

THE 2002-03 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:

- \$1.045 billion loan from the Transportation Congestion Relief Fund (TCRF) to the General Fund. The funds now being loaned were originally transferred from the General Fund to the TCRF in 2000. The loan to the General Fund will be repaid in time to ensure that no transportation projects will be delayed.
- \$474 million loan from the State Highway Account (SHA) to the TCRF. This loan will be repaid with interest. The SHA loan to the TCRF is necessary to ensure the TCRF loan to the General Fund will not delay transportation projects.
- \$173 million loan from the SHA directly to the General Fund.
- Reduced both state staffing and contract staffing Caltrans' Capital Outlay Support program.
- \$10 million to continue the fleet greening program to reduce air pollution from Caltrans' mobile fleet.
- \$23.4 million to implement Caltrans' stormwater management plan.
- \$5 million for a new competitive grant component of the Freeway Service Patrol program.
- Eliminated \$75 million from proposal for four information technology projects until Caltrans completes the Enterprise Integration plan, which is critical ensuring the four new projects are ultimately successful.

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:

- Redirected \$5.1 million to the State Transit Assistance (STA) Program from the funds allocated for loan from the Public Transportation Account (PTA) to the TCRF. The Governor, however, vetoed the augmentation for the STA.

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:

- \$85 million and over 300 additional officers in order for the California Highway Patrol to provide various Terrorism Related protections.
- \$8.5 million reduction in Motor Vehicle Account (MVA) funding for various expenses due to reduced availability of MVA funds resulting from the retirement system no longer being able to pay the CHP's retirement plan from investment earnings.

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:

- Increased various penalties and fees to reflect updated costs and to strengthen the Motor Vehicle Account (MVA), the primary funding source for both the CHP and the DMV.