



Federal & State Legislative Advocacy Annual Timeline 2026



1ST QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Formalize Projects and Apply for Funding

RPA Activities: January – March | Planning & Requests

- **District priorities and projects are finalized**
- **Meetings held with state legislators and Members of Congress**
- **Funding requests are submitted (state budget requests and federal earmarks)**

- **What this means:**

- ➔ This is the most important window to shape funding opportunities.



2ND QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Secure Funding Approvals

RPA Activities: April – June | Budget Decisions Begin

- **California negotiates and adopts the state budget (by mid-June)**
- **Federal funding requests are reviewed by congressional committees**
- **Agencies and legislators narrow down which projects move forward**

- **What this means:**

- ➔ State funding becomes clearer; federal funding is still under review.



3RD QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Monitor Selections & Plan Local Visits

RPA Activities: July – September | Final Actions

- **Governor signs or vetoes state bills (by Sept. 30)**
- **Congress continues negotiations on federal spending**
- **Final selections for federal projects may be confirmed or delayed**

- **What this means:**

- ➔ State outcomes are mostly known; federal outcomes may still be pending.



4TH QUARTER ACTIVITIES

Reconcile Success and Identify Project Priorities

RPA Activities: October – December | Reset & Prepare

- **Review which projects were funded and which were not**
- **Meet internally to set priorities for the next year**
- **Begin early conversations with legislators and staff**
- **Prepare materials for the next funding cycle**

- **What this means:**

- ➔ State outcomes are mostly known; federal outcomes may still be pending.

Following Year | Funding Released

- State funds are implemented after budget adoption
- Federal funds (if approved) are typically released the following year