



**ITEM ID:** 2025-347-0

**TRANSMITTAL DATE:** November 7, 2025

**MEETING DATE:** November 14, 2025

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Paul Hubler, Chief Strategy Officer

**SUBJECT:** November Legislative Update

**Issue**

Staff provides a regular monthly update on current legislative affairs.

**Recommendation**

Receive and file.

**Strategic Commitment**

This report aligns with the Strategic Business Plan commitments of:

- **Connecting and Leveraging Partnerships:** We will forge new and enhanced relationships with our public and private partners to integrate and coordinate connecting services, providing residents throughout Southern California with better, seamless, sustainable alternatives to driving. This commitment is met by sharing news, information and the Authority’s legislative priorities with elected officials.
- **Advancing Key Regional Goals:** We will grow the role of regional rail in addressing climate change, air quality, and other pressing issues by advancing toward zero emissions, making rail a compelling alternative to single-occupant automobiles and advancing equity-focused opportunities for all communities throughout Southern California. This commitment is met by encouraging federal, state and local support for Authority priorities.

## **Background**

Staff continues to engage with community, local, state, and federal stakeholders concerning Metrolink service and relevant policy initiatives.

## **Discussion**

### **Local**

#### *Tour with City of Pico Rivera*

On October 24, the City of Pico Rivera and State Senator Bob Archuleta (CA-32) hosted a regional rail exploration trip to Anaheim, bringing together transportation officials, local leaders, and stakeholders to explore successful examples of transit-oriented development (TOD) and integrated rail infrastructure. The tour departed from the Metrolink Norwalk/Santa Fe Springs Station and included site visits to ARTIC, OC Vibe, the Platinum Triangle, and the OC Riverwalk. Attendees examined how strategic rail investments can promote economic growth, enhance safety, and support environmental resilience. Tour leaders also highlighted the potential of the proposed Pico Rivera Regional Rail Station as a transformative project for the San Gabriel Valley, with possible eligibility for Proposition 4 – Climate Bond funding.

### **State**

#### *End-of-Session Recap*

The Legislature is in recess until January 5, 2026. During the first year of the two-year session, the Legislature sent more than 900 bills to the Governor, who signed 794 bills by the October 13 deadline. As previously reported, earlier this session the Governor signed an extension to the State's Cap-and-Trade program (now renamed Cap-and-Invest). Additionally, Metrolink supported a couple of bills this session that were signed by the Governor in October.

- AB 476 (Gonzalez) creates more thorough documentation requirements for junk dealers and recyclers that purchase and resell scrap metal, including seller identification and a list of materials purchased. The bill also increases financial penalties for junk dealers that knowingly buy railroad wires and cables without doing due diligence on the seller's legal ability to resell those materials.
- AB 394 (Wilson) applies existing punishments for assaults against transit operators and drivers to all transit employees and contractors. The bill also clarifies that public transit operators are employers for purposes of seeking a temporary restraining order against violent offenders and that "unlawful violence" as defined in temporary restraining order law includes battery committed against passengers and transit workers pursuant to Penal Code Section 243.3.

More information on bills we have been monitoring this session is available in Appendix A.

Looking ahead to the second year of the session, Senator Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara) is expected to assume the position of Senate President pro Tempore on November 17, 2025.

#### *Transit Transformation Task Force Meets a Final Time*

CalSTA's Transit Transformation Task Force, which was created by SB 125 two years ago, met a final time in September to discuss draft recommendations to the Legislature on how to grow ridership, enhance the rider experience, and ensure long-term operational sustainability.



**Attachment(s)**

Appendix A - November 2025 Bill Matrix  
Presentation - November Legislative Update