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California Transportation Commission Votes to Send Gas Tax Dollars to Local Communities

SB 1 Funding Approved for Mobility Improvements in All 58 Counties

[Sacramento] – At its meeting on Wednesday, the California Transportation Commission (Commission) marked key milestones for two programs that deliver new gas tax revenue from the Road Repair and Accountability Act (SB 1) to local communities across the state.

Building on action from its December meeting, the Commission adopted the final list of cities eligible to receive Local Streets and Roads Program funding for this fiscal year, bringing the total count to 479 cities and 58 counties throughout California. SB 1 dedicates approximately \$1.5 billion per year for road maintenance, rehabilitation, and critical safety projects in local communities.

"To be eligible for funding under the Local Streets and Roads Program, cities and counties must submit a list of projects they intend to use SB 1 money for," explains Commission Chair Bob Alvarado. "The Commission then reviews and approves the list of projects, allowing SB 1 funding to be returned and work to begin. Then, commissioners will monitor these local projects to be sure they are completed as promised." Today's action by the Commission ensures Californians in counties and cities throughout California will benefit from their gas tax dollars.

The Commission administers the Local Streets and Road Program which provides funding to cities and counties for maintenance, rehabilitation and safety projects. Revenues generated by SB 1 nearly double the funding that local agencies receive for transportation improvements. With today's final adoption, the full report of eligible cities will be sent to the State Controller to distribute revenue. As part of the Commission's oversight role, these local agencies must provide annual progress reports on expenditures.

The Commission reached another milestone Wednesday, adopting the 2018 Formulaic Program of Projects for the Local Partnership Program, which provides local agencies certainty in planning for funding to come. This SB 1 program dedicates \$200 million a year to reward communities that have previously approved fees or taxes solely dedicated to transportation improvements,

allowing for effective leverage of state and local dollars to maximize benefits to the public. Half of that money is awarded through a statewide, competitive program. The other half is distributed by formula to eligible agencies based on population and revenue generation. The Commission approved 57 projects across California for a total of \$173.4 million in SB 1 funding for Fiscal Years 2017-18 and 2018-19. The remaining \$26 million remains available to eligible agencies who propose projects before June 2019.

Subsequent to program adoption, on Thursday, the Commission allocated \$907,000 to the Alameda County Transportation Commission for its 7th Street Grade Separation (East) project in the Port of Oakland, the first project ready to move forward under this new program.

"The Local Partnership Program is designed to help cities and counties who have committed their own local funds for transportation improvements within their own communities," says Commission Vice Chair Fran Inman. "Today's action by the Commission will help put tax dollars to work addressing local needs right away."

An interactive Project Map of transportation improvement projects to be funded with SB 1 money under the Local Streets and Roads Program and the Local Partnership Program is available online at <u>www.rebuildingca.ca.gov</u>.

For more information on both programs, visit the Commission's SB 1 webpage at: <u>http://catc.ca.gov/programs/SB1.html</u>.

More information about the California Transportation Commission may be found at: <u>http://www.catc.ca.gov/</u>.

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