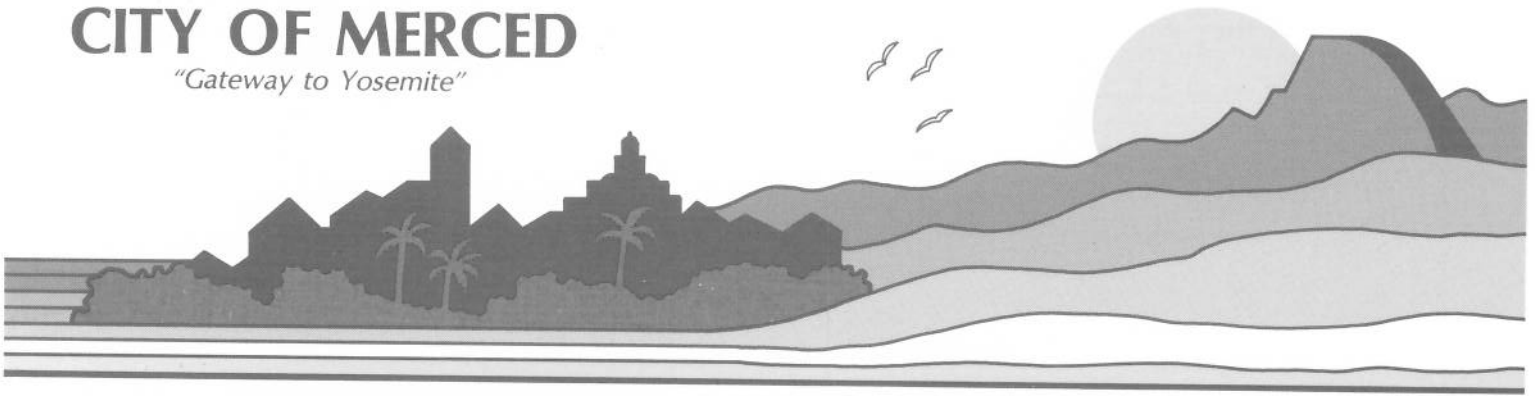


CITY OF MERCED

"Gateway to Yosemite"



February 6, 2016

The Honorable Jim Beall
Chair, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee
California State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1 (Beall) Transportation Funding *(as introduced December 5, 2016)*
Notice of Support

Dear Senator Beall:

The City of Merced fully supports SB 1 (Beall), a long overdue revamping of state transportation funding. The bill would establish a transportation funding package that would result in an additional \$6.09 billion per year. The bill also provides funding for transit and up to \$150 million to support active transportation programs.

The City of Merced has 325.9 miles of residential streets, 81.8 miles of arterial streets, 71.6 miles of collector streets and 20.8 miles of alleys. The City also has 15 bridges crossing waterways and 13 at-grade railroad crossings. We invest significant amounts of resources in maintaining our streets, but it falls far short. One doesn't have to drive far to find a road in need of major rebuilding, a bridge that dates back to the WPA or RR crossings that are at best a nuisance and at worse a threat to health and safety.

Through the combination of fuel taxes, vehicle registration fees, cap and trade revenues, and revenue protections, SB 1 (Beall) would provide the state with billions of dollars over the next decade to cities and counties and re-establish the much-needed state transportation improvement program (STIP).

We support SB 1 and appreciate your efforts to provide both state and local agencies the resources needed to address our transportation needs so that we can have a smoother ride through the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

Michael W. Murphy, Mayor
City of Merced