

Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare
Partners: Amtrak, Caltrans Division of Rail, BNSF Railway Company, Union Pacific Railroad

## REPRESENTING COUNTIES ALONG THE SAN JOAQUIN RAIL CORRIDOR

August 14, 2018 Mr. Vito Chiesa Chairperson, San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority 949 East Channel Street Stockton, CA 95202

RE: Comments on joining the Coalition to Protect Local Transportation Improvements to Support Proposition 69 Which Protects Transportation Funds from Being Diverted and to Oppose the November 2018 Measure That Would Repeal Senate Bill 1

Dear Chairperson Chiesa,

San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee (SJVRC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Coalition to Protect Local Transportation Improvements to Support Proposition 69 Which Protects Transportation Funds from Being Diverted and to Oppose the November 2018 Measure That Would Repeal Senate Bill 1.

In April 2017, California passed Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) which provides more than \$5 billion annually to make road safety improvements, fill potholes, repair local streets, freeways, tunnels, bridges and overpasses and invest in public transportation in every California community. The Coalition to Protect Local Transportation Improvements has formed to support Proposition 69 which protects transportation funds from being diverted and to oppose the November 2018 measure that would repeal SB 1.

Proposition 69 on California's June 2018 primary election ballot ensures transportation revenues can only be used for road and transportation improvement projects. Proposition 69 prohibits the Legislature from diverting these revenues for non-transportation purposes. In 2017, California passed Senate Bill 1, which provides more than \$5 billion in new revenues to fund transportation improvements all over California. Prop 69 constitutionally protects the portion of these new revenues that aren't already protected.

The Coalition to Protect Local Transportation Improvements is broad coalition of environmental leaders, labor, local governments, social justice organizations and others has joined to support

Proposition 69 on the June ballot to protect the new SB 1 revenues, as well as to oppose the repeal of SB 1 on the November ballot.

SB 1 is strengthening statewide rail modernization. With SB 1, the state is now positioned to achieve the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions while also ensuring the state's rail system is ready to serve future generations of travelers and visitors. The SJJPA relies on SB 1 funding for improving the San Joaquins, its repeal would impact the San Joaquins improvement projects.

On August 10, 2018, SJVRC members acted to join the Coalition to Protect Local Transportation Improvements to Support Proposition 69 Which Protects Transportation Funds from Being Diverted and to Oppose the November 2018 Measure That Would Repeal Senate Bill 1.

Sincerely,

Dan Leavitt

Manager of Regional Initiatives

San Joaquin Joint Powers Authority

On behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Committee