

CARMEL J. ANGELO  
Chief Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board



**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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March 7, 2017

The Honorable Frank Bigelow  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0005

**RE: SUPPORT FOR AB 174 (BIGELOW)**

Dear Assemblyman Bigelow:

On behalf of the residents of Mendocino County, Mendocino County Supervisors support AB 174, which would require one voting member of the California Transportation Commission to reside in a county with a population of less than 100,000.

The California Transportation Commission's mission is to be a unified voice for transportation issues in California; however all eleven members of the California Transportation Commission currently reside in a county with a population over a million. It is impossible for the Commission to meet their mission as a unified voice for transportation issues in California with this formation.

The County of Mendocino's local streets and roads are in poor condition and are facing an unmet need of \$625 million according to the statewide needs assessment. Without investment of new revenue into the system, our infrastructure will continue to decline, which will only increase the cost burden on future tax payers. Rural counties throughout California are facing similar challenges. Diverse representation on the Transportation Commission is needed to ensure infrastructure needs are addressed for all communities in California.

AB 174 will ensure the voices of small, rural California counties are heard on transportation issues. Without rural representation on the Commission, it is impossible for the Commission to meet their mission as a unified voice for transportation issues in California. Our rural roads are crumbling and polka dotted with pot holes. Shovel-ready projects to update our infrastructure keep receiving the red line. The time has come to ensure our issues have a voice and a vote.

For these reasons, the County of Mendocino support AB 174. For more information on our position, please do not hesitate to contact our Transportation Department Director who looks forward to discussing these ideas with you in more depth should you or your staff desire – contact: Howard N. Dashiell, (707)463-4363.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Sincerely,

John McCowen, Chair  
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Cc. The Honorable Jim Wood, California State Assembly  
The Honorable Mike McGuire, California State Senate  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)  
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)  
Howard N. Dashiell, Mendocino County Department of Transportation