

THE 2001 STATE BUDGET

TRANSPORTATION

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) constructs, operates, and maintains a comprehensive transportation system of more than 15,200 miles of highways and freeways. Caltrans also provides rail passenger services under a contract with Amtrak and provides support to local airports.

Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Transportation budget include:

- Constitutional amendment, subject to voter approval, to transfer the state's share of sales tax revenue on gasoline from the General Fund for transportation purposes beginning in 2003-04. For the budget years 2003-04 through 2007-08 the funds will be allocated pursuant to the Transportation Congestion Relief Program (TCRP), and beginning 2008-09 the funds will be allocated 40 percent to the State Transportation Improvement Program, 20 percent for public transit, 20 percent to cities for street and road maintenance, and 20 percent to counties for street and road maintenance.
- Deferral of sales tax on gasoline transfer from the General Fund to the TCRP for two years and extends the TCRP for two years through 2007-08. This provides a General Fund savings of \$1.3 billion for the budget year and provides an net increase for the TCRP of \$517 million.
- \$154 million from the State Highway Account (SHA) to fully fund the TCRP's local streets and roads maintenance program in the budget year, this represents a \$34 million increase above what was projected when the TCRP was created in 2000.
- \$1.3 million (SHA) for total funding of \$21.3 million for the Freeway Service Patrol program.
- \$4.1 million from the Public Transportation Account (PTA) to provide an

additional round trip on the San Joaquin inter-city rail line between Bakersfield and Sacramento. Currently, the San Joaquin provides four road trips run between Bakersfield and Oakland and one round trip between Bakersfield and Sacramento.

- \$5.4 million (PTA) to provide increased service on the Capitol Corridor inter-city rail line. This includes providing two additional round trips between Sacramento and Oakland; two additional round trips between Oakland and San Jose; and two additional round trips between Sacramento and Roseville. Currently, seven round trips operate between Sacramento and Oakland, four of these extend to San Jose, and one extends to Auburn.
- \$98 million (PTA) for three inter-city track improvement projects, including: \$48 million to double and triple track portion of the Pacific Surfliner in Orange County; \$29.4 million to double track portions of the San Joaquin between Oakley and Pittsburg in Contra Costa County; and \$20.6 million to double track on the Yolo Causeway between Davis and West Sacramento on the Capitol Corridor Route.
- \$18 million to fund the proposed Rural Transit System Program for competitive grants to rural public agencies for capital improvement projects, such as bus replacement, transit facilities improvements, signage and shelters, vehicle rehabilitation, and American with Disabilities Act compliance.

SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

The State Transit Assistance (STA) program is one of the state's primary sources of financial support for public transportation.

■ Major Provision

The major provision of the Special Transportation Programs budget include:

- \$171 million (PTA) for the State Transit Assistance Program, an increase of \$59 million from 2000-01.

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) is responsible for ensuring the safe, lawful, and efficient transportation of persons and goods along the state's highway

system, and providing protective services and security for state employees and property.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the California Highway Patrol budget include:

- \$531 million from the Motor Vehicle Account (MVA) to make permanent the expansion of the EI Protector program, which provides safety and public relations services for non-English speaking communities.
- \$1 million (General Fund) and reappropriates \$2.5 million (General Fund) for grants to local law enforcement agencies to collect data on the race of persons stopped for traffic offenses. However, the Governor vetoed Budget Bill Language setting requirements for local law enforcement agencies to be eligible for grant funding.
- \$7.9 million for 76 additional motorcycle officers for traffic congestion relief efforts.

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

The Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) responsibilities include protecting the public interest in vehicle ownership by registering vehicles and promoting public safety on roads and highways by issuing driver licenses. In addition, the DMV licenses and regulates vehicle-related businesses and provides revenue collection services for state and local agencies.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Motor Vehicles budget include:

- \$2.5 million (special funds) to fund queue management systems for 66 field offices and 8 regional offices, as proposed in May Revision. Each system will assist field office managers direct customers to open windows and will also collect data to allow regional office managers to monitor field offices on a real-time basis.
- \$2.6 million (special funds) for various information technology projects, including: 1) develop a separate Spanish website (\$340,000); 2) purchase

advance speech processing software (\$1.2 million); and 3) pilot an automated e-mail response system (\$1 million).

- \$592,000 (special funds) to allow customers to use the internet to determine if a license plate configuration is available, as proposed in May Revision.