

The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Room 106
Martinez, California 94553

John Gioia, 1st District
Candace Andersen, 2nd District
Diane Burgis, 3rd District
Karen Mitchoff, 4th District
Federal D. Glover, 5th District

Contra Costa County



David Twa
Clerk of the Board
and
County Administrator
(925) 335-1900

~~February 7, 2017~~ January 17, 2017

Honorable Jim Beall, Chair
Senate Transportation and Housing Committee
State Capitol, Room 2209
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 1AB-1 (BeallFrazier) – Transportation Funding and Reform Package
As introduced on February 7, 2017~~December 4, 2016~~ – SUPPORT

Dear ~~Assembly Member~~ Senator Beall-Frazier:

On behalf of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in strong support of your ASB 1 and to thank you for your substantial leadership in addressing California's massive transportation infrastructure needs. Your bill successfully merges Republican ideas on revenues and reforms, aspects of the Governor's transportation plan, input from your colleagues and stakeholders, and your own concepts. The bill is a much-needed comprehensive, effective and robust bi-partisan solution.

SAB 1 would provide new statewide investment to maintain and improve local streets, ~~and~~ roads and state highways, ensure existing revenues meant for transportation projects are redirected to transportation, and implement a number of reforms to improve project delivery while still protecting the environment.

SAB 1 would result in approximately \$2.4 billion in existing and new on-going revenue at full implementation of the package for multi-modal investments into the local street and road system. The bill includes as eligible projects: ~~road~~ maintenance and rehabilitation, safety projects, railroad grade separations, and complete street components—including active transportation, pedestrian and bike safety projects, and transit facilities – and drainage and stormwater capture projects built in conjunction with any other allowable project. Funding from the bill could also be used as matching funds for state and federal funding programs.

Outside of the revenue provisions, SAB 1 includes strong accountability measures, including a local maintenance of effort requirement and project-level reporting to the California Transportation Commission. In terms of local project streamlining, the bill would expand an existing CEQA exemption available to small cities and counties for maintenance, rehabilitation and safety projects in the existing right-of-way to all local jurisdictions and the state, and create a transportation advanced mitigation program.

Contra Costa County is depending on a solution at ~~the~~ the state level in order to close a \$7.9 million budget gap. The County has struggled to maintain safe, well-maintained roads during a time when revenues are declining due to the increase in fuel-efficient and electric vehicles and the purchasing power

~~Assembly Member Jim Frazier~~ Senator Jim Beall
~~January 17, 2016~~ February 7, 2017

of the unit based gas tax is half of what it was when it was established in 1994. Our Public Works Department has a short term list of 11 major projects that will have to be deferred, on top of a reduction in maintenance activities, unless a solution is identified. The more longer term scenario is substantially ~~more~~ grimbleak.

Investing in our roads and highways, active transportation facilities, transit and key freight corridors through targeted and balanced increases in revenue will improve California's transportation facilities today and save taxpayers money for the ~~upkeep-~~ maintenance of this infrastructure tomorrow—not to mention the savings individual drivers will realize from smoother and safer roads that reduce wear and tear on vehicles.

We look forward to working with you and legislative leadership and the Administration on their promise to ~~top~~ successfully advance a meaningful transportation reform and funding package early in the 2017 legislative session.

Sincerely,

Federal D. Glover, Chair
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, District V

C: Honorable Members of the Contra Costa County State Legislative Delegation

~~File: Transportation > Legislation and Correspondence -- BOS, DCD > 2017~~
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