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PATRICK O'DONNELL

Informational Hearing
"The Basics of Transportation Funding"

Hearing Participants' Biographies

**James Hacker, Fiscal & Policy Analyst
Legislative Analyst's Office**

James is a Fiscal and Policy Analyst with the Legislative Analyst's Office, covering transportation. In that role he provides nonpartisan policy advice to the California Legislature on transportation issues and analyzes the budgets of related state agencies. Prior to joining the LAO, he earned a Masters degree in Public Administration from Syracuse University and worked on a variety of energy and infrastructure issues.

**Steven Keck, Chief Budget Officer
California Department of Transportation**

Steven Keck is the Chief Budget Officer for the California Department of Transportation, in Sacramento, CA. He is in his 15th year working for the Department of Transportation, and has been the Chief Budget Officer since 2009. Steven is responsible for managing the Department's annual budget, as well as cash management policy and revenue forecasting. Steven began his career of Civil Service with the State of California in 1998.

**Mark Durham, Research and Statistics, Manager
Board of Equalization**

Mark Durham has served the State of California for 24 years and he is the manager of the Research and Statistics Section. The section provides economic and revenue forecasting for legislative proposals and analyses. He has also held positions at the Employment Development Department, State Treasurer's Office and the California Public Employees' Retirement System. Mr. Durham earned a Bachelor's in Finance and a Masters in Business Administration from California State University, Sacramento.

**Will Kempton, Executive Director
California Transportation Commission**

Mr. Will Kempton serves as the Executive Director to the California Transportation Commission, reporting directly to the eleven-member Commission and responsible for overseeing the Commission's staff and its annual budget of \$3.8 million. As the Commission's principal policy advisor, Mr. Kempton directs the development and management of the State's multi-modal transportation programs, the allocation of state and federal funds, the initiation and implementation of Commission actions and policies, and the evaluation of proposed legislation with impacts to transportation funding and project delivery.

A transportation innovator and manager, Mr. Kempton, has over 40 years of experience in transportation, public service and government affairs. Mr. Kempton has moved between public and private posts throughout his varied career, which began at the California State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in 1973

In 1985, Mr. Kempton served as Executive Director of the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority, managing its billion-dollar highway construction program, the first of its kind in the state. In 1992, Kempton became a partner in Smith, Kempton & Watts, a Sacramento advocacy firm where he consulted in programs and policies to enhance effectiveness of public and private resources. In 2004, he was recruited to head Caltrans and served as Director from 2004 to 2009. He then served nearly four years as Chief Executive Officer of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). Most recently, he served as Executive Director of Transportation California, an industry-based transportation advocacy group.

**Randy Iwasaki, Executive Director
Contra Costa Transportation Authority**

Randy serves as the Authority's chief executive and is responsible for the overall management of the Authority, including its projects, programs, policies and procedures, the board-approved budget, and all personnel decisions.

Randy has served the Authority since April 2010. Prior to joining the Authority, he was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger in August 2009 as Director of the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Randy was with Caltrans for more than 26 years serving in various engineering and management positions. He earned his bachelor's degree in Engineering from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and a Master's in Engineering from California State University, Fresno.

**Matt Robinson, Legislative Advocate
California Transit Association**

Matt Robinson joined the California Transit Association team as a legislative advocate in 2013. Prior to joining the Association, Matt worked in state service under two gubernatorial administrations, as well as in the legislature as a Capitol staffer. Matt was most recently appointed under Governor Jerry Brown to serve as the Deputy Director for Legislation at the California High-Speed Rail Authority. While at the Authority, Matt managed the Authority's legislative program, working with the Governor's Office, the California State Transportation

Agency, the Legislature, local agencies, and stakeholders to ensure successful planning and implementation of the state's rail modernization program.

Prior to his work at the Authority, Matt was an analyst at Governor Brown's Department of Finance, where he oversaw the budget of the Authority, as well as Caltrans' rail and transit programs. While at Finance, Matt worked extensively on the 2012 Budget Act, which provides billions in funding to begin construction of the high-speed rail system and upgrade and expand existing transit, commuter, and intercity rail systems throughout California. Before moving to Finance, Matt worked for five years as a legislative representative at the Department of Fish and Wildlife, under Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and before that, in the State Capitol for three years as legislative staff for two Senators, including the Senate Budget Committee Chair.

**Michael T. Turner, Government Relations Director for State Affairs
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

Michael T. Turner is the Government Relations Director for State Affairs at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority. In that role, Mr. Turner is responsible for advocacy on all state legislation affecting transportation and transportation funding. He also manages communication with the 39 members of the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation, the Governor's Office and State agencies. He is a registered lobbyist with the State of California.

On behalf of the agency, Mr. Turner has worked on Metro sponsored legislation related to a variety of transportation issues from infrastructure financing, innovative project delivery, congestion pricing and the legislation authorizing Measure R. Additionally Mr. Turner is active in various statewide transportation related groups and has worked to develop consensus around major transportation issues in the region.

Mr. Turner has Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from UCLA and a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from USC.

**Randy Rentschler, Director of Legislation and Public Affairs
Metropolitan Transportation Commission**

Randy serves as Director of Legislation and Public Affairs for the San Francisco Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Bay Area Toll Authority. MTC is recognized across the nation as a premier transportation planning and financing agency.

It is Mr. Rentschler's job to advance the legislative, public outreach and external communications objectives of the 21-member Commission at the local, state and federal levels.

Before joining MTC, Randy worked as an investment banker, structuring local government debt.

From time to time, he also guest lectures on the subject of public finance or transportation at San Jose State, UC Berkeley, Stanford and the University of San Francisco.

**Christopher Lee, Legislative Analyst
California State Association of Counties**

Christopher Lee is a legislative analyst for the California State Association of Counties where he focuses on transportation, land use and housing policy. Mr. Lee previously worked on transportation, legislative, and Indian Gaming issues for the Yolo County Administrator's Office.

**Jennifer Whiting, Assistant Legislative Director
League of California Cities**

Jennifer Whiting is the Assistant Legislative Director for the League of California Cities and works primarily on public works, transportation and telecommunications. Jennifer also works on budget and federal issues.

Before joining the League, Jennifer served as Chief of Staff for Assembly Member Noreen Evans, where she gained a wide variety of experience negotiating policy and legislative language with stakeholders to build a consensus with the Governor's office, state agencies and departments, and other outside organizations. She has also worked for former Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi and Governor Gray Davis.

Jennifer grew up in the Sacramento area, and has a bachelor's degree in Government from California State University, Sacramento.

**Sharon Scherzinger, Chair
Rural Counties Task Force**

Sharon Scherzinger serves as Executive Director for the El Dorado County Transportation Commission and is responsible for transportation planning, funding, and program management for the agency. Beginning her career as a land use planner for El Dorado County and the City of Ventura, she coordinated commercial and residential development projects. Her 27 years of transportation planning experience includes heading both California Department of Transportation's statewide Planning and Mass Transit Divisions. Ms. Scherzinger was also acting Deputy District Director for Planning and Local Assistance in Caltrans Districts 3 and 10. Prior to her work at the California Department of Transportation, she managed a two-billion dollar rail, transit, bicycle, and ferry bond program for the California Transportation Commission. She was also Chair of the 26-county Rural Counties Task Force from 2012-2014, representing rural transportation interests in California. Ms. Scherzinger has degrees in economic geography and architecture from the University of California Berkeley.