

**Threat**

- The 2012 Needs Assessment shows a steady downward trend in pavement condition. In 10 years, under existing funding levels, a quarter of the streets and roads in California will be in “failed” condition.
- A majority of California’s counties have an average pavement condition rating that is considered at risk.
- If additional funding isn’t secured, pavement conditions will continue to deteriorate and cost taxpayers nearly twice as much to fix down the line.
- Local streets and roads hold the state’s entire transportation network together. We must find new sources of funding to invest in our infrastructure, or face the economic consequences of falling behind.

Financial Cost

- California communities have a choice: We can either pay to fix and maintain our streets and roads today, or pay much more in the future to replace them.
- More than twice the current funding level is needed just to maintain current pavement conditions – which are below standard in a majority of California counties.
- To spend the taxpayer’s money cost-effectively, it just makes sense to preserve and maintain our roads and bridges in good condition rather than let them deteriorate and then pay more to fix them.
- Roads and bridges are like cars or houses. If you don’t take care of them with regular maintenance and repairs, you’ll either have to spend more money to fix big problems, or buy a new one.

Public Safety

- From the moment we open our front door to drive to work, bike to school, or walk to the bus station, people are dependent upon safe, reliable local streets and roads.
- Police, fire and emergency medical services all need safe reliable roads to react quickly to calls. A few minutes delay can be a matter of life and death.
- Reliable local streets and roads increase the safety and livability of our communities, and are important whether you’re young or old, on foot or in a car, riding a bicycle, using a wheelchair or on the bus.
- Repairs to local roadways are more than just fixing potholes; they include improvements for sidewalks, stormwater control, gutters, curb ramps, traffic signs and medians, all of which make our roads safer.

Job Creation

- Modernizing local streets and roads will create well-paying construction jobs and boost local economies.
- California needs economic growth and jobs right now, and restoring our deteriorating transportation infrastructure will foster both.

Environment

- Modernizing local streets and roads will reduce drive time and traffic congestion, improve bicycle safety, and make the pedestrian experience more appealing - all of which lead to reduced vehicle emissions.
- Cars sustain less damage and use less fuel on well-maintained streets.

- Restoring roads before they fail will reduce construction time, so there will be less air pollution from heavy equipment and less water pollution from site run-off.

Solutions

- Californians must work together to find ways to fund our local streets and roads, and push the state and local governments to establish sustainable transportation revenues.
- A significant portion of new revenues should be focused on preservation of our existing roads network. Once the system is in a state of good repair, the need for maintenance will be reduced.
- Everyone who benefits from local streets and roads - including personal and commercial vehicles, transit, bicyclists, and pedestrians - should bear the cost of restoring them.