

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments  
Joint MTC ABAG Legislation Committee**

**December 13, 2024**

**Agenda Item 2b**

**Washington D.C. Legislative Update**

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**Subject:**

November 2024 Report from Washington, D.C. advocate.

**Issues:**

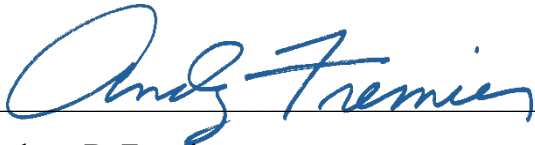
None identified.

**Recommendations:**

Information

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Summit Strategies Team Report – November 2024

  
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Andrew B. Fremier



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**Summit Strategies Team Report – November 2024**

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**From: Summit Strategies Team**

**To: Andrew B. Fremier, Executive Director**

**Date: December 13, 2024**

**Subject: November 2024 Federal Policy Monthly Report**

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- **President-elect Trump Nominates Department of Transportation Secretary**
  - **Supporting MTC Priorities in Congress**
  - **National Transportation News Roundup**
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Below is a status update on issues of interest to MTC and the actions that we have taken to date.

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### **President-elect Trump Nominates Department of Transportation Secretary**

President-elect Donald Trump has picked former U.S. Representative Sean Duffy (R-WI) as the next U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary. Duffy served on Capitol Hill from 2011 to 2019, serving on the House Financial Services Committee, the Budget Committee, and the Joint Economic Committee during his tenure. In the years since he left Congress, Duffy worked as the co-host of a program on Fox News Business. Duffy did not work on many transportation and infrastructure issues during his time in Congress, so it is unclear what direction he will take the U.S. DOT as its new leader (if confirmed). That said, while in Congress, Duffy voted against the 2015 surface transportation authorization (the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act, or FAST Act) and supported an amendment calling for the devolution of the Federal-Aid Highway Program back to the states. As part of the announcement, President-elect Trump mentioned his commitment to making the skies safer and eliminating Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion provisions for pilots and air traffic controllers. In his previous administration, former President Trump focused on highway expansion and rural transportation.

### **Supporting MTC Priorities in Congress**

Your DC Team has communicated with several congressional offices and agencies over the last month. This list includes:

The DC Team called and emailed the Office of Representative Mike Thompson (D-CA) regarding SR 37. In addition, the D.C. Team attended a bike caucus meeting with Representative Thompson, as he recently took over chairing the bike caucus from Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), who is retiring.

The DC Team met with the Office of Senator Alex Padilla (D-CA) on SR 37.

The DC Team met with the U.S. Department of Transportation regarding the grant process and the status of outstanding grant requests, including SR 37.

**National Transportation News Roundup (links to articles)**

- [The Rebirth of Congestion Pricing \(The New York Times\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/15/nyregion/the-rebirth-of-congestion-pricing.html)  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/15/nyregion/the-rebirth-of-congestion-pricing.html>
- [What the 2024 Election Could Mean for Transportation Policy \(Governing\)](https://www.governing.com/transportation/what-the-2024-election-could-mean-for-transportation-policy)  
<https://www.governing.com/transportation/what-the-2024-election-could-mean-for-transportation-policy>
- [Biden Races to Get Out Infrastructure Spending \(Transport Topics\)](https://www.ttnews.com/articles/biden-races-infrastructure)  
<https://www.ttnews.com/articles/biden-races-infrastructure>
- [Return to office isn't what's saving this Bay Area transit agency \(SF Gate\)](https://www.sfgate.com/travel/article/bay-area-transit-agency-revenue-ridership-surge-19937170.php)  
<https://www.sfgate.com/travel/article/bay-area-transit-agency-revenue-ridership-surge-19937170.php>