

STAFF REPORT

Board Meeting of March 19, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: 5-C

PREPARED BY: Patricia Taylor, Executive Director

SUBJECT:

State Legislative Outlook, Madera Advocating Day in Sacramento Recap, and SJV Regional Policy Council Valley Voice Trip Recap

Enclosure: Yes

Action: Support staff recommendation on Bills of Interest – SUPPORT: AB 259 (Rubio), AB 289 (Haney), AB 891 (Zbur), SB 71 (Wiener), SB 239 (Arreguin), SB 752 (Richardson); and OPPOSE: AB 267 (Macedo), AB 1058 (Gonzalez), AB 1268 (Macedo)

SUMMARY:

State Legislative Outlook

Khouri Consulting prepared the enclosed State Legislative Outlook for your information. The outlook includes the following:

- General Update
- *Bills of Interest* and recommended action are included in the package. Below are the current recommended positions (summary of each bill is included in your package):
 - ➤ AB 259 (Rubio) Support
 - ➤ AB 267 (Macedo) Oppose
 - ➤ AB 289 (Haney) Support
 - ➤ AB 891 (Zbur) Support
 - ➤ AB 1058 (Gonzalez) Oppose
 - ➤ AB 1268 (Macedo) Oppose
 - ➤ SB 71 (Wiener) Support
 - ➤ SB 239 (Arreguin) Support
 - ➤ SB 752 (Richardson) Support
- MCTC Bill Matrix: the matrix includes various bills that MCTC staff will continue to monitor and watch as they move forward.

MCTC Advocating Day in Sacramento

MCTC, accompanied by Khouri Consulting, held an advocacy day in Sacramento, meeting with state legislative representatives and state department executives. The purpose was to advocate for transportation projects and funding for the Madera County region. It was a successful day sharing the region's needs, challenges, and opportunities, and we were able to participate in meaningful discussions with our state leaders. The focus was the following:

- 1. Air Quality Challenges
- 2. Cap and Trade and Rail
- 3. Gas Tax Successor Source
- 4. MCTC's Priority Projects, including Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP) ask
- 5. Regional Partnerships

This portion of the agenda is reserved for attendees to provide feedback. Representing Madera at this year's Madera Advocacy trip to Sacramento was Supervisor and MCTC Vice Chair Robert Poythress, and MCTC Executive Director Patricia Taylor.

San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council Advocating Day in Sacramento

The San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, Sacramento Valley Voice Trip, was held on March 11-12, 2025. Attached is a copy of the agenda, project priorities/maps and talking points. The issues discussed were as follows:

- 1. Air Quality Challenges/Opportunities
- 2. Leveraging State Funding to Address Safety, Goods Movement, and Mobility
- 3. Transit Funding
- 4. Passenger Rail Infrastructure and Service

This portion of the agenda is reserved for attendees to provide feedback. Representing Madera at this year's Valley Voice trip were Madera City Council Member and MCTC Chair Jose Rodriguez, Supervisor and MCTC Vice Chair Robert Poythress, and MCTC Executive Director Patricia Taylor.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact to the approved 2024-25 Overall Work Program and Budget.