



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

May 10, 2021

The Honorable Josh Becker
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3076
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 640 (Becker)—Transportation Financing: Jointly Proposed Projects

Dear Senator Becker,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support SB 640. This bill would allow local governments to jointly propose projects funded by the SB 1 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program (Program). The City has been an annual beneficiary of Program funds intended to address multimodal transportation funding shortfalls statewide.

In 2016, Long Beach voters approved Measure A, a sales tax measure generating on average over \$50 million per year to enhance City infrastructure and public safety. A Citywide Infrastructure Investment Plan (IIP) was created to coincide with Measure A to holistically consider where the City and its residents can reap the most benefits from infrastructure investment. Measure A was originally intended to sunset after 10 years; however, in March 2020, voters approved a permanent extension, which keeps Measure A in effect unless voters decide to end it.

Each year, the City receives between \$8-9 million from the State's Program, which supports repairing and resurfacing streets in Long Beach. The City's street paving program is guided by the IIP, the Pavement Management Program (PMP), coordination with other Capital Improvement Program projects, and consideration for the most efficient use of public funds. Supporting the IIP, the PMP inventories and assesses the structural integrity of every street in the City every three years and provides an evaluation to systematically manage and prioritize street paving projects based on efficiency and effectiveness. Since 2018, the Program has allowed the City to repair or resurface 33 street projects derived from the IIP and PMP, per Program requirements.

The City supports legislation to provide safe streets for everyone, in alignment with Vision Zero. In 2016, the Long Beach City Council unanimously approved the goal of Vision Zero to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries among all road users by 2026. The ability to collaborate with neighboring cities to apply for Program funds, as SB 640 proposes, will help the region attain Vision Zero goals. Given these reasons, the City supports SB 640.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", written over a white background.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Tom Umberg, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District