



CITY OF PACIFIC GROVE
300 Forest Avenue, Pacific Grove, California 93950

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council

FROM: Robert Huitt, Mayor Pro Tem

MEETING DATE: March 16, 2016

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for AB 2730 (Alejo): Department of Transportation:
Prunedale Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties

CEQA: Does not Constitute a “Project” per California Environmental Quality Act
(CEQA) Guidelines

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of Support for AB 2730 (Alejo): Department of Transportation: Prunedale Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties.

DISCUSSION

Assembly Bill number 2730, introduced by Assembly Member Alejo, would transfer the proceeds of the sale of the former Prunedale Bypass right-of-way parcels of land to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC) for use on future transportation projects in Monterey County.

Over many years, TAMC, the County of Monterey and Caltrans assembled the transportation funds to buy 145 parcels (353 acres) of land for the US 101 Prunedale Bypass project. The project was unable to be constructed, and TAMC and Caltrans instead focused on safety improvements on US 101, known as the Prunedale Improvement Project. Caltrans has the authority to sell the unused land, and under current law, the revenues from the sale of bypass land would go into the state general fund – not back to transportation and not back to Monterey County.

AB 2730 would require the revenues from the sale of the Prunedale Bypass parcels to come back to TAMC, to be used for other highway improvement projects in Monterey County. AB 2730 would ensure that millions of transportation dollars would come back to the local highway system for improvements that would ultimately benefit Monterey County and the City of Pacific Grove. This bill would help TAMC and Caltrans to make much-needed and long-deferred highway improvements.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Council could take no action on AB 2730, and thereby not authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support for AB 2730 (Alejo).

OPTIONS

Take no action.

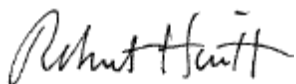
FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Text of AB 2730 (Alejo)
2. Letter of Support for AB 2730 (Alejo) from Transportation Agency of Monterey County
3. Press-release from ASM Alejo
4. Proposed Letter of Support for AB 2730 (Alejo) from City of Pacific Grove

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,



Robert Huitt
Mayor Protempore

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2730

Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo

February 19, 2016

An act to add Section 14528.9 to the Government Code, relating to transportation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2730, as introduced, Alejo. Department of Transportation: Prunedale Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties.

Existing law provides that the Department of Transportation has full possession and control of the state highway system and associated property. Existing law generally requires proceeds from the sale of excess state highway property to be made available for other highway purposes. Existing law generally provides for the California Transportation Commission to program available funding for transportation capital projects, other than state highway rehabilitation projects, through the state transportation improvement program process, with available funds subject to various fair share distribution formulas. Existing law, in certain cases, requires the commission to instead reallocate funds from canceled state highway projects to other projects within the same county and exempts those funds from the fair share distribution formulas that would otherwise be applicable.

This bill would classify certain properties acquired by the department for a replacement alignment for State Highway Route 101 in the County of Monterey, known as the former Prunedale Bypass, and no longer required by the department for the alternative improvements undertaken by it in place of the bypass, known as the Prunedale Improvement Project, as excess property and would require the department to

expeditiously dispose of those excess properties. The bill would require the net proceeds from the sale of the excess properties to be reserved in the State Highway Account for programming and allocation by the commission, with the concurrence of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County, to other transportation projects in that county. The bill would exempt these funds from the distribution formulas otherwise applicable to transportation capital improvement funds.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 14528.9 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:
3 14528.9. Properties originally acquired by the department for
4 a replacement alignment for State Highway Route 101 in the
5 County of Monterey, known as the former Prunedale Bypass, and
6 no longer required by the department for the alternative
7 improvements undertaken by it in place of the bypass, known as
8 the Prunedale Improvement Project, are hereby classified as excess
9 properties. The department shall expeditiously dispose of these
10 excess properties. Proceeds from the sale of the excess properties,
11 less any reimbursements due to the federal government and all
12 costs incurred in the sale of those excess properties, shall be
13 reserved in the State Highway Account for programming and
14 allocation by the commission, with the concurrence of the
15 Transportation Agency for Monterey County, to other state
16 highway projects in the State Transportation Improvement Program
17 in the County of Monterey, or to other transportation projects in
18 that county consistent with Article XIX of the California
19 Constitution. Sections 188 and 188.8 of the Streets and Highways
20 Code do not apply to these proceeds.

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March 1, 2016

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Assembly Member Luis Alejo
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0030

Via email to: Tony.Madrigal@asm.ca.gov

Re: Support for AB 2730 (Alejo): Department of Transportation: Prunedale Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties

Dear Assembly Member Alejo:

On behalf of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), I write in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 2730: Department of Transportation: Prunedale Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties (as introduced, February 19, 2016). This bill will transfer the proceeds of the sale of the former Prunedale Bypass right-of-way parcels of land to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County for use on future transportation projects in Monterey County. **The Transportation Agency for Monterey County thanks you for authoring this bill.**

Over many years, TAMC, the County of Monterey and Caltrans assembled the transportation funds to buy 145 parcels (353 acres) of land for the US 101 Prunedale Bypass project. The project was unable to be constructed, and TAMC and Caltrans instead focused on safety improvements on US 101, known as the Prunedale Improvement Project. Caltrans has the authority to sell the unused land, and under current law, the revenues from the sale of bypass land would go into the state general fund – not back to transportation and not back to Monterey County.

AB 2730 would require the revenues from the sale of the Prunedale Bypass parcels to come back to TAMC, to be used for other highway improvement projects in Monterey County. AB 2730 would ensure that millions of transportation dollars would come back to the local highway system for improvements that would benefit Monterey County's regional economic drivers: agriculture and tourism. The mission of TAMC is to develop and maintain a multimodal transportation system that enhances mobility, safety, access, environment quality and economic activities in Monterey County. This bill would help TAMC and Caltrans to make much-needed and long-deferred highway improvements.


Thank you very much for your authorship of this important bill and for supporting efforts to improve transportation in California. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact

Christina Watson of my staff at (831) 775-4406 or christina@tamcmonterey.org, or our Sacramento legislative analyst, John Arriaga, at (916) 669-1340 or jea@jeaandassociates.com.

Sincerely,



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 Debra L. Hale
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Anthony Cannella, 12th Senate District
Hon. Bill Monning, 17th Senate District
Hon. Mark Stone, 29th Assembly District

Press Releases

Alejo introduces bill to direct proceeds of sale of Prunedale Bypass right-of-way parcels to Monterey County

Created: Friday, 19 February 2016 17:16



(SACRAMENTO) — Assemblymember Luis A. Alejo (D-Salinas) introduced a bill today, AB 2730, which seeks to transfer the proceeds of the sale of the former Prunedale Bypass right-of-way parcels to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County for use on future transportation projects in Monterey County.

The transportation right-of-way intended for the U.S. Highway 101 Prunedale Bypass project encompasses 145 parcels (353 acres). It was purchased more than 15 years ago with government transportation funds. The project was never built. Local transportation agencies instead focused on safety improvements on U.S. Highway 101, which became known as the Prunedale Improvement Project.

Caltrans has authority to sell these parcels, but state law mandates the revenue be deposited into the state's General Fund.

"AB 2730 will give the revenue from the sale of these parcels to Monterey County for use on future transportation projects," Alejo said. "Our agricultural industry in the Salinas Valley, known as the Salad Bowl of the World, relies heavily on our local roads and highways to transport fresh produce to market. This extra revenue will help Monterey County maintain and expand this infrastructure that is vital to local commerce."

There is recent precedent for what AB 2730 proposes.

In 2012, SB 204 directed the proceeds from the sale of unused right-of-way parcels along the Interstate 710 corridor to a local alternative transportation improvement program in Los Angeles County.

In 2009, AB 1386 redirected proceeds from the sale of right of way parcels to Alameda County instead of the state's general fund.

"As transportation funding continues to decline, this money becomes even more essential to further address regional safety and congestion, along with supporting the economic vitality of Monterey County, most notably the agricultural and hospitality industries," said Debbie Hale, executive director of the Transportation Agency for Monterey County.

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Luis A. Alejo is chairman of the California Latino Legislative Caucus and represents the 30th District in the California State Assembly, which consists of the Salinas Valley, parts of Monterey and San Benito counties, South Santa Clara County and the city of Watsonville in Santa Cruz County.



**300 Forest Avenue
Pacific Grove, California, 93950**

March 11, 2016

Assembly Member Luis Alejo
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0030

**Re: Support for AB 2730 (Alejo): Department of Transportation: Prunedale
Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties**

Dear Assembly Member Alejo:

On behalf of the City of Pacific Grove, I write in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 2730: Department of Transportation: Prunedale Bypass: County of Monterey: disposition of excess properties (as introduced, February 19, 2016). This bill will transfer the proceeds of the sale of the former Prunedale Bypass right-of-way parcels of land to the Transportation Agency for Monterey County for use on future transportation projects in Monterey County. **The City of Pacific Grove supports this bill.**

Over many years, TAMC, the County of Monterey and Caltrans assembled the transportation funds to buy 145 parcels (353 acres) of land for the US 101 Prunedale Bypass project. The project was unable to be constructed, and TAMC and Caltrans instead focused on safety improvements on US 101, known as the Prunedale Improvement Project. Caltrans has the authority to sell the unused land, and under current law, the revenues from the sale of bypass land would go into the state general fund – not back to transportation and not back to Monterey County.

AB 2730 would require the revenues from the sale of the Prunedale Bypass parcels to come back to TAMC, to be used for other highway improvement projects in Monterey County. AB 2730 would ensure that millions of transportation dollars would come back to the local highway system for improvements that would benefit Monterey County's regional economic drivers: agriculture and tourism. This bill would help TAMC and Caltrans to make much-needed and long-deferred highway improvements.

Thank you very much for your authorship of this important bill and for supporting efforts to improve transportation in California.

Sincerely,

Bill Kampe
Mayor

cc: Hon. Bill Monning, 17th Senate District
Hon. Mark Stone, 29th Assembly District
Debra L. Hale, TAMC
Tony Madrigal, California State Assembly (tony.madrigal@asm.ca.gov)