

PBOT State and Federal Legislative Priorities

DRAFT – Still Under Council Review

2016 Short State Legislative Session

- **Sustainable Transportation Funding** – A long term strategy for sustainable state transportation funding is critical for the health and safety of Portland’s streets.
- **Vehicle Registration Fee (City Sticker) Authority** – Currently the City of Portland does not have the legislative authority to implement a Vehicle Registration Fee which may at some point become a part of comprehensive support for our City’s streets.
- **DMV Upgrades Cost Recovery.** In the last legislative session there was a decision to implement extensive state DMV technology upgrades without implementing cost recovery for these upgrades. This will cost the City of Portland approximately \$5M over the next five years in lost funds from the state.

2016 Federal Legislative Session

- **Reauthorization of Federal Transportation Funding Bill** – The City urges congress to enact a well-funded long term reauthorization of the federal surface transportation program that empowers local decision makers, recognizes the needs of metropolitan areas and provides robust funding with a Vision Zero focus on reducing fatalities and serious injuries.
- **Vision Zero** – PBOT supports recent federal legislative efforts by Representative Blumenauer to implement vision zero, including:
 - Additional funding for Vision Zero: with a focus on planning
 - Additional funding for urban high crash corridors with a specific focus on abandoned state highways
- **Bikeshare as Transit** - In order to support this increasingly important part of transportation systems, Congress should clarify that bikeshare projects are capital projects eligible to receive federal funding as a transit improvement.
- **Commuter Parity Act** – Federal law allows employers to offer employees the opportunity to pay for qualified commuting expenses on a pre-tax basis, but the maximum for transit-related expenses is \$130 per month while the maximum for parking-related expenses is \$250 per month. The Commuter Parity Act would ensure that commuters who use public transportation have access to benefits equal to those available to commuters who drive.
- **Research Program Funding** - In order to meet growing demands on the transportation system and create dynamic new solutions at the local, regional, and national level, Portland supports the Department of Transportation’s continued investment in the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA).