80%
Washington	Seattle	Proposition #1	Levy a \$60 vehicle fee and an \$0.1% sales tax increase, raising \$45 million per year, to preserve mass transit service.	http://goo.gl/x1ihzN	Pass	59%-41%
Wisconsin	Statewide	Question 1	Constitutional amendment requiring all highway user tax revenues be placed in the transportation trust fund and prohibiting the appropriation of those revenues for any programs which were not receiving appropriations from that trust fund prior to January 1, 2011.	http://goo.gl/X7rRP1	Pass	80%-20%



Analysis: Election 2014 a Mixed Bag for Transit

By Scott Bogren

November 5 — With transit ballot initiatives passing nationally at rates of greater than [70 percent for the past five elections \(2009-2013\)](#), yesterday's results for a variety of transit initiatives can — at best — be deemed disappointing with a seeming equal amount of high-profile wins and losses. What follows is an initial analysis of *some* of the more noteworthy transit and transportation initiatives. But first, here's a look at the next Congress.

Nationally, Key Congressional Transportation Committee Leaders Will Change

— With the Senate now in Republican control, it seems highly likely that Senator Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) will return to Chair the Senate Banking Committee, which has jurisdiction over public transit authorizations. Shelby had led the committee in the past. In the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.) is set to assume the chairmanship. On the House side, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee ranking member Nick Rahall (D-W.V.) was [soundly defeated](#) yesterday in West Virginia's 3rd Congressional District, bringing to a close 38 years of House service. Oregon's Peter DeFazio is the likely successor as ranking member on the T&I Committee.

Greenlight Pinellas Soundly Defeated — Voters in the Tampa Bay region (Pinellas County) defeated a sales tax increase (a full 1-cent increase) for bus system improvements and a 24-mile light-rail system connecting St. Petersburg and Clearwater. The initiative won only two precincts in the county and lost by a 62-38 margin. Supporters had hoped passage would spark nearby Hillsborough County to reconsider a similar failed initiative in 2010.

Clayton County Votes to Join MARTA — Voters in Metropolitan Atlanta's Clayton County voted to join the Metropolitan Atlanta Regional Transportation Authority (MARTA), making it the first county to join the MARTA system since 1971. The local sales tax will rise a full 1 percent with more than 70 percent voter approval — and is expected to generate \$45 million annually. Just four years ago, Clayton County dissolved its local transit service (C-Tran) and has been without public transit service since. Limited bus service is set to launch in the county in March.

Austin Voters Reject Rail/Road Transportation Bond — A proposal to fund 9.5 miles of light rail, along with \$400 million in local road improvements, was defeated 57-43 by Austin voters. Rail investments in Texas' capital city have proven tough to pass in the past decade and it must be said that many transit advocates had mixed feelings about this proposal from the outset.

Seattle Votes to Boost Bus Service — Seattle voters agreed to a \$60 annual car tab fee yesterday designed to increase bus service in the city. Of the \$45 million the fee is expected to raise, \$36.5 million will go to buy more bus service hours.

Florida's Alachua and Polk Counties Reject Transit Taxes — Voters in Alachua (Gainesville) and Polk Counties soundly defeated local sales tax increases to fund transportation system improvements that sought to fund both transit and road projects.

Statewide Transit Victories in Maryland, Wisconsin and Rhode Island Tempered by Losses in Massachusetts and Louisiana — Voters in Maryland overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment ensuring the state's transportation fund cannot be raided by state politicians for other purposes. Similarly, in Wisconsin voters passed a statewide measure protecting transportation funds. By a 60-40 margin, voters in Rhode Island passed a \$35 million mass transit hub infrastructure bond. In Massachusetts, voters threw out the state's gas tax indexing provision, leaving changes in the state's transportation fund subject to legislative action. And in Louisiana, voters rejected a constitutional amendment to create a state transportation infrastructure bank.

Cincinnati's Historic Union Station Saved — One of the nation's most iconic passenger rail stations (which currently also serves as a museum) was saved by Hamilton County, Ohio voters by a 61-39 margin yesterday. Cincinnati's art deco Union Station will be restored with proceeds from a voter-passed sales tax increase.

Wichita Voters Turn Away Sales Tax Increase To Fund Multiple Projects, Including Transit — Voters in Wichita, Kansas voted against a 1-cent on the dollar sales tax increase that would have raised \$400 million for local water projects, street repair, job development and public transit. Opponents of the proposal had argued for individual votes on these projects, rather than a combined approach.

Monterey Voters Support Tax Increase for Transit — With nearly three quarters of voters in support, a 1/8-cent sales tax was approved for Monterey-Salinas (Calif.) Transit for expanded transportation services for older Americans, people with disabilities and veterans. This vote required two-thirds passage by California statute, so its' margin of victory is significant.

Alameda County (Calif.) Voters Double Transportation Sales Tax — Two years after missing passage by a mere 700 votes, Ballot Measure BB in Alameda County, Calif., passed with 69.7 of voters in favor — just more than two percent ahead of the two-thirds margin necessary in California to increase local taxes. The measure will

raise \$7.8 billion over 30 years, with the majority of that funding going to public transit. Roads and bike/ped projects are also covered by the measure.

Four out of Five Michigan Transit Millage Votes Pass — The Michigan Public Transit Association is reporting: *“Four of five public transit property tax millage proposals in Michigan passed yesterday. In Cadillac/Wexford County the millage was easily renewed, as it was in Bay City. In Genesee County an additional millage for MTA operations narrowly was approved while in Spring Lake Township in Ottawa County a new millage for expansion for Harbor Transit easily was approved. Only a new millage in Addison Township of Oakland County, for the North Oakland Transportation Authority operations, failed by a narrow margin.”*

Ohio Community Votes to Remain in TARTA — Rossford, Ohio voters decided, by a wide margin, to remain in the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority.

Weston, Wisconsin Voters Say No to Taxes for Bus Service — In a vote that likely ends bus service for Weston — a suburb south of Wausau, Wisc. — voters rejected a property tax increase to pay for local bus service. A similar vote in 2012 yielded the same result, with the Weston Village Board picking up the tab to continue the service. Initially, the Board seems unwilling to continue to support the bus service moving forward.

2015 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK

Revised 10-21-14

DEADLINES

JANUARY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2	3
Wk. 1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Wk. 2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Wk. 3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Wk. 4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wk. 2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Wk. 3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Wk. 4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

MARCH							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wk. 2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Wk. 3	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Wk. 4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Spring Recess	29	30	31				

APRIL							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Spring Recess				1	2	3	4
Wk. 1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Wk. 2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Wk. 3	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Wk. 4	26	27	28	29	30		

MAY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4						1	2
Wk. 1	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Wk. 2	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Wk. 3	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Wk. 4	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
No hrs.	31						

- Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- Jan. 5** Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(1)).
- Jan. 10** Budget Bill must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12 (a)).
- Jan. 19** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observed.
- Jan. 30** Last day to submit **bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

- Feb. 16** Presidents' Day observed.
- Feb. 27** Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(a)(1), J.R. 54(a)).

- Mar. 26** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(a)(2)).
- Mar. 30** Cesar Chavez Day observed.

- Apr. 6** Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess (J.R. 51(a)(2)).

- May 1** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report **fiscal bills** for referral to fiscal committees (J.R. 61(a)(2)).
- May 15** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the Floor **nonfiscal bills** (J.R. 61(a)(3)).
- May 22** Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 8 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).
- May 25** Memorial Day observed.
- May 29** Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report bills to the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(5)). Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 8 (J.R. 61(a)(6)).

*Holiday schedule subject to final approval by Rules Committee.

2015 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK

Revised 10-21-14

JUNE							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
No Hrgs.		1	2	3	4	5	6
Wk. 1	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Wk. 2	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Wk. 3	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Wk. 4	28	29	30				

June 1-5 Floor Session only. No committee may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(7)).

June 5 Last day to pass bills out of house of origin (J.R. 61(a)(8)).

June 8 Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(a)(9)).

June 15 Budget Bill must be passed by midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).

JULY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4				1	2	3	4
Wk. 1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Wk. 2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Summer Recess	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Summer Recess	26	27	28	29	30	31	

July 3 Independence Day observed.

July 17 Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(10)). **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment, provided Budget Bill has been passed (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

AUGUST							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Summer Recess							1
Summer Recess	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Summer Recess	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Wk. 3	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Wk. 4	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
No Hrgs.	30	31					

Aug. 17 Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

Aug. 28 Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills to the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(11)).

Aug. 31 – Sept. 11 Floor Session only. No committee may meet for any purpose except for Rules Committee and Conference Committees (J.R. 61(a)(12)).

SEPTEMBER							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
No Hrgs.			1	2	3	4	5
No Hrgs.	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Interim Recess	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Interim Recess	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Interim Recess	27	28	29	30			

Sept. 4 Last day to **amend** on the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(13), A.R. 69(e)).

Sept. 7 Labor Day observed.

Sept. 11 Last day for any bill to be passed (J.R. 61(a)(14)). **Interim Study Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING INTERIM RECESS

2015

Oct. 11 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 11 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 11 (Art. IV, Sec.10(b)(1)).

2016

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).

Jan. 4 Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

Washington Friday Report

Volume XVI, Issue 44

October 31, 2014

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Mayor Menino, Ebola, Manufacturing, Homeless
- 2 DOJ, 2015 Agenda, FCC, Promise Zones, E-rate
- 2 Amtrak, Grants, Climate, COPS, Ben Bradlee, Music

Election Day... and Beyond!

Now the interesting part starts! After months (years?) of speculation about the potential impact of the 2014 elections, on Tuesday (and in many cases earlier) people actually vote and we begin to deal with the reality of that outcome.

Post-Tuesday, we'll be connecting with you in three ways: (1) We'll be preparing a "2014 Midterm Election Special Report" for your review and will plan on having it to you as soon as possible on Wednesday; (2) Just a few days after the election, the "Lame Duck" session of the Congress will convene, with the FY15 Appropriations and the Marketplace Fairness Act hanging in the balance and we'll be working on your behalf on those and other measures through the session, which could go deep into December; (3) We've begun the planning process for 2015 when a new and perhaps markedly different Congress convenes, facing an Administration starting its last quarter. More on that later this year. Meanwhile, here's some news for you from the last week.

In Memoriam - Mayor Menino



Mayor **Tom Menino's** passing was an especially sad moment for our office. As most of you know, for many years we have had the honor of housing Boston's Federal Affairs Director **Virginia Mayer** (pictured here with the Mayor and daughter *Katya*) in our office. Virginia was extended family to

Mayor Menino, so our heart goes out to her for this loss. Through Virginia, we have many wonderful memories of time spent with this great man – in our offices, at USCM meetings, and in Boston. One of the great moments: with the Mayor in the owner's box at a Red Sox game! As most of you know, our own **Jen Covino** is from Boston and had this special reflection on the Mayor: *"I am so proud to call Boston home. It is, undoubtedly, a better place today because of his vision and resolve to improve the quality of life for residents of all walks of life in every neighborhood. A*

Boston Globe poll once found that nearly 57 percent of residents said they had personally met the Mayor, so you can understand that there have been plenty of tears and smiles to share today. Mayor Menino was the very definition of "Boston Strong." We, as Bostonians, in turn, are a stronger community, a stronger city, and a stronger family because of him." This [Boston Globe](#) article will give you all the details about his life. For us, it's simple: He was a transformative Mayor and a kind man – the standard against which all future Boston Mayors will be measured. – *Len Simon*



Ebola Response: Monitoring and Congressional Oversight

CDC has released updated Ebola guidance focusing on strengthening how we monitor people who may have been exposed to Ebola and how medical professionals will oversee their care and, when warranted to protect public health, and limit their movement or activities. It includes specific guidance about monitoring health care workers who cared for patients with Ebola in a country with widespread transmission. For more, click on [CDC Guidance on Controlling Movement](#).

Last week, the House Oversight & Government Reform Committee called its members back to Washington to hold a hearing titled: *"The Ebola Crisis: Coordination of a Multi-Agency Response."* They discussed the possibility of a travel ban from the afflicted countries and the ongoing screening at the five major airports where most of those travelers enter the U.S. For more, click on [Ebola Oversight Hearing](#).

Executive Actions to Support Advanced Manufacturing

On Monday, **President Obama** unveiled new executive actions to strengthen U.S. advanced manufacturing, innovation, jobs, and investment. DOD, Energy, Agriculture, and NASA are announcing more than \$300 million in **investments in three technologies**: advanced materials including composites and bio-based materials, advanced sensors for manufacturing, and digital manufacturing. This fall, Labor will launch a \$100 million **American Apprenticeships Grant Competition** to spur new apprenticeship models in high-growth fields. For more, click on [Fact Sheet: President Obama Announced New Actions to Further Strengthen U.S. Manufacturing](#).

U.S. Homelessness on the Decline

Yesterday, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness released new data from the 2014 Point-in-Time (PIT) count

showing that homelessness is on the decline and that we continue to make real progress toward our goals. In four years, we have reduced overall homelessness by nearly 10 percent, including a 25 percent reduction in unsheltered homelessness. For more, click on [Declining Homelessness](#).

Attorney General Holder Speaks to Police Chiefs

On Monday, Attorney General **Eric Holder** spoke at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference, about the need for police departments and communities to continue to rebuild trust following the tragedy in Ferguson, Missouri. Additionally, he announced the release of a new Law Enforcement Naloxone Toolkit, along with other initiatives. For more, click on [Attorney General's Speech](#) or [Naloxone Toolkit](#).

Majority Leader McCarthy Hints at 2015 Agenda

House Majority Leader **Kevin McCarthy** is hinting at leadership's priorities for the 114th Congress, which begins in January. This includes a central policy goal of "restoring economic growth and job creation" by "restoring competency in government" implying a new focus on reforming and streamlining and reforming federal agencies. For more, click on [Leader McCarthy Memo](#).

FCC Limits Local Authorities on Tower Modification

A new FCC action establishes rules limiting local authorities when approving modifications to existing wireless towers and facilities. Specifically, the Commission's Order, among other actions, implements local preemption provisions contained in the 2012 budget and tax agreement (Section 6409(a) of PL 112-96). This Order will take effect 90 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register, which hasn't happened yet. For more, click on [FCC Order on Tower Modifications](#) or [FCC Press Release](#).

HUD Promise Zone Webcasts and FAQs

HUD has posted recordings of its *Promise Zone* webinars for urban, rural, and tribal stakeholders, as well as webinars on the Mapping Tool and on Max.gov, and an updated FAQs document. The deadline to submit Promise Zone applications is **November 21**. For more, click on [Promise Zones Update](#).

E-Rate Modernization

Yesterday, we listened to a webinar, presented by **Patrick Halley** of the FCC, on steps the agency has taken to modernize the E-rate program since it announced its E-rate Modernization Order in July. For more, click on [E-Rate Modernization Slides](#). Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Amtrak Revenue and Ridership Numbers

On Monday, Amtrak released new numbers on FY14 ridership and revenues. They show strong growth in the Northeast Corridor, which saw a ridership increase of 3.3 percent, contrasted with a decline of ridership on long-distance routes and state-supported services, which saw declines of 4.5 percent and 0.6 percent. For more, click on [Amtrak Ridership Report](#).

Grants This Week




This week, we sent many of you grant notices on the [FTA Innovative Public Transportation Workforce Development Program](#) and [EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Technical Assistance](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

Climate Change: Mayoral Leadership and the EPA

The *New York Times* highlighted the White House Local Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience in a recent article. Task Force member Carmel Mayor **Jim Brainard** emphasized how the approach on climate issues should be bipartisan, noting that the EPA was founded in the Nixon Administration. For more, click on [Climate Change](#).

EPA Administrator **Gina McCarthy** gave the keynote address on the future of energy and the environment and the economic needs for acting on climate change at Georgetown University's 2014 LEAD Conference. Mayor **Ralph Becker** of Salt Lake City also spoke at the conference. For more, click on [Administrator McCarthy's Speech](#).

COPS Office Photo Contest

In celebration of its 20th Anniversary, the COPS Office is kicking off its first-ever Photo Contest entitled, "Community Policing in Action." Submissions are due by **November 5**. For more, click on [Photo Contest](#). 

Ben Bradlee



Much has been written in the last week following the passing of the legendary *Washington Post* editor Ben Bradlee at the age of 93. But no reflection captures him better than the one that appeared in the paper a few days ago by reporters **Bob Woodward** and **Carl Bernstein**. History will always closely link those three, just as they are in this picture on the day the identity of Watergate's "Deep Throat" was revealed. Click on [Bradlee, Woodward & Bernstein](#) to read it.

♪ Music of the Month ♪

Our telephone's hold music of the month for November: the incomparable **Ray Charles**. In addition to solos, it includes a number of great duets from his last album, "Genius Loves Company." We hope you enjoy!

Happy Halloween!



We hope you and your loved ones have a spooktacular Halloween weekend! We'll save treats in our office for you and no tricks!

Please contact [Len Simon](#), [Brandon Key](#), [Jen Covino](#), or [Stephanie McIntosh](#) with any questions.

Washington Friday Report 2

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Washington Friday Report

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Ebola, FY15 Appropriations, America Answers
- 2 Inequality, Brownfields, CNCS, Cat-Ex, Grants
- 2 EPA Strontium, FRA Study, Telecom, Housing

The Administration's coordinated strategy on Ebola emerged this week, outlined for you below, along with highlights of a busy week as the election looms ahead in only 12 more days.

Ebola Response Ramps Up

As the Ebola crisis continued this week, the Obama Administration's overall strategic approach emerged in the form of a high-level interagency approach to combat the threat of an Ebola outbreak in the U.S. while assisting in Africa and elsewhere. The **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** remains the primary point-of-contact for hospitals in response to the perceived domestic threat, but now many other federal agencies have key roles. The **White House** is the agency convener and manager, with new Ebola Response Coordinator **Ron Klain** officially taking on his responsibilities this week. The **State Department** is helping to oversee the international response in Africa. The **Department of Defense** is on the ground in Africa, setting up facilities to screen and treat Ebola patients. The **Department of Homeland Security** is now guarding Ports of Entry, focusing on the five major U.S. airports where all flights originating in the afflicted West African countries are now required to land. The **Department of Health and Human Services** is focused in particular on expediting the development of an Ebola vaccine. The **Federal Emergency Management Agency** is preparing for the possibility of a major domestic infectious disease event. Finally, the **Department of Transportation** is focusing on the safe movement of infected medical waste for disposal.

On Wednesday, we listened to a teleconference convened by the White House, where CDC Director **Tom Frieden** said, "We recognize that state and local authorities are on the front lines of fighting Ebola," and he announced new active post-arrival monitoring of travelers from certain West African countries. For more, click on [Readout of Last Week's White House Interagency Meeting](#), [White House: Latest Steps in Ebola Response](#), [CDC Tightened Guidance for U.S. Healthcare Workers on Personal Protective Equipment](#), [CDC Announces Active Post-Arrival Monitoring for Travelers](#), [DHS Statement on New Airport Travel Restrictions](#), [FEMA Stafford Act Advisory](#), or [FEMA Infectious Disease Event Fact Sheet](#).

FY15 Appropriations Update

Congress will have some tough choices to make when it reconvenes in November after the elections for the lame duck session, none more difficult than what to do about the FY15 budget. Key questions: a further continuing resolution or a year-long omnibus, and at what levels. On some agency spending bills this year, the House and Senate are relatively close. In other areas, gaps are wider. For example, the House only provides \$100 million compared to the Senate's proposed \$550 million for **TIGER Grants**. **COPS Office** spending is another contrast: House - \$98 million, Senate - \$181 million. We'll update you on the FY15 appropriations process as the lame duck session nears.

America Answers



Mayor Becker with journalist
Nia Malika Henderson

On Tuesday, the *Washington Post* launched a new live event series called **America Answers**, featuring innovators in government, industry, and start-ups tackling tough, national issues – like health, schools, jobs, and aging. This week's topic was "Fix My Commute: Redefining How We Move."

Vice President **Joe Biden** spoke bluntly and emphatically about the current state of American infrastructure saying, "It is just not acceptable that the greatest nation in the world does not have, across the board, the single most sophisticated infrastructure in the entire world. It is not acceptable." Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx** called on the public to raise its collective voice on transportation issues, saying, "Change in Washington doesn't necessarily come from Washington. If there is a solution, the public has to be a part of it. Any elected official worth their salt is going to respond if their constituents tell them something needs fixing and it's urgent." **David Plouffe**, President Obama's campaign manager, who is now Vice President of Strategy of Uber, noted that he was in Washington working on model legislation with the District of Columbia government for regulating app-based transportation services. He also mentioned that his company is working on an "Uber-pool" carpooling project which may roll out soon.

Among the Mayors speaking at the unique event was Mayor **Ralph Becker** of Salt Lake City, the incoming president of the National League of Cities. Mayor Becker emphasized that in today's cities, "people want choices" and noted that when it came to putting in bike lanes "painting lines on a street is

cheaper than building a street.” Mayor Becker also praised the Administration for being a good partner in the transportation field. For more, click on [“Fix My Commute” Agenda, Vice President Biden on Infrastructure](#), or [Future of Technology in Transportation](#).

Fed Chairman Yellen Speaks on Inequality

Federal Reserve Chairwoman **Janet Yellen** stepped beyond the traditional bounds of monetary policy in a speech she gave at the Boston Fed, issuing a call to reduce economic inequality in the United States. She went on to provide a factual basis for further public discussion of the issue, including an overview of income and wealth inequality data. For more, click on [Chairwoman Yellen on Inequality](#).

EPA Brownfields Grants for Assessment and Cleanup

EPA has announced new guidelines for FY15 Brownfields and Cleanup Grants. These brownfields grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Applicants who received an Assessment grant from EPA in FY14 are eligible to apply under this competition. The proposal submission deadline is **December 19**. For more, click on [Brownfields Grants](#).

AmeriCorps Competitive Grants and CNCS Staff Update

On Wednesday, we listened in on a teleconference where we learned more about the **AmeriCorps State and National Grants** opportunity for FY15. In this round of the competition, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) seeks to prioritize the investment of national service resources in: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environment, Veterans and Military Families, Governor and Mayor Initiatives, Programming that supports My Brother’s Keeper, and Rural and other Underserved Communities.

On the call, which featured AmeriCorps Director **Bill Basl**, we learned that, specifically for the AmeriCorps **Governor & Mayor Initiative** as part of this NOFO, only one project per state will be selected. CNCS staff indicated that Mayors interested in starting a new AmeriCorps-based program in their City should consider requesting 10 Volunteers as the *“smallest number that is viable,”* with up to about 50 Volunteers being the maximum. Cities and local organizations must also apply for these grants, specifically, through their State Commission. For more, click on [AmeriCorps State and National Grants](#).

In related news regarding CNCS, **Michael Smith**, who has been the director of the CNCS Social Innovation Fund for more than a year, will soon be moving up to the White House to coordinate and help manage efforts relating to the *My Brother’s Keeper* initiative. For more, click on [Michael Smith Goes to the White House](#).

FTA Categorical Exclusions

FTA will hold a webinar on **October 27** regarding a final rule that will add a number of new Categorical Exclusions (CEs), under MAP-21. The final rule adds three CEs to FTA’s “c-list”

and two examples to FTA’s “d-list.” For more, click on [Webinar on New FTA CEs](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on [EPA Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants](#), [Pacific Northwest Bay Watershed Education and Training Program](#), and the [California Bay Watershed Education and Training Program](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about these or other grants.

EPA Planning to Regulate Strontium in Drinking Water

EPA has made a preliminary determination to regulate strontium in the nation’s drinking water. Strontium is a naturally occurring element that, at elevated levels, can impact bone strength in people who do not consume enough calcium. EPA has already initiated the 60-day public comment period on the preliminary regulatory determination, which expires on **December 19**. EPA hopes to publish final determinations in 2015. For more, click on [EPA Strontium Proposed Regulations](#).

Passenger Rail Study for Six Southwestern States

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) published its first multi-state plan for a comprehensive high-performing passenger rail network that will support rail planning in six Southwestern states over the next 35 years. *FRA notes that it believes this study can be a template for other regions around the country.* For more, click on [FRA Passenger Rail Planning](#).

Telcom Mergers: FCC Pause and “Slow Lanes” Concern

On Wednesday, the FCC’s Media Bureau announced that it is pausing its 180-day review of Comcast’s proposal to acquire Time Warner, as well as AT&T’s proposal to merge with DirectTV, until the agency is able to access more information related to the plans. For more, click on [FCC Order Stopping 180-Day Clock](#).

On a related note, on Monday, Senate Judiciary Chairman **Patrick Leahy** sent a letter urging Comcast to set an example by pledging that it will not enter into any paid prioritization agreements through which websites could be charged for priority access over the internet. The Senator believes that preventing the creation of such “fast lanes” is critical to ensuring meaningful net neutrality protections. For more, click on [Senator Leahy’s Letter](#).

American Housing Survey

HUD and the Census Bureau have released the findings of the *2013 American Housing Survey*, a deep look at the U.S. housing stock including detailed information on housing costs and quality. For more, click on [American Housing Survey](#).

Please contact [Len Simon](#), [Brandon Key](#), [Jen Covino](#), or [Stephanie McIntosh](#) with any questions.

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Washington Friday Report

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October 17, 2014

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Ebola Response, Tax Extenders, Transportation
- 2 Deficit, Ozone, Unemployed, Art, Climate, Grants
- 2 Entrepreneurship, Stop and Frisk, Bethesda

The Ebola epidemic overseas and the three incidents here at home dominated the week, a true matter of life and death, which puts you in awe of the professionals in our cities working to save lives and stem a crisis from occurring in the U.S. Here's the Ebola news and other items for your review.

Federal Government Responds to Ebola Threat

With a total of three confirmed Ebola diagnoses in the U.S., and a recent Washington Post-ABC News poll showing that two-thirds of the respondents were at least “somewhat concerned” about the possibility of a widespread Ebola epidemic occurring in the U.S., the senior-level of the Obama Administration has made responding to Ebola a top priority. We learned today that President Obama will soon appoint **Ron Klain**, as his new “Ebola Czar,” coordinating the entire federal, state, and local response to the threat of Ebola. Mr. Klain is a highly regarded official who served as chief of staff to Vice Presidents **Joe Biden** and **Al Gore**. He will report directly to White House Homeland Security Adviser **Lisa Monaco** and National Security Adviser **Susan Rice**, who have both played an informal coordinating role so far. In addition, this week, five U.S. airports, which handle the majority of flights with passengers from the afflicted countries in West Africa, have stepped up screening measures for flights originating from those countries.

Yesterday, we listened to a conference call hosted by the State Department to learn more about the international response to the epidemic centered in Africa. The U.S. Army and other international aid groups are on the ground in West Africa, working to build the health infrastructure needed to stop the spread of the virus. Domestically, the CDC will now send a rapid response team, akin to a “SWAT team,” to be on the ground within 24 hours as soon as someone is diagnosed with Ebola in the U.S. so the CDC can walk the local hospital through the protocols step-by-step, including the use and disposal of protective equipment. The CDC continues to “contact-trace” individuals who may have had bodily contact with the first three U.S.-diagnosed Ebola patients to ensure that anyone who may have come into contact with them are being monitored. For more, click on [White House Fact Sheet on Ebola Response](#) or

[Congressional Hearing Examining the U.S. Response](#). We'll keep you up to date with the latest on this developing story.

Tax Extenders

As we last reported to you in May, the House and Senate continue to take markedly different approaches on moving expired tax provisions known as “extenders” this year. The House has voted to make about a dozen of the extenders permanent, and could let the rest fall away. One of the last extenders the House voted to make permanent, the **R&D Tax Credit** (H.R. 4438), has been extended 15 times since it was first enacted in 1981. The Senate Finance Committee, on the other hand, would temporarily renew all of the provisions for two years, through the **EXPIRE Act**.

The current consensus view is that Congress is most likely to take up the extenders issue in the “lame duck” session after the November elections, but the outcome of those elections will play a major role in the debate. If Republicans win a majority in the Senate, it gives their party major bargaining power to push for making some of the provisions permanent, which Democrats may have to agree to in order to have the other provisions extended temporarily. The top year-end negotiators on this issue are likely to be Senate Finance Committee Chairman **Ron Wyden**, outgoing House Ways and Means Committee Chairman **Dave Camp**, and incoming Ways and Means Chairman **Paul Ryan**. For more, click on [Senate EXPIRE Act Website](#) or [Chairman Camp Statement on R&D Tax Credit](#).

A Busy Transportation Week

It was a busy week in transportation, all with possible implications for future transportation legislation.

Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx** spoke at the meeting of the American Public Transit Association on Tuesday, where he shared, “*the administration's vision for the public transportation industry and priorities for the future.*” He called on transit stakeholders to reach out to their local Chambers of Commerce, and to get them on board with the GROW AMERICA Act. For more, click on [DOT Blog Post](#) or [APTA Annual Meeting Agenda](#).

Staff members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee are working behind the scenes on the policy provisions of a new transportation reauthorization bill, likely to be unveiled next year. On a visit to Arkansas last week, that Committee's Chairman **Bill Shuster** may have offered a preview of one possible provision in that bill. In a roundtable

discussion, he noted that Arkansas pays for a larger share of its transportation projects with state funds. He said, *"I think we ought to be rewarding states that are doing that and get those projects moving quicker."* For more, click on [Chairman Shuster on Transportation](#).

On Monday, we sent many of you a memo on a webinar we listened to last week, hosted by the Federal Transit Administration, on its new **Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning**. Proposals must be submitted electronically through the Grants.gov website by midnight Eastern Time on **November 3**. For more, click on [TOD Pilot Program for Development Planning Memo](#).

A New Deficit Low

On Wednesday, Treasury Secretary **Jack Lew** and OMB Director **Shaun Donovan** confirmed that the annual budget deficit for FY14 has shrunk to its lowest levels in dollar terms since 2008. The deficit fell to \$483 billion, \$197 billion less than the FY13 deficit. As a percentage of GDP, the deficit fell to 2.8 percent, the lowest level since 2007 and less than the average of the last 40 years. The current cumulative federal debt outstanding is about \$17.9 trillion. For more, click on [FY14 Budget Results](#).

EPA Ozone Proposal

The EPA sent its ozone proposal to OMB for review last week, a process which a long while to achieve approval. This is the last step prior to publication in the Federal Register. The proposed rule would tighten the current 75 parts per billion to the 60-70 parts per billion ozone range recommended by EPA science advisors. For more, click on [Pending Review of Ozone Regulations](#).

Progress Report on Helping Long-Term Unemployed

On Wednesday, the White House released an update on the progress it has made since January to help long-term unemployed Americans get back to work. The White House announced that over 300 businesses, including 80 of the nation's largest companies, are adopting best practices for hiring and recruiting the long-term unemployed. For more, click on [White House Progress Report](#).

Public Art Challenge

Bloomberg Philanthropies has announced it is accepting applications for a new grant program, the **Public Art Challenge**. At least three cities will be awarded with grants of up to \$1 million for a project period of up to 24 months. The application deadline is **December 15**. For more, click on [Public Art Challenge](#).

Defense Department Prepares for Climate Change

On Monday, Defense Secretary **Chuck Hagel** announced the release of DoD's **Climate Change Adaptation Roadmap**, a plan to mitigate the long-term risk of climate change, and to reduce its adverse impacts downrange. For more, click on [Defense Department Climate Change Roadmap](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on [Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge](#), [FTA Connecting Seniors to Public Transportation](#), and [Treasury CDFI Fund](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

Mayors and Entrepreneurship

We were very grateful earlier this week to participate in the *"Mayors Conference on Entrepreneurship"* sponsored by the Kauffman Foundation, held in Louisville, hosted by Mayor **Greg Fischer** and featuring participation from Mayors **Ben McAdams** of Salt Lake County, **Paul Soglin** of Madison, and **Marilyn Strickland** of Tacoma, and more than 30 other Mayors around the country. As the Foundation noted, *"Entrepreneurs drive economic growth, create jobs, and solve pressing problems by bringing forth new ideas."* The gathering focused on the unique role Mayors can play in encouraging and stimulating entrepreneurship. Click on [Entrepreneurship Agenda](#) for details on the meeting. Please let us know if you'd like more information on the conference's deliberations.

"Stop and Frisk"

On Wednesday, the COPS Office released a report focusing on efforts to reduce crime while exploring effective community policing strategies and identifying challenges ahead. Director **Ron Davis** said, *"We know this trust [between the community and officers] can be undermined by programs, such as stop and frisk, when they have disparate impacts on communities and are perceived to be more of a threat to public safety than the crimes they were designed to prevent."* For more, click on [COPS "Stop and Frisk" Report](#).

Bethesda Urban Partnership



We thought you'd like to know that I was confirmed last week by the Montgomery County Council to be a member of the Board of Directors of the **Bethesda Urban Partnership (BUP)**, a non-profit organization established by Montgomery County in 1994. BUP manages downtown Bethesda, a thriving urban center home to numerous restaurants, retailers, arts venues and community events. BUP handles landscaping and maintenance as well as promotion of the downtown through innovative marketing campaigns and large-scale events. Additionally, the BUP manages the Bethesda Arts & Entertainment District, operates Bethesda Transportation Solutions and manages the Bethesda Circulator. *I look forward to bringing good ideas from your community to BUP and sharing news of their activities with you. - Len Simon*

Please contact [Len Simon](#), [Brandon Key](#), [Jen Covino](#), or [Stephanie McIntosh](#) with any questions.

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Washington Friday Report

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October 10, 2014

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 COPS: 20 Years - Work to Do, Ebola Pandemic
- 2 Promise Zones, Transportation, ACA, Manufacture
- 2 Grants, Infrastructure, WOTUS, Housing Finance

An interesting week – work continues on a wide variety of issues as a big election looms. Meanwhile, we had an extraordinary opportunity to focus on one particular program during an important time in our history, as we detail below.

COPS: 20 Great Years, New Challenges



It was a privilege, courtesy of Mayors **Ralph Becker** and **Greg Fischer**, to attend the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting, “*Making Cities Safer Through Community Policing*” this week. The meeting celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Community

Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program but also focused on the community policing challenges the nation still faces as tragically underscored this summer in Ferguson. It was especially appropriate that the event was held at the William J. Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock and that President **Bill Clinton**, whose leadership made the COPS program possible as part of the “*Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994*” was present for this unique gathering of Mayors and Police Chiefs. He gave insightful and inspiring remarks as the highlight of the meeting.

The President was candid in his comments, noting wryly that, “*The great thing about being a former President is you can say whatever you want, unless your wife might run for office.*” He said, “*Whether we like it or not, we are increasingly bound together and we can’t get away from each other if we wanted to.*” He also said that while experts have different opinions about the impact of the COPS program, the facts are clear: with the 100,000 police officers the program put on the street during his presidency, violent crime, which was then sharply on the rise,



went down significantly. But in addition to its crime fighting role, he lauded the impact of the COPS program on community relations, declaring that, “*We cannot afford not to know our neighbors.*” He also declared: “*Being a Mayor is the best job in American politics.*”



Attorney General **Eric Holder**, who was Deputy AG under President Clinton, spoke as well about the great record of the COPS program and a commission he will convene to look at problems and prospects in police-community relations. COPS

Office Director **Ron Davis**, to the far left of President Clinton in the top picture, and his team did an outstanding job, along with USCM staff, in organizing the meeting.

In a brief conversation with President Clinton, I thanked him for his outstanding address. I told him how proud I was to have worked on the landmark legislation, and its implementation during his administration and what an honor it was to be present when he signed the bill September 13, 1994. I showed him my original copy of the landmark 1994 legislation, which he happily signed!

For more, click on [Agenda](#) or [Attorney General Holder’s Remarks](#). – *Len Simon*

Obama Administration Response to the Ebola Pandemic

On Wednesday, we listened to a White House teleconference providing state and local leaders an update on the Administration’s response to the Ebola pandemic, featuring **President Obama**, HHS Secretary **Sylvia Burwell**, CDC Director Dr. **Tom Frieden**, DHS Secretary **Jeh Johnson**, and Assistant to the President for Homeland Security **Lisa Monaco**. Dallas Mayor **Mike Rawlings** and Dallas County Judge **Clay Jenkins** also spoke about how their region handled the case of the late Thomas Duncan, the first person diagnosed with Ebola in the U.S. The **President** noted: “*Obviously, you guys are on the front lines of public health every single day.*” He thanked both the local leaders and his team for their efforts, and emphasized that containing Ebola remains a top priority for his entire Administration. The biggest news was Secretary **Johnson**’s announcement, during the call, of new layers of entry screening being introduced at five U.S. airports that receive over 94 percent of travelers from Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. For more, click on [Fact Sheet on Administration Response](#) or [Enhanced Screening at Five Airports](#).

Promise Zones Webinar

On Monday, we sent many of you a memo on a HUD webinar targeted to urban applicants for the second round of **Promise Zones** designations, which was presented by HUD Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development **Valerie Piper**. During the webinar, we learned more about the application process, including emphasis on an optional Letter of Intent and optional request to use alternative data sources, which are due to HUD by **October 17**. Final Promise Zones applications must be submitted online by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time on **November 21**. Promise Zone winners get preference among scores of federal discretionary programs and future tax incentives when they are authorized by Congress. For more, click on [Promise Zones Webinar Memo](#).

Transportation: Calls for a Long-Term Bill This Year

Yesterday, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman **Barbara Boxer** sent a letter to House Ways and Means Committee Chairman **Dave Camp** and Ranking Member **Sander Levin** to follow up on funding options for the Highway Trust Fund that she hand-delivered to them last month. She emphasized that she strongly supports moving forward on finding a long-term, bipartisan solution for the Fund by the end of this year. As you'll recall, the *MAP-21* legislation she led to enactment two years ago has been extended until May 15 – the next Congress. Chairman Boxer would like a six year extension in the lame-duck session, not next year – a high hurdle for Congress to achieve. We'll keep you updated. For more, click on [Boxer Letter](#).

On Tuesday, the Federal Transit Administration published a final rule in the Federal Register on the **Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program**, as authorized by *MAP-21*. The new rule becomes effective on November 6. This \$10.9 billion program allows FTA to make grants available for eligible public transportation capital and operating costs in the event of a catastrophic event. For now, the money can only be used for recovery, relief, and resilience efforts in areas affected by Hurricane Sandy. The highway program has always had extensive emergency authority. This brings about greater equity between the modes. For more, click on [Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program](#).

On Wednesday, in his agency's blog, Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx**, called on local stakeholders to help U.S. DOT identify **Projects of National and Regional Significance** that have the potential to impact the economy decades into the future. The online survey opened last week and is open through **November 17**. These projects cost at least \$500 million. For more, click on [Projects of National and Regional Significance](#).

Gearing Up For Next ACA Open Enrollment Period

On Monday, we listened to a White House teleconference featuring Senior Advisor to the President **Valerie Jarrett**, Tampa Mayor **Bob Buckhorn**, and Georgia House Minority Leader **Stacey Abrams**, to brief state and local officials on the next upcoming open enrollment period under the Affordable Care Act. They emphasized the importance of community outreach to spread the word about open enrollment, which will run from

November 15, 2014 through **February 15, 2015**. For more, click on [Mayoral Best Practices Toolkit](#) on how to help community members find health coverage through the ACA.

Manufacturing Institutes

President Obama has announced a new **Manufacturing Innovation Institute Competition** to award more than \$200 million in public and private investment to a consortium that would build an Integrated Photonics Manufacturing Institute, led by the Department of Defense. This is the second of four new institute competitions to be launched this year. For more, click on [Second Manufacturing Innovation Institute Competition](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on the [HUD Jobs Plus Pilot Program](#). Please contact *Jen Covino* with any questions about grants.

Infrastructure

On Tuesday, Treasury Secretary **Jack Lew** spoke at an event hosted by the Peterson Institute for International Economics, where he called on Congress to tie infrastructure spending to business tax reform, which he thinks would “*take two problems out at the same time... It's to deal with a broken business tax code and infrastructure by doing business tax reform, taking the one-time revenues that come in a transition to new provisions, use that as a large down payment for an infrastructure investment program.*” For more, click on [Secretary Lew on Infrastructure](#).

On Wednesday, the White House Council on Environmental Quality released a fact sheet outlining new executive actions and a series of private and public sector commitments that will improve the management of our natural resources in the context of a changing climate and support investment in green infrastructure. For more, click on [Green Infrastructure](#).

Comment Period for Water Rule Extended

On Monday, in response to a wave of pressure from outside groups and, to allow the public to comment further on the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) review that we mentioned in last week's *Friday Report*, EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers extended the public comment period on the rule defining “Waters of the United States” to **November 14**. For more, click on [EPA Extension](#) or [Comment on the Rule](#).

Assessing Reforms to the Housing Finance System

GAO has released a report to help policymakers assess various proposals and consider ways to make the single-family housing finance system more efficient and effective. Click on [Framework for Assessing Housing Finance Reforms](#) for more.

Please contact Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh with any questions.

Washington Friday Report 2

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Washington Friday Report

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 USCM, My Brother's Keeper, Transportation
- 2 TOD Webinar, Promise Zones, Grants, Climate
- 2 Freight Issues; EPA, SBA, and Johnson on Water

While Congress is away, it was nevertheless a week filled with news and action focusing on important Administration initiatives, including "My Brother's Keeper" and "Promise Zones." All that and Mayors gathering in Sacramento. Here's the highlights.

USCM Leaders in Sacramento



It was a privilege this past weekend, courtesy of Mayors **Jim Brainard**, **Greg Fischer**, **Paul Soglin**,

and **Marilyn Strickland** to attend the U.S. Conference of Mayors Leadership meeting in Sacramento, hosted by their President, Sacramento Mayor **Kevin Jonson**. The meeting touched on a wide variety of issues as the Mayors worked to formalize their action agenda for the weeks and months ahead. Included in the sessions was a briefing by White House Deputy Intergovernmental Director **Rohan Patel**, who focused on the role of Mayors in the President's "My Brother's Keeper" initiative. A very important panel on Ferguson was held as well featuring the Mayors of St. Louis and Gary, along with the Attorney for the **Michael Brown** family and Salt Lake City Police Chief **Chris Burbank**, among the nation's police chief leaders who has done extensive work on body cameras. It was a moving and thought provoking session. The Mayors were also very pleased to meet with California Governor **Jerry Brown**, himself a former two-term Mayor of Oakland, who was a regular participant in USCM meetings during his tenure. Mayor Johnson has declared the theme of his presidency to be "Cities 3.0," and arranged for speakers such as **Travis Kalanick**, the founder and CEO of Uber, who told the story of the rise of his company over the last four years while expressing no enthusiasm for municipal regulation. Representatives of OpenGov, Lyft, Citymart, and Box also spoke to the gathered Mayors. *Please let us know if you have any questions about the USCM Leadership meeting.* For more,

click on [Post-Conference Press Release](#), [Agenda](#), or [My Brother's Keeper Press Release](#).

My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge

On Saturday, in a speech at the Congressional Black Caucus awards dinner, **President Obama** publicly announced the *My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge*, which we updated you on in last week's *Friday Report*. He said, "We need all of us to come together to help all of our young people address the variety of challenges they face." On Tuesday, the White House launched the Challenge and released a "Fact Sheet" listing the nearly 113 cities that had already signed on. It's important to note that, though the White House had previously sent out an older version of their MBK Community Challenge "One-Pager," which we sent to you in an email on September 16 and later as a link in the September 26 edition of the *Washington Friday Report*, the White House has since come out with a **new version of their one-pager**, with **new target dates** for completion of steps 2, 3, and 4 of their action plan.

On September 26, we participated in a teleconference hosted by the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs with an update on the new timeline for the action plan. At the Mayoral level, step (1) is **Accepting the President's Challenge**; Step (2) is convening a "**Local Action Summit**" to build an MBK Community, preferably within 45 days of accepting the Challenge; Step (3) is conducting a **Policy Review** to form recommendations for action, preferably within 120 days of accepting the Challenge; Step (4) is launching a **Plan of Action**, next steps, and a timetable for review, preferably within 180 days of accepting the Challenge. *In November or December, the White House is considering inviting Mayors who have already convened Local Action Summits to Washington, DC, to highlight early successes.*

In addition to its main [My Brother's Keeper Website](#) already in place, the White House also launched a separate [MBK Community Challenge Website](#). For more, including the White House MBK Community Challenge Fact Sheet, White House Blog Post, or President Obama's Remarks on the MBK Community Challenge at the Congressional Black Caucus Awards Dinner; click on [MBK Community Challenge Information Package](#). Click on [MBK Community Challenge – Action Plan](#) for additional useful information.

Transportation: Back to the Future

The months between February and the end of May 2015 are shaping up to be a crucial period of time for Congress to consider passing a long-term transportation reauthorization.

Statements made by prominent transportation leaders and other powerful voices on Capitol Hill indicate a strong desire to reach a long-term agreement before current transportation funding runs out at the end of May. But very few are talking about raising the gas tax as a politically viable policy solution. Speaking to the press, House Speaker **John Boehner** said, *"It's up to us to see where the common ground is. But tax reform, a big highway bill, certainly are in the realm of the doable."*

The idea of raising revenue for transportation, as part of tax reform, from a one-time shift from a worldwide tax system to a territorial tax system to pay for infrastructure projects, has been gaining steam behind the scenes over the last two years. Congressman **John Delaney** and Senator **Roy Blunt**, as part of last year's introduction of the *Partnership to Build America Act*, call it *"repatriated corporate earnings."* Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx**, as part of the Administration's proposed *GROW AMERICA Act*, calls it *"pro-growth business tax reform."* As part of the House Ways and Means Committee's *Tax Reform Act of 2014*, outgoing Chairman **Dave Camp** calls it the taxation of *"deferred foreign income,"* to generate \$126.5 billion in one-time transportation revenue. Incoming House Ways and Means Chairman **Paul Ryan** said the idea *"has a lot of merit."* House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman **Bill Shuster** and Ranking Member **Nick Rahall**, and their staffs, have established a good bipartisan working relationship and are currently working on the policy provisions of the next transportation bill. *We'll keep you up to date as the debate over transportation spending heats up!*

The upcoming debate over the role of federal funding in **public transportation** systems will be shaped, in part, by ridership data. Numbers released by the American Public Transportation Association on Monday show a 1.1 percent increase in trips taken in the second quarter of 2014. This increase was largely driven by spikes in the number of passengers using heavy rail and commuter rail. For more, click on [APTA Ridership Report](#).

Transit-Oriented Development Webinar

FTA will host a webinar on its Pilot Program for **Transit-Oriented Development** Planning Notice of Funding Availability on **October 9**, from 2:00pm to 3:00pm Eastern Time. The webinar will provide an overview of the program, describe eligible applicants and projects, and provide an opportunity for attendees to obtain answers to other questions. The webinar will be recorded and posted on the [Pilot Program for TOD Planning NOFA](#) webpage afterward for any interested parties that are unable to attend. To view the webinar, click on [TOD Webinar](#). *Advance registration is not offered for the webinar.*

HUD Promise Zones – 2nd Round

On Wednesday, we listened to a HUD webinar presented by Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Development **Valerie Piper** to learn more about the **Promise Zones** application process for urban stakeholders. Though final applications must be submitted by **November 21**, an optional, non-binding Letter of Intent to apply is due to HUD by **October 17**. This Letter of Intent should include the Lead Applicant organization and tentative geography of the proposed Promise Zone, and gives

HUD an opportunity, earlier in the process, to respond to applicants if there's a problem with either of those things. HUD also strongly encourages potential applicants to use the **Promise Zones Mapping Tool** early in the process, which is also available as a link on the main Promise Zones website. For more, click on [HUD Promise Zones Website](#), [Webinar PowerPoint Slides](#), or use the [MAX Survey Website](#) to submit an optional Letter of Intent. *HUD will hold additional webinars next week, on **October 7**, which you can RSVP to using the main Promise Zones Website.*

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on the [NEA Our Town Grant Program](#). Please contact *Jen Covino* with any questions about grants.

Climate Action Champions Competition

On Wednesday, the White House announced a new Climate Action Champions competition to identify, showcase, and invest in up to 15 local and tribal governments that demonstrate an ongoing commitment to cutting carbon pollution and preparing for the impacts of a changing climate. The application for the Competition will be open until **October 27**. For more, click on [Press Release](#), [Blog Post](#), or [Link to Apply](#).

Freight Traffic: Growth But Congestion

GAO released a report shows that projected increases in the transport of freight by rail and truck may produce economic benefits but also increase traffic congestion in communities. For more, click on [Freight Traffic Report](#).

EPA Chief and Others on the Water Rule

On Monday, EPA Administrator **Gina McCarthy** delivered a keynote speech at the Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC), where she spoke in support of her agency's water rule. For more, click on [EPA Press Release](#) or [WEFTEC Video](#) (*her remarks begin at about the 1 hour 37 minute mark*).

Meanwhile, in a letter sent to EPA and the Army Corps on Wednesday, the Small Business Administration wrote that it is *"extremely concerned"* about the rule in its current form. Additionally, the EPA's own Science Advisory Board generally supports the rule but suggests it should be written more broadly in some ways. For more, click on [SBA Letter](#), [SBA Fact Sheet](#), or [EPA Science Advisory Board Letter](#).

Finally, on Monday, the Johnson Foundation at Wingspread announced the release of a report meant to provide a platform for water stakeholders and other leaders as they continue to address water resource and infrastructure challenges, a culmination of six years of work. For more, click on [Blog Post](#), [Report Website](#), or [Video Presentation](#).

Please contact Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh with any questions.

Washington Friday Report 2

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