RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2017-59

MEETING: February 14, 2017

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, Interim CAO

RE: Letter of Support for AB 1

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve a Letter of Support for Assembly Bill 1, a Transportation Funding and Reform Package; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter. Assembly Bill (AB) 1 would create the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program, require the California Transportation Commission to adopt performance criteria designed to ensure efficient use of certain funds, and provide funding to address deferred maintenance on the state highway system and the local street and road system.

Please see the attached letter and bill language for additional information.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Board has approved letters supporting legislation that they believe will benefit the County.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not approve the letter. Individual members of the Board may write their own letters of support as desired.

ATTACHMENTS:
DRAFT_AB 1_County of Mariposa_Support (DOCX)
AB 1 Text (PDF)

CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

Dallin Kimble
Dallin Kimble, Interim CAO 2/9/2017
RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
AYES: Menetrey, Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann
February 3, 2017

The Honorable Jim Frazier
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3091
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 1 (Frazier) – Transportation Funding and Reform Package
As introduced on December 4, 2016 – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Frazier:

On behalf of the County of Mariposa, I want to express our strong support of your Assembly Bill (AB) 1, and to thank you for your continued perseverance and leadership in trying to address California’s tremendous transportation infrastructure needs and keep our economy moving. Your work to continue to refine a transportation funding and reform proposal that takes elements of your concepts, Republican ideas on revenues and reforms, aspects of the Governor’s transportation plan, and responds to input from your colleagues and stakeholders is critical to develop a comprehensive and robust bi-partisan solution.

This bill would provide much-needed 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.

Assembly Bill 1 would result in approximately $2.4 billion in returued 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, AB 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.

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 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 successfully advance a meaningful transportation reform and funding package early in the 2017 legislative session.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Marshall Long, Chair
Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Senator Tom Berryhill, 8th District
    Assembly Member Frank Bigelow, 5th District