

	California Transportation Commission	
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For Immediate Release:

**Paul Van Konynenburg and Hilary Norton Named as Chair and Vice Chair
of the California Transportation Commission**

Mitch Weiss Named as Executive Director

[SACRAMENTO, Calif.] — At its January 29, 2020 meeting, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) elected Paul Van Konynenburg as its Chair and Hilary Norton as its Vice Chair, effective March 1, 2020. Mitch Weiss was also announced as the new Executive Director, filling the opening left by Susan Bransen, who is retiring. Mr. Weiss’s appointment takes effect January 31, 2020.

“The Commission would like to thank Commissioner Inman for her service as Chair over the past two years and her leadership as we implemented SB 1,” Chair-elect Van Konynenburg said. Senate Bill 1—also known as the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017—increased funding for transportation and added new oversight and accountability responsibilities for the Commission. During Ms. Inman’s tenure as Chair, the Commission programmed over \$9 billion in funding from SB 1. Ms. Inman continues to serve on the Commission as her current appointment runs through February 1, 2022.

The Commission also extended its thanks to Ms. Bransen, who served as a champion of transparency and accountability during her 12 years at the Commission, including serving as Executive Director since 2016.

Mr. Van Konynenburg, Ms. Norton, and Mr. Weiss each have extensive backgrounds in transportation.



Paul Van Konynenburg was appointed to the Commission by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in August of 2017 and elected Vice Chair in January of 2019. While on the Commission, he has provided a strong voice for addressing the needs of California’s most rural and disadvantaged areas with equitable transportation investments that promote inclusive economic development. He came to the Commission with nearly 20 years of experience leading regional public-private inclusive economic development and workforce training collaborations, including Opportunity Stanislaus, Stanislaus County Economic Development and Workforce Alliance, and the Stanislaus County Economic Development Corporation. He also has over two decades of experience chairing and advising non-partisan political campaigns and initiatives at the local and regional level. Most recently, he advised the Stanislaus County Council of Governments in 2015 and 2016 on the formation of the Local Roads First Transportation Expenditure Plan that

harmonized the diverse interests of ten local governments, business leaders, labor unions, environmental advocates and senior citizen groups. He also chaired the 2016 passage of Measure L in Stanislaus County, which formed the largest political coalition in the history of the county and succeeding in passing the measure with over 70% in favor. This was the largest win for a transportation sales tax measure in the 2016 election cycle, as well as the largest percentage win of any first-time county measure since 1989. Mr. Van Konynenburg currently is the managing partner of Britton Konynenburg Partners, a Global G.A.P.-certified sustainable producer of peaches, apples, cherries, almonds, and apricots. He holds a bachelor's degree in managerial economics from the University of California, Davis.



Hilary Norton was appointed to the Commission by Governor Gavin Newsom in September of 2019. Ms. Norton has over 28 years of experience in transportation and community development. As founding Executive Director of Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic (FAST) and FASTLinkDTLA, Ms. Norton has mobilized a diverse coalition of business, labor, civic groups, educational institutions and transit organizations to support policy and infrastructure improvements to Los Angeles's mobility, livability and economic prosperity. She served as 2018 chairwoman of the Los Angeles County Business Federation and is on the Board of Directors of the Central City Association. Ms. Norton also served as the Business Representative on Los Angeles County Metro's Policy

Advisory Committee and was a member of the Advisory Boards for Metro's Office of Extraordinary Innovation and Metro's Next Gen Bus Study. She is a member of the Southern California Association of Government's Global Land Use and Economic (GLUE) Council and its Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Working Group. Ms. Norton also is a Director for the Orthopaedic Institute for Children, which provides world class health care to all children regardless of ability to pay, and she is a Board member of the Leo Buscaglia Foundation. Ms. Norton holds a Bachelor of Arts from Wellesley College and a Master in Public Policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



Mitch Weiss has served as a member of the Commission's staff for more than a dozen years. Most recently, he served for two years as the Chief Deputy Director. In this capacity, he served as a principal policy advisor to the Commission, responsible for carrying out the Commission's policies and programs and overseeing its internal operations. Mr. Weiss led the Commission's implementation of Senate Bill 1, which provided the first significant, stable, and ongoing increase in California's transportation funding in more than two decades. This effort included dozens of public workshops and culminated in the commitment of over \$9 billion in Senate Bill 1 funds in just 13 months. Mr. Weiss previously held positions

as the Commission's Deputy Director for Programming, policy advisor for the Commission's Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee, and the Deputy Secretary for Administration and Finance at the California State Transportation Agency. Prior to these positions, Mr. Weiss held several positions in the budget offices of the California Department of Transportation and the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

The Commission is an independent public agency responsible for programming and allocating state and federal transportation funds used in the construction of highway, intercity passenger rail, transit, active transportation, and aeronautic improvements throughout California. The Commission also is responsible for advising and assisting the Secretary of the California State Transportation Agency and the Legislature in formulating and evaluating state policies and plans for California's transportation programs.

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