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675 Texas Street, Suite 6500
Fairfield, California 94533-6342
<http://www.co.solano.ca.us>

June 23, 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Solano County is strongly opposed to the State's proposal to take \$1.7 billion in Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) funding, commonly known as the gas tax, from the counties and cities of California. This is the core source of funding for maintaining local roads throughout the state. For Solano County, it would mean the loss of \$9.4 million in road maintenance funding, which would put an end to all but the most critical road maintenance activities needed to protect public safety for the next two years.

Loss of gas tax funding would have a devastating affect on the Solano County road system. Our road system is already fragile, as road maintenance has been underfunded for years. Despite that, with the help of Proposition 1B bond funds and Federal stimulus funds, we have kept our County roads in reasonable condition. However, Prop 1B and stimulus funds can not be used for the road maintenance work that HUTA funding pays for. If road maintenance work ends, our road system will deteriorate rapidly.

Particularly troubling is the fact that studies have shown that each dollar spent in preventive road maintenance saves five dollars in future major repair work if the road is allowed to deteriorate. So this action by the state could end up costing the taxpayers of Solano County over \$45 million in the future.

Also, taking of the local HUTA funding would be a dramatic reversal of the priority the state has given in recent years to public infrastructure throughout California. The public strongly supports not just maintaining but actually improving infrastructure, as shown by the overwhelming approval of the Proposition 1B bond funding measure. If we allow our roads to deteriorate, we will be putting the lives of the public at risk. We will also be much less able to respond to emergencies, such as the periodic flooding we face, again jeopardizing public safety. In addition, there will be economic impacts for years to come. Cutting a program that is important for the future economic growth of California just doesn't make sense.

In addition to the practical issues, Solano County believes that the proposal to take local gas tax funding is unconstitutional, and contradicts previous propositions passed by the people of the State of California specifically to protect local gas tax funding.

I urge you to not support the proposal to take the HUTA funds from the counties and cities of California.

Sincerely,


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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Lois Wolk
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

Dear Senator Wolk:

Solano County is strongly opposed to the State's proposal to take \$1.7 billion in Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) funding, commonly known as the gas tax, from the counties and cities of California. This is the core source of funding for maintaining local roads throughout the state. For Solano County, it would mean the loss of \$9.4 million in road maintenance funding, which would put an end to all but the most critical road maintenance activities needed to protect public safety for the next two years.

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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Pat Wiggins
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

Dear Senator Wiggins:

Solano County is strongly opposed to the State's proposal to take \$1.7 billion in Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) funding, commonly known as the gas tax, from the counties and cities of California. This is the core source of funding for maintaining local roads throughout the state. For Solano County, it would mean the loss of \$9.4 million in road maintenance funding, which would put an end to all but the most critical road maintenance activities needed to protect public safety for the next two years.

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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Noreen Evans
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

Dear Assemblywoman Evans:

Solano County is strongly opposed to the State's proposal to take \$1.7 billion in Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) funding, commonly known as the gas tax, from the counties and cities of California. This is the core source of funding for maintaining local roads throughout the state. For Solano County, it would mean the loss of \$9.4 million in road maintenance funding, which would put an end to all but the most critical road maintenance activities needed to protect public safety for the next two years.

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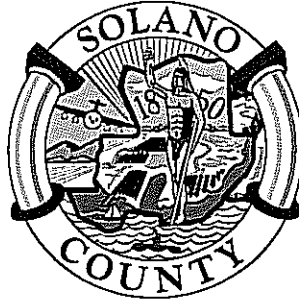
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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Mariko Yamada
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

Dear Assemblymember Yamada:

Solano County is strongly opposed to the State's proposal to take \$1.7 billion in Highway Users Tax Account (HUTA) funding, commonly known as the gas tax, from the counties and cities of California. This is the core source of funding for maintaining local roads throughout the state. For Solano County, it would mean the loss of \$9.4 million in road maintenance funding, which would put an end to all but the most critical road maintenance activities needed to protect public safety for the next two years.

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June 23, 2009

The Honorable Members of the California State Senate
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

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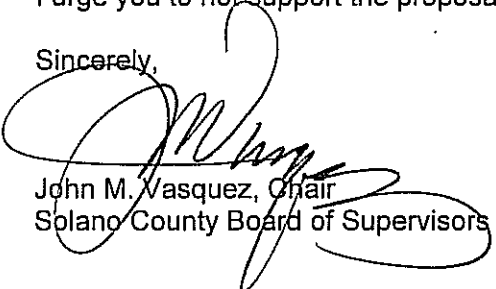
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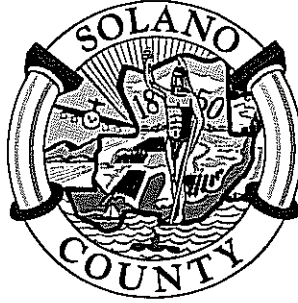
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The Honorable Members of the California State Assembly
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to State Proposal to Take Local Gas Tax Funds

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