



July 19, 2017  
NVTA Agenda Item 11.4  
Continued From: NEW  
**Action Requested: APPROVE**

## NAPA VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY Board Agenda Letter

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**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM** Kate Miller, Executive Director  
**REPORT BY:** Kate Miller, Executive Director  
(707) 259-8634 | [kmiller@nvta.ca.gov](mailto:kmiller@nvta.ca.gov)  
**SUBJECT:** Regional Measure 3 (RM3) Program Revised Priorities

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA) Board approve the addition of the Soscol Junction project and approve the revised NVTA Regional Measure 3 program (Attachment 1).

### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

None

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Senate Bill 595 (SB 595) (Beall) is the legislative vehicle for increasing the tolls on the Bay Area state-owned bridges to fund transportation projects. If the bill passes, Regional Measure 3 (RM3) will be placed on the ballot in all nine Bay Area counties in 2018. The initial program developed by NVTA staff and approved by the Board at its March 2017 retreat included \$36 million in multi-modal improvements on State Route 221 (SR 221) and State Route 29 (SR 29) (Attachment 1). The NVTA RM3 program also supported State Route 37 (SR 37), Vallejo Ferry operating funds, a clean bus and transit technology program without any specific funding amounts.

At this writing, SB 595 is in the Assembly Transportation Committee and a hearing has been scheduled for the week of July 9<sup>th</sup>. Our state legislators reached out to NVTA Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Commissioner, Alfredo Pedroza and NVTA staff to refine the program and to bring it more in line with recent developments in the legislature. These discussions culminated in a letter to Senator Dodd (Attachment 2) adding the Soscol Junction project to NVTA's list of priorities. The RM3 program revision will be presented to the NVTA Board for approval at its July 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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**PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Staff Report
2. Public Comment
3. Motion, Second, Discussion and Vote

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No.

**CEQA REQUIREMENTS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:** The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

On December 14, 2016 MTC held its annual Commission Workshop, which included a Regional Measure 3 discussion. Regional Measure 3 is a proposed bridge toll increase on Bay Area Toll Bridges that would be placed on the ballot in 2018 and include all 9 Bay Area counties.

Legislation (SB 595-Beall) was introduced this year to raise tolls by \$1-3 on the 7 state-owned Bay Area bridges which if passed, Regional Measure 3 will be placed on the ballot in 2018 for voter approval. MTC/BATA (Bay Area Toll Authority) has successfully passed two previous regional measures which combined have raised roughly \$3 billion for critical infrastructure projects; Regional Measure 1 in 1998 and Regional Measure 2 in 2004. The former raised \$2.4 billion for bridge and highway improvements and the latter \$1.5 billion for primarily transit projects that relieved congestion in the bridge corridors.

A \$1 toll would generate \$127 million annually and is projected to generate \$1.7 billion based on a 25-year bond. A \$2 toll would generate \$254 million annually and is projected to generate \$3.3 billion based on a 25-year bond. A \$3 toll would generate \$381 million annually and is projected to generate \$5 billion based on a 25-year bond.

Napa residents pay roughly 2% of the tolls and are 2% of the region's voters.

NVTA staff is recommending that the NVTA board approve the addition of the Soscol Junction project and approve the revised NVTA Regional Measure 3 program (Attachment 1). The projects respond to the criteria laid out in MTC's draft principles and would make considerable improvements to Napa's most congested corridors: SR 29, and SR 221.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- Attachment(s): (1) Revised Regional Measure 3 Priority List  
(2) July 5, 2017 Letter to Senator Dodd/Revised Regional Measure 3 Priority List  
(3) July 6, 2017 Letter to Assemblyman Jim Frazier SB595 (Beall) Toll Bridge Revenue Support

## Revised Regional Measure 3 Program

### NVTA Project Priorities

Project Title	Project Description	Project Cost
Soscol Junction	Build new interchange at SR 29 and SR 221 (Soscol)	\$35 million
SR 29/SR 221 Multi-Modal Improvements	SR 29 and SR 221 multi-modal operational improvements including multiple intersection upgrades, signals, sidewalks and bicycle facilities, and express bus facilities.	\$36 million

### Multi-County/Regional Priorities

Project Title	Project Description	Project Cost
SR 37 Upgrades	Capital investments to reduce sea-level rise and congestion on SR 37.	No Specific Request
Vallejo Ferry Operations	Increase service frequency	No Specific Request
Transit Clean Vehicle Program	Vehicles, Fueling Infrastructure	No Specific Request
Transit Technology Program	Improve communications, predictability to encourage transit ridership	No Specific Request



July 5, 2017

Senator Bill Dodd  
Senate District 3  
State Capitol, Room 5064  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 595 (Beall)/Regional Measure 3 Priorities

Dear Senator Dodd:

Thank you for reaching out to the Napa Valley Transportation Authority on its Regional Measure 3 Priorities. As you are aware, SR 29 and SR 221 are both severely congested. The projects listed below would greatly relieve congestion on these heavily traveled corridors, reduce congestion on Bay Area Bridges and support Napa's thriving economy. The projects would improve bicycle and pedestrian safety and connectivity and enhance Express Bus operations reducing congestion on several Bay Area Bridges.

Project Title	Project Description	Project Cost
Soscol Junction	Build new interchange at SR 29 and SR 221 (Soscol)	\$35 million
SR 29/SR 221 Multi-Modal Improvements	SR 29 and SR 221 multi-modal operational improvements including multiple intersection upgrades, signals, sidewalks and bicycle facilities, and express bus facilities.	\$36 million

On behalf of the NVTA board and its constituents, thank you for your commitment to improving Napa's transportation systems.

Sincerely,

Kate Miller  
Executive Director

cc: Assemblywoman Cecilia Aguiar-Curry  
NVTA Board  
Steve Heminger/ MTC



July 6, 2017

Assemblyman Jim Frazier, Chair  
Assembly Committee on Transportation  
State Capitol, Room 3091  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 595 (Beall): Toll Bridge Revenue – **SUPPORT**  
**Assembly Committee on Transportation – July 10, 2017**

Dear Assemblyman Frazier:

On behalf of the Napa Valley Transportation Authority (NVTA), I urge your support for SB 595 by Senator Jim Beall. This measure would place a measure on the ballot in each of the nine Bay Area counties seeking voter support to increase bridge tolls in order to fund congestion relief projects and programs.

NVTA administers Napa County's local transportation sales tax program, which provides funds for the maintenance and rehabilitation of local streets and roads. The NVTA also oversees countywide transportation planning and operation of Vine Transit, which provides public transit service throughout Napa County, as well as connections to ferry service and BART.

In Napa County both SR 29 and SR 221 are both severely congested. Investing toll revenue on these state highways would not only relieve congestion on these heavily traveled corridors that provide access and relieve congestion on Bay Area bridges, but would also benefit economic activity in Napa County. These infrastructure investments include building a new interchange at SR 29 and SR 221, as well as multi-modal operational improvements such as signal upgrades, sidewalks and bicycle facilities. This would also benefit the expansion of express bus service and facilities, and improve feeder bus service to the ferry system and BART. NVTA also supports improvements to SR 37 which is a multi-agency effort of the four North Bay counties.

While a specific expenditure plan for new toll revenue is not yet included in the bill, NVTA urges your support for it so that negotiations can continue. With traffic congestion and transit overcrowding in bridge corridors reaching record levels, enactment of the bill in 2017 is critical so that voters have a chance to approve funding for new mobility improvements in 2018. Therefore, on behalf of the NVTA, I urge your support for SB 595 (Beall).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kate Miller", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Kate Miller  
Executive Director

Cc: Members and Consultant to the Assembly Committee on Transportation  
Senator Jim Beall  
NVTA Legislative Delegation  
NVTA Board of Directors