



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: BOS  
Department No.: 011  
For Agenda Of: 09/18/18  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Time:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Supervisors Das Williams and Joan Hartmann  
Director:  
Contact Info: Darcel Elliott, (805) 568-2182

**SUBJECT:** Resolution in opposition to Proposition 6

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: No

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

- a. Adopt a resolution in opposition to Statewide Ballot Proposition 6, The 2017 Gas Tax Repeal Initiative, on the November 6, 2018 statewide ballot; and
- b. Determine that the above action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(4) and 15378(b)(5) because it consists of government administrative or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

Proposition 6 would repeal the gas and diesel tax increases and vehicle fees that were enacted in 2017 by Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017, to fund desperately needed road and transportation infrastructure repair throughout the state. If Proposition 6 were to pass, the County of Santa Barbara would lose funding we currently receive from the state to repair our local roads and transportation infrastructure.

**Background:**

California faces an estimated \$132 billion deferred maintenance backlog over the next ten years at a state and local level. In Santa Barbara County alone, our estimated backlog is approximately \$315 million. To address this statewide crisis, the Road Repair and Accountability Act (RRAA) of 2017 was enacted into law on April 28, 2017. The RRAA increased the gas tax by \$0.12 per gallon, increased the

diesel fuel tax by \$0.20 per gallon, increased the sales tax on diesel fuels by an additional 4 percentage points, created an annual transportation improvement fee, and created an annual zero-emission vehicles fee. The increased taxes went into effect on November 1, 2017 with one of the fees going into effect in 2018 and the second fee going into effect in 2020. Prior to the RRAA passing, California's gas tax had not been adjusted for inflation since 1994. Additionally, the State Legislature passed Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 and placed it on the June 5<sup>th</sup> ballot in the form of Proposition 69. Proposition 69 was passed by 81% of voters and amends the California Constitution to prohibit the Legislature from diverting transportation funds for unauthorized purposes.

The RRAA is expected to generate \$52.4 billion between 2017 and 2027 with a stipulation to "fix it first," meaning funding will prioritize repairing existing infrastructure over building new infrastructure. Off the top, \$200 million is set aside for local entities that have passed local sales and use taxes and/or developer fees for transportation purposes, of which the County of Santa Barbara is included. In the first year of RRAA funding, the County of Santa Barbara received an estimated \$2.3 million. The estimate for the current fiscal year is \$6.5 million and the estimate at full implementation is \$12 million per year. The new source of funding will allow the County to leverage local Measure A and General Fund revenues to address the unfunded backlog of deferred maintenance. In addition to the funding directly received by the County, our region will also receive \$184 million in RRAA funding to the Santa Barbara County Association of Governments for the 101 HOV and parallel projects, freeing up local funds to be used elsewhere. If Proposition 6 is successful, the County will lose millions of dollars and suffer further erosion of our critical transportation infrastructure.

**Financial Impacts:**

No financial impacts.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

**FTEs:**

- No staffing impacts

**Special Instructions:**

- None

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A – Resolution in opposition of Proposition 6
- Attachment B – Text of Senate Bill 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017

**Authored by:**

Darcel Elliott, Chief of Staff, First District Supervisor Das Williams  
805-568-2182

**cc:**