



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date:** April 12, 2017  
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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

### **RCTC Supports SB 132 to Fund Needed Transportation Projects**

The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) unanimously voted today to support for Senate Bill 132, which would invest and expedite more than \$427 million in critical transportation projects in Riverside County.

“This is a historic investment in our infrastructure that will create thousands of jobs, alleviate traffic, reduce pollution, and increase safety,” said County Supervisor John Tavaglione, chairman of RCTC. “We thank our local legislators for delivering a big win for the future of Riverside County and its residents. In particular, we commend Senator Roth and Assemblymember Cervantes for continuing to stand up for our region. Their tireless work and advocacy on our region’s behalf made the difference in ensuring Riverside County receives its fair share from Sacramento.”

If passed, the new law dedicates funding to five specific projects, dubbed the Riverside County Transportation Efficiency Corridor, including:

- SR-91 / I-15 North Connector - \$180 million
- I-15 / Limonite Interchange - \$48 million
- McKinley Grade Separation - \$84.45 million
- Jurupa Road Grade Separation - \$108.4 million
- Hamner Avenue Bridge Widening - \$6.3 million

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On April 6, Governor Jerry Brown and the California Legislature reached agreement on a new transportation funding and reform package that will help fund many important infrastructure projects statewide and in Riverside County. Voters will have the opportunity at the November 2018 ballot box to constitutionally protect the new transportation revenues from being diverted or borrowed, a key concern for RCTC and Riverside County taxpayers.

As a result of the package and through the fiscally responsible use of taxpayer dollars, RCTC will be able to complete more projects on an expedited timeline. Cities and the County of Riverside will be able to fix roads and bridges that have been waiting for repair due to a lack of funding. Transit operators and Metrolink will be able to run more reliable bus and train service to connect Riverside County residents with employment, medical visits, education, and other critical services.

“From the Coachella Valley to Temecula, every resident of Riverside County will see a return on this investment, thanks to smart reforms in this package,” said Dana Reed, RCTC Vice Chairman and Indian Wells Council Member. “It isn’t perfect and we’ll always push for more, but our roads and Riverside County in particular have been neglected by Sacramento for far too long. This is a remarkable turning point, and I hope it will continue.”

RCTC provided objective technical support and information to legislators of both political parties throughout Riverside County. RCTC sincerely appreciates and supports the efforts of all Riverside County legislators of all political stripes who fought for meaningful reforms that would save taxpayer dollars, accelerate construction of needed projects, and restore public confidence in government. In addition, RCTC appreciates the work of Gov. Brown in advancing these discussions and securing vital funding for our county.

“We appreciate the work of all of our representatives in this effort to improve Riverside County’s transportation system,” said Anne Mayer, executive director of RCTC. “At RCTC, we strive to be a watchful and responsible steward of taxpayer dollars, and we understand that now the onus is on us to deliver these projects. We have delivered on our promises in the past, and we will do so here as well.”

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