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June 22, 2015

Honorable Jim Beall
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2209
Sacramento, CA 95814
Via FAX: (916) 651-4915

RE: **SB 16 (Beall): Transportation Funding – Notice of Support**

Dear Senator Beall:

The Cities Association of Santa Clara County is pleased to support SB 16, which would provide much needed funding to the state and local roadway system over a period of five years to address the overwhelming backlog of preservation and maintenance.

The Cities Association is a collaboration of the 15 cities in Santa Clara County and advocates on behalf of the cities to improve the quality of life for the people of our county. This year, transportation was adopted as a priority for the Cities Association. Our local streets and roads we all rely on are literally crumbling beneath our feet. The conditions are getting so bad that if California doesn't commit to prioritizing funding to fix them, we could be facing a catastrophe. Without this additional funding, 25% of local streets and roads will be in failed condition in a very short 10 years.

If regular maintenance is neglected, the costs of repairs increase exponentially. Senate Bill 16 would expressly address the backlog of maintenance needs, and is estimated to generate between \$2.8 and \$3.6 billion annually. In addition, five percent of the revenues would be set aside to incentivize counties currently without a local transportation funding measure to approve such a measure.

We cannot stress enough the importance of acting on the transportation funding shortfall. Thank you for your invaluable leadership on this critical issue and for your continued support of the Cities Association. For these reasons, the Cities Association of Santa Clara County supports SB 16 (Beall).

Sincerely,

Jason T. Baker
President, Cities Association of Santa Clara County
Vice Mayor, City of Campbell