



Staff Report

TO: City Council
FROM: Christina Taylor, Deputy City Manager
DATE: June 21, 2022
SUBJECT: **Consideration of Letters of Opposition to Assembly Bills: AB1778 (Garcia), AB2438 (Friedman), AB2237 (Friedman)**

Background and Analysis:

Assembly Member Garcia has proposed Assembly Bill 1778. A copy of the proposed legislation is included as Attachment B to this report. This bill would prohibit state funds or personnel time from being used for the funding or permitting of specified freeway projects in areas that fall within the zero to 50th percentile on the housing and environmental variables analyzed through the California Healthy Places Index. Although the City supports actions reducing pollution issues and improving mobility options, the bill would likely result in less access to and poorer quality of highway systems. This bill is opposed by the Riverside County Transportation Commission and is on the League of California Cities "watch" list. AB1778 is scheduled for Senate Transportation Committee hearing on June 28, 2022.

Assembly Member Friedman has proposed Assembly Bill 2438. This bill would require projects funded by specified state transportation funding programs to align with state climate goals. AB 2438 appears to conflict with promises the State made in the voter-affirmed SB 1, despite CAPTI affirming its intent to not change program guidelines beyond current code. This bill also fails to recognize financial commitments made to current and future projects without properly accounting for a transition period into climate-resilient planning. This bill is opposed by the Riverside County Transportation Commission and the League of California Cities opposes unless it is amended. AB2438 is scheduled for Senate Transportation Committee hearing on June 28, 2022.

Assembly Member Friedman has proposed Assembly Bill 2237. A copy of the proposed legislation is included as Attachment D to this report. This bill would require projects funded by local tax measures to align with the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI) and regional Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) and prohibit county transportation commissions from funding a project or program

determined to be inconsistent with its most recently adopted SCS or the state's climate goals by the Air Resources Board. This bill fails to realize the investments cities and counties have already made in improving transportation options and the financial commitment of cities and counties to future projects. The intent of the CAPTI is not to eliminate planned projects but rather to influence future projects. Assembly Bill 2237 is opposed by the Riverside County Transportation Commission and the League of California Cities.

Fiscal Impact:

City staff estimates it cost approximately \$250 to prepare this report.

Recommended Action:

Staff recommends City Council consider these letters of opposition and direct staff accordingly.

Attachments:

- A. Letter Opposing Assembly Bill 1778
- B. Assembly Bill 1778 text
- C. Letter Opposing Assembly Bill 2438
- D. Assembly Bill 2438 text
- E. Letter Opposing Assembly Bill 2237
- F. Assembly Bill 2237 text