**State Elected/Transportation Stakeholder**

The recently released 2014 California Statewide Local Streets & Roads Needs Assessment is another reminder that we can’t delay investing in our local system now. California’s local roads are deteriorating at a rapid rate, putting users and our entire transportation system at risk. State and local governments must dedicate resources to repairs and maintenance now, or face much more expensive replacement costs later, jeopardizing California’s fragile economy. There’s been a steady deterioration in pavement condition since the initial 2008 analysis and we’re facing the fact that if additional money isn’t put towards this priority, 25 percent of California’s streets and roads will be in failed condition by 2024. We need to double the current funding level just to maintain the status quo, and pavement conditions in a majority of California counties are already below standard. Californians will need to work together to find new sources of revenue to fix our failing roads, and in doing so we will protect taxpayer investment, create new jobs, reduce pollution, and save money in the long-term. Most importantly, we’ll keep our streets and roads safe for California families, businesses, and law enforcement. We simply cannot afford to ignore this problem.

**Local Elected or Transportation Stakeholder**

The 2014 California Statewide Local Streets & Roads Assessment is a wakeup call for XXX County/the City of XXX. The report shows a clear choice; we can either pay to fix and maintain our streets and roads now, 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/cities (including XXX (if applicable). When making this choice, we must also consider public safety. From the moment we step out our front door to drive to work, bike to school, or walk to the bus station, we are dependent upon local roadways. Police, fire and emergency medical services all need safe reliable roads to react quickly. 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. All Californians must work together to find ways to fund our local streets and roads, and push state and local governments to establish sustainable transportation revenues. It will make our community, and all of California, a better place to live.

**Resident**

The new report that shows the poor condition of California’s local streets and roads hits home, here in XXX County/City of XXX. The reality is that almost every activity in my family’s/my daily life depends on our local streets, whether driving to work, walking to the store, or my kid’s bike ride to school. The deteriorating road conditions put our safety at risk, cause great wear and tear on our cars and waste precious public resources. Consider the bottom line — if we don’t deal with the backlog of repair and maintenance now, it’s going to cost twice as much to fix down the line. It just makes sense to protect an investment that taxpayers have already made, and keep our local streets and roads in good shape now so we don’t pay for our negligence later.

**Cyclist**

As someone who uses my bicycle more than my car, I was interested in the new pavement assessment of California’s local streets and roads. More than once I’ve nearly gone head over handlebars trying to dodge a pothole — or a car that was swerving to avoid one. Everyone who uses our local streets should be concerned about their growing disrepair, along with the bridges, sidewalks and curbs and gutters that are part of the local road network. If we use them – and just about everyone in the community does - we should be willing to pay for their upkeep. Reliable, well-maintained local streets and roads increase the safety and livability of our neighborhoods, 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. According to the data in the report, we have a choice to either pay now or pay more later when conditions have deteriorated even further. If it’s between a smooth, safe ride or a bone-rattling obstacle course, the choice is clear: fix our roads now, save money, and get home in one piece.

**Environmentalist**

California has long lead the nation environmentally with our commitment to reducing vehicle emissions, buying alternative fuel vehicles, recycling materials and promoting biking, walking and mass transit. Our future is also dependent on centering new development in our existing urban cores instead of spreading out into open spaces. However, to make our high density areas work we need safe and complete streets. The problem is that California’s local roadways are in terrible shape. The recently released 2014 California Local Streets & Roads Needs Assessment provides an alarming warning — on a scale of zero (failed) to 100 (excellent), California’s local streets and roads only rank 66, which is considered “at risk”. If our leaders are truly dedicated to sustainability there needs to be much greater investment in our local streets and roads as they provide the right-of-way for alternative modes of transportation and mass transit. Do nothing now and the costs will only rise for municipal budgets and the environment.

**Business Person**

I’m a small business owner in the City of XXX and rely on (name street) and beyond each and every day to reach my customers/clients. Without this street and all our local streets and roads being in good condition, I can’t reach the vendors who supply the products I sell or reach my customers with their orders. California’s economic recovery depends on a well-functioning street and road system and that’s why I was so alarmed when I read the results of the 2014 California Local Streets & Roads Needs Assessment. On a scale of zero (failed) to 100 (excellent), California’s local roadways only rank 66, which is considered “at risk”. Our leaders who talk so much about job creation and supporting business must commit to investing in the backbone of our local and state economies — our local streets and roads. Let’s keep California’s economy growing and safely moving.