



PRESS ADVISORY

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Public Transportation on the Ballot in 2004

Did you know that voters weighed in on three ballot initiatives that involve public transportation on Tuesday, March 2nd?

In San Francisco, voters agreed to increase the toll on bridge crossings from \$2 to \$3 and invest the proceeds into public transit improvements. This commitment from citizens represents one of the largest investments in Bay Area transportation services in the last 15 years. In Michigan, voters narrowly defeated a plan to renew an existing 3/10th of 1% levy that had been used for the Saginaw Transit Authority Regional Services (STARS). In Hamilton, Ohio, voters defeated a half mill, five year levy to fund bus service by a 69% margin.

Keep up to speed on these important issues at CFTE's 2004 Transit Ballot Measures page ([www.cfte.org/success/2004 Ballot Measures.htm](http://www.cfte.org/success/2004%20Ballot%20Measures.htm)). In addition to details on these two initiatives you will find:

- Locations of current and pending transit ballot campaigns
- Dates of campaign elections
- Summary of ballot proposal and campaigns

"The Super-Tuesday votes in California, Michigan, and Ohio make it clear that transit initiatives are an important priority this campaign cycle," said Stephanie Vance, Program Manager for CFTE. "The California vote, in particular, demonstrates that citizens are willing to support public transportation. They recognize that as the number of commuters grows, so too does the need for more transportation choices. Although the losses in Michigan and Ohio were a disappointment, the California vote, combined with February's positive outcome in Richland, Texas, offers hope for the range of transit initiatives being considered throughout the year and in November."

About the Center for Transportation Excellence

The Center for Transportation Excellence (CFTE) is a clearinghouse for information in support of quality transportation choices. CFTE is committed to two main objectives: (1) defending the merits of transit and (2) equipping local leaders with the information they need to be successful with their public transportation initiatives and ballot measures. The Center can be found on the web at www.cfte.org

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