FACTS ABOUT STREETS AND ROADS FUNDING IN CONTRA COSTA

- Contra Costa County Public Works is responsible for maintaining 666 miles of roads, 111 vehicle and pedestrian bridges and hundreds of miles of road drainage facilities in the unincorporated areas.
- Decreased revenue for streets and roads is not keeping pace with increased demand on the system including increased vehicle miles traveled, increased collisions and traffic congestion, and deterioration in pavement condition.
- There are only three revenues sources that pay for streets and roads maintenance in unincorporated Contra Costa (1) Gas Excise Tax, (2) Price-Base Gas Excise Tax, and (3) a portion (about 18%) of the dedicated one-half cent Contra Costa transportation sales tax.
- Gas Excise Tax of 18 cents per gallon has not been raised since 1994 and revenues have remained relatively flat -- \$16.9 million in 2010/11 and \$16.5 million in 2015/16. Substantially improved fuel efficiency and the increasing number of electric cars have offset the increased number of total cars on the road and the increase in vehicle miles traveled. Less gas is needed to drive the same amount of miles. The tax is based on the amount of gas purchased, not on the price of gas. Purchasing power now reduced to 9 cents due to inflation.
- Revenues from Price-Base Excise Tax on Gas have significantly decreased (down 65% since 2011). These revenues have been volatile and are based both on the price of gas and amount of gas purchased. Average weekly California gas prices have ranged between \$2.30 and \$4.65 per gallon since 2010. Revenue has dropped from \$7.5 million in 2010/11 and \$10.7 million in 2011/12 to \$3.7 million in 2015/16.
- Revenues Contra Costa's dedicated one-half cent transportation sales tax have slightly increased from \$1.8 million in 2010/11 to \$2.4 million in 2015/16. This tax is based on all retail sales in the County and fluctuates based on economic activity.
- Total funding to the County for streets and roads has decreased from \$26.1 million in 2010/11 to \$22.6 million in 2015/16 despite the fact that during this same period there has been a 9% increase in the number of vehicles on the road in California and an increase of 18 million more vehicle miles travelled per day.

This graph shows how Contra Costa County's discretionary road fund has been impacted by the decline of the gas tax.

