Governments SANBAG Working Together

San Bernardino Associated Governments
1170 W. 3rd Street, 2nd Floor San Bernardino, CA 92410-1715
Phone: (909) 884-8276 Fax: (909) 885-4407 Web: www.sanbag.ca.gov

TRANSPORTATION MEASURE I

■ San Bernardino County Transportation Commission ■ San Bernardino County Transportation Authority
■ San Bernardino County Congestion Management Agency ■ Service Authority for Freeway Emergencies

Additional Support Material Agenda Item No. 30

Board of Directors

November 6, 2013 at 10:30 am

Location:
San Bernardino Associated Governments
Santa Fe Depot – SANBAG Lobby 1st Floor
1170 W. 3rd Street
San Bernardino, California 92410

Discussion Calendar

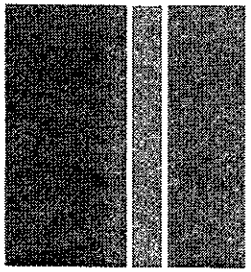
Council of Governments

30. Federal Legislative Update

Receive presentation by SANBAG's Federal Advocate, Steve Palmer. **Wendy Strack**

Attached is a copy of the Power Point Presentation that will be presented to the Board.

Van Scoyoc Associates



Federal Update

San Bernardino Associated Governments

November 6, 2013

VAN SCOYOC ASSOCIATES

- **Federal Government Partial Shutdown**
  - Congress and President failed to agree on FY 2014 appropriations
  - Lasted 16 days
  - Federal Highway Administration remained open
    - Salaries and expenses paid from Highway Trust Fund
    - Allocation of federal highway funds through January 15
  - Federal Transit Administration almost entirely closed
    - Employees are paid from General Fund
    - No FTA grant funds allocated
  - Impact on economy still being determined
    - All federal employees were paid
    - S&P estimates that $24 billion was taken out of the economy
    - Example - Southwest Airlines estimates shutdown cost company $20 million

- **Upcoming Budget Milestones**
  - December 13 – House/Senate budget conference committee
    - No "Grand Bargain" likely
    - Realistic goal: Set overall spending caps for FY 2014 & FY 2015 and replace sequester
      - House and Senate are $91 billion apart
  - Early January – Budget Sequestration 2.0
    - Highway Trust Fund programs are exempt from across-the-board cuts
    - No cuts expected for domestic programs
    - Defense could face $20 billion cut (3.5 percent)
  - January 15 – FY 2014 appropriations expire (70 days)
    - Key transportation issues: Air traffic controller furloughs, TIGER grants, transit New Starts/Small Starts
  - February 7 – Debt limit must be increased
  - Likely delayed – Release of President's Proposed FY 2015 budget

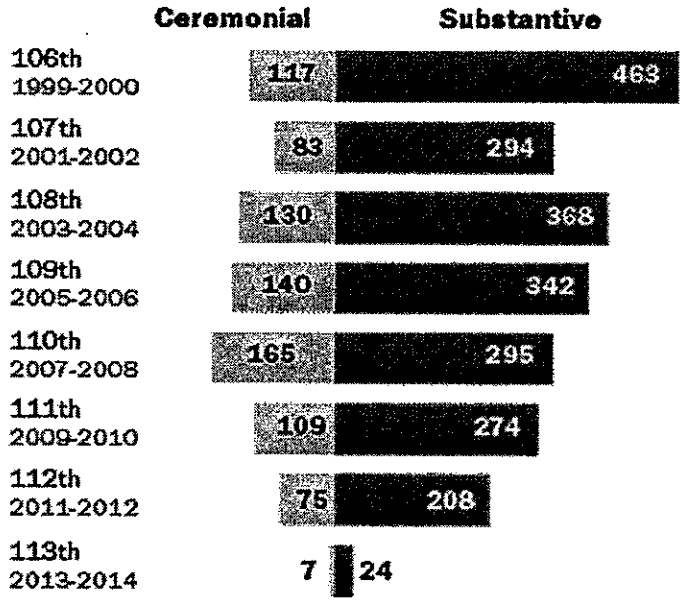
- **Implementation of MAP-21 – Highway**
  - Buy America – Broad FHWA waiver through December 31, 2013
  - FHWA action on project expediting has been slow
    - Completed – Rule on categorical exclusions
    - Open issues – Advance acquisition of ROW, Efficient environmental review for project decision-making, Limitations on claims, Accelerated completion of projects with corresponding financial penalties
  - What lies ahead: Highway performance measures
    - Safety, Infrastructure Condition, Congestion Reduction, System Reliability, Freight Movement and Economic Vitality, Environmental Sustainability, Reduced Project Delivery Delays
- **Implementation of MAP-21 – Transit**
  - Buy America – No FTA guidance on utility relocation
  - ANPRM on safety, asset management, and state of good repair

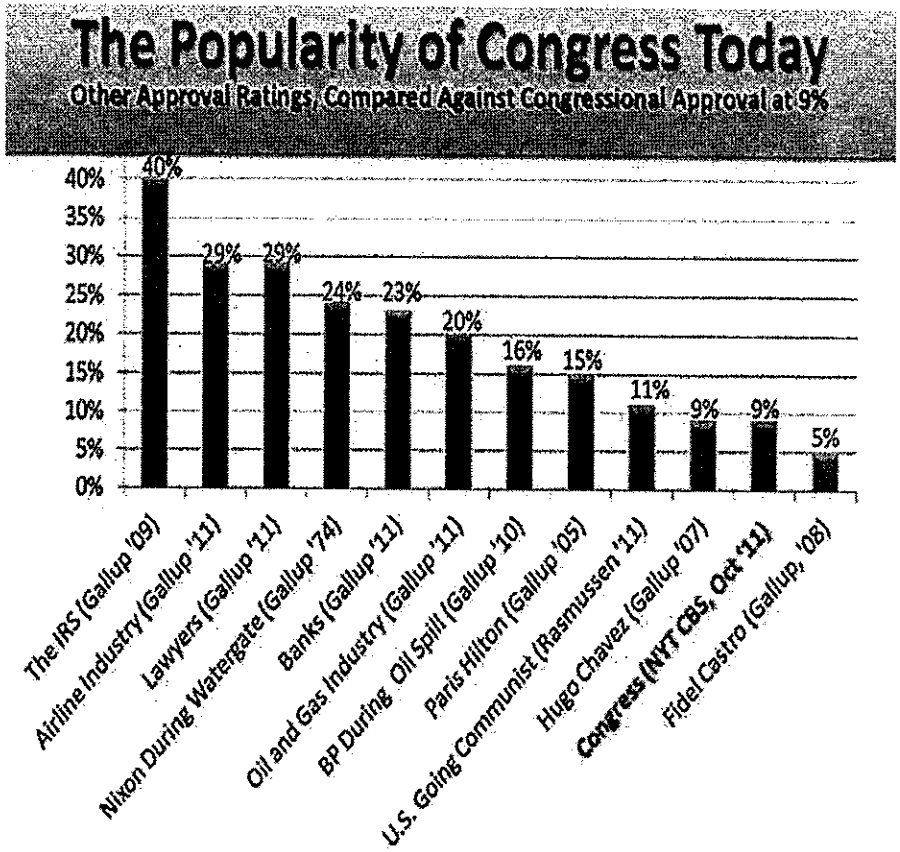
- **Freight Provisions – MAP-21**
  - Establishes a national freight network
  - DOT to develop a national strategic freight plan by October 2015
  - DOT to prepare freight conditions and performance report by October 2014
  - States encouraged to establish freight advisory committees
  - States encouraged to develop comprehensive state freight plans
  - DOT has created freight policy council and freight advisory committee
- **House Panel: Freight Transportation Recommendations**
  - Directs Obama Administration to develop comprehensive national freight transportation policy and to develop sustainable revenue sources
  - Authorize sustainable funding for Projects of National & Regional Significance
  - Incentivize private sector investment in freight transportation facilities
  - Directs DOT to identify corridor-based solutions to freight mobility

- **Transportation Agenda – 2014**
  - Election year
  - Budget, budget, and more budget
  - Tax reform
  - Complete Water Resources Development Act authorization
  - Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act
    - High speed and intercity rail authorizations
  - Rail Safety Act
    - Changes to Positive Train Control mandate
  - MAP-21 Reauthorization
    - More Revenue: Gas tax increase, General Fund transfer, energy fees, sales tax
    - Dedicated funding for goods movement

Congressional Productivity

Number of laws passed by each Congress by type



Note: 113th Congress number includes laws passed up to the August recess.
Source: Library of Congress' THOMAS website

PEW RESEARCH CENTER