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April 7, 2015

The Honorable Jim Frazier
California State Assembly
State Capitol Building, Room 3091
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ACA 4 (Frazier). Transportation Projects: Local Special Taxes: Voter Approval.
(as introduced)
Notice of Support

Dear Assembly Member Frazier:

The League of California Cities is pleased to support your ACA 4, which would lower the voter threshold requirements for special taxes by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for local transportation projects from 2/3rds approval to 55% approval.

The League has long supported the principle of local control, which includes expanded authority over local revenues. This is especially true in the area of transportation, which so clearly needs additional investment. The 2014 California Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment rated the state's pavement condition at a precarious 66, and identified \$78.3 billion funding shortfall over the next ten years. This is in addition to the \$59 billion shortfall identified in the 2014 State Highway Operation and Protection Program.

Local transportation measures benefit the entire transportation system and support California's statewide policy goals of lower greenhouse gas emissions, supporting goods movements, and being accountable for how taxpayer dollars are spent. Revenues from current sales tax measures support capital programs on the state and local system, local streets and roads, transit, bicycle and pedestrians, and transit-oriented development.

In a state as diverse as California, the existing model no longer works. The inability to adequately develop and maintain infrastructure hampers our state's economy. It is time for revenue authority and accountability to be decentralized to permit local communities to move forward with measures that address their local infrastructure needs.

We look forward to working with you in support of this measure. If you have any questions, or if I can be of assistance, please call me at (916) 658-8222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Whiting".

Jennifer Whiting
Assistant Legislative Director