



Department of Transportation (MCDOT)

Director's Report – August 16, 2016

- **California State Association of Counties helps found The Fix Our Roads Coalition:**

From 8-4-16 CEAC News Letter: **Can the Legislature Act in August?**



"We've heard about the possibility for a session after the election," said CSAC Legislative Representative Kiana Valentine. "But our focus is on trying to get a bill passed in August that provides the revenue needed to really start addressing the backlog of work on our transportation system and also makes some common sense reforms to the permitting process and project delivery."

Senator Jim Beall and Assemblyman Jim Frazier, the Chairs of the Transportation Committees in their respective houses, have both been working on bills that achieve most of those goals. "We know they have their own bills," said Valentine. "And we know they have been talking about legislation that merges their concepts into something they can push forward in August. While we haven't seen the actual language yet, we look forward to working with both of them and the rest of the Legislature and Administration to get something done this month. Seriously, we are falling farther and farther behind in maintaining the roads and bridges we all drive on. The longer we wait, the more it's going to cost to catch up."

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) staff have been working together with the Fix Our Roads Coalition (FOR Coalition) on a compromise transportation funding package that brings together two transportation funding bills: Senator Jim Beall's bill; Senate Bill X1 1 (Transportation Funding: environmental mitigation: oversight) and Assembly Member Jim Frazier's bill; Assembly Bill 1591 (Transportation Funding).

CSAC staff remains cautiously optimistic about getting a transportation funding bill approved this year. However, there are still challenges over raising taxes, registration fees, and prioritizing where to spend the additional funds. The FOR Coalition is trying to direct at least half of the revenues to the local road system (Cities and Counties). More information about the FOR Coalition can be found at: <http://fixcaroads.com/newsroom/>

CSAC Lobby Day on May 18, 2016, was attended by several Mendocino County officials, including 1st District Supervisor Carre Brown, Chief Executive Officer Carmel J. Angelo, and MCDOT Director Howard Dashiell. The focus of the event was on two key infrastructure issues – transportation funding and storm water funding.

- **County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) 2016 Northern Section Conference:** The MCDOT Director attended this year's Northern California Area County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) Conference. This was an excellent opportunity to meet with and discuss common issues with other County Engineers. The opportunity to interact with other Transportation professionals from both public and private sectors was very beneficial.

- **Upcoming Vacation for MCDOT Director:** The MCDOT Director wanted to let the Board know that he will be on vacation from August 18, 2016, through August 22, 2016.