

Press Release



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State Senator Beall Honored for Spearheading Key Transportation Funding Bills

SB1 and SB595 Funding Critical for Local Transportation Projects Including Key Goods Movement Initiatives

ALAMEDA COUNTY - Calif. The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) honored State Senator Jim Beall for his historic work to pass Senate Bill 595 and Senate Bill 1 - the first significant increase in state transportation funding in more than two decades, and emphasized the tremendous benefits that these two bills can bring to Alameda County and the entire Bay Area.

The Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017 (SB1), signed by Governor Brown in April and in effect as of November 1, 2017, provides an average of \$5.4 billion per year for state and local transportation to fix roads, freeways, and bridges and fund transit and safety. It also provides matching funds for local agencies, including Alameda CTC, to support the investments cities and counties have made in their own regions through voter-approved transportation tax measures. SB 1 could fund numerous key local projects and programs within Alameda County including road maintenance, transit, bicycle and pedestrian safety projects, major trails, relief for congested corridors including highways and major arterials, as well as programs such as the very popular Safe Routes to Schools and Student Transit Pass Programs.

“Senator Beall’s tireless legislative efforts will enable more Californians to live in the communities where they work - sustaining jobs and keeping our economy rolling,” said Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty.

In addition to funding from SB1, Senate Bill 595 clears the path for a new bridge toll measure - Regional Measure 3 (RM3) - to be placed on the ballot in the Bay Area. RM3, if passed by voters, would fund congestion-relief projects and improve mobility in the bridge corridors.

“Part of the promise of delivering the many key congestion relief projects approved by voters in Measure BB, is the leveraging of Measure BB funds in order to close project funding gaps,” said Alameda CTC Chair Rebecca Kaplan. “Measure BB funds can leverage SB1 and SB595 funds to deliver projects including at the Port of Oakland, State Route 84/680 interchange, express lanes, major trails and transportation programs for safe access to schools - improving our air quality and overall quality of life.”

The reception followed the afternoon’s “Future of Freight Roundtable,” hosted by Alameda CTC and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), which brought together government leaders, business representatives, industry experts and community partners to further the 10-year vision for goods movement investment - ensuring efficient connectivity, mobility, safety and emissions reductions in the Bay Area.

“With new funding streams available - both SB1 and potentially RM3 - we have an opportunity now to achieve important improvements in our goods movement system while at the same time investing in efforts that increase safety and improve air quality for our local communities,” said Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty. “Over one-third of all jobs in the Bay Area are related to goods movement, and almost \$1 billion in freight flows moving to, from, within, and through the Northern California megaregion.”

Key local goods movement initiatives that stand to benefit from SB1 include safety and efficiency projects at the Port of Oakland, Innovative and Clean projects such as Cool Port (a major rail served warehouse), and on-going emission reduction programs that support our community and clean business needs.

Additional speakers lauded the importance of these funding measures for their role in supporting local transportation infrastructure needs:

- State Senator Nancy Skinner
- Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson
- Elsa Ortiz, President AC Transit Board of Directors
- Bobby Alvarado, Executive Officer of the Northern California Carpenters Regional Council
- Alix Bockelman, MTC Deputy Executive Director, Policy

“The state is a critical partner to help meet our local transportation needs, and Senator Beall has delivered for the entire Bay Area. The passage of these historic measures is the result of his visionary leadership and sophisticated understanding of the complexities of transportation funding and the connection between transportation and housing that is key for a livable Bay Area,” says Alameda CTC Executive Director Arthur L. Dao. “Our local transportation measures go a long way, but we can’t meet our infrastructure needs alone.”



Alameda CTC Chair Rebecca Kaplan and Supervisor Scott Haggerty present Senator Jim Beall with Resolution of Appreciation.

About the Alameda County Transportation Commission

Alameda CTC coordinates countywide transportation planning and delivers essential, voter-supported transportation improvements in every city throughout Alameda County. Funding sources for Alameda CTC’s expenditure plans include Measure B, approved by 81.5 percent of county voters in 2000, and Measure BB, approved by more than 70 percent of voters in 2014. For more information, please visit the Alameda CTC website at <http://www.alamedactc.org>

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