**CITY/COUNTY LOGO**

DATE: Contact:

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**New Study Finds Majority of California’s Local Streets and Roads Are “At Risk”**

*Roads in city/county are Better/Worse than Statewide Average*

*Costs will rise if repair and maintenance are further delayed*

CITY/COUNTY NAME— The results of the biennial California Statewide Local Streets and Roads Needs Assessment are alarming. Released on Oct. 25, the new analysis confirms that pavement conditions around the state are continuing to decline and that existing revenue doesn’t provide enough funding to properly fix and maintain streets, roads, bridges, traffic signs and storm drains. The research shows that costs could double if repairs and maintenance are delayed much longer. California cities and counties own and operate more than 81 percent of the state’s road system and this new report projects that within a decade, one-quarter of local streets and roads will have poor pavement condition. To download a copy of the report, please visit [www.savecaliforniastreets.org](file:///C:\Users\kiana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\CF9DIQIR\www.savecaliforniastreets.org).

Localize here:

If condition is better: The city/county is fortunate because currently our pavement condition ranks higher than the state average, however we are not entirely out of the woods. Local streets and roads in city/county will still require significantly increased funding levels just to maintain the status quo and keep roads from falling into disrepair. When pavement deteriorates quickly, construction costs continue to rise, meaning taxpayers will have to pay more to repair or replace local streets and roads in the future.

If condition is worse or similar: (City/County) is not alone. In 52 of California’s 58 counties, the average condition of streets and roads is considered either “at risk” or “poor”. This poses serious safety hazards for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians, and it means if we don’t act quickly to fix these roads, they will deteriorate more and cost more to fix in the long run.

LOCAL QUOTE: “Current funding is not enough to ensure that our streets and roads are safe and reliable. This is the system that carries our families to school and work and transports the goods that underlie California’s economy,” said XXXX. “If we don’t deal with the problem now, costs to maintain our local system will increase while the safety, quality and reliability of (XXX City’s/County’s) roads will decline. I am urging the Governor, our state legislature, and specifically, our local legislative delegation including Assembly Member XXXX and Senator XXXX, to act quickly to address the transportation funding shortfall. And I note that the Legislature’s special session on transportation issues is in effect through November.”

The report is a collaboration between the California State Association of Counties, the League of California Cities, the County Engineers Association of California, and the state’s regional transportation planning agencies. Produced every other year since 2008, the 2016 report captured data from more than 99 percent of the state’s local streets and roads. The report shows that California’s local streets and road conditions continue to decline, moving us closer to the edge of a cliff.

Using a scale of zero (fail) to 100 (excellent) to rate pavement condition, the report notes that Conditions have deteriorated since the first survey eight years ago when the statewide average was 68. By 2014 it had dropped to 66. Now the average pavement condition has declined to 65, falling another full percentage point in just two years.

In the next 10 years, it is estimated that the local system will have a $70 billion funding shortfall. Existing funding for California’s local streets and roads is $1.9 billion annually but $3.5 billion is needed just to maintain the current statewide average rating of 65. Moreover, it would take $7 billion annually to bring the state’s local streets and roads into a safe and reliable condition, to address critical bridge repairs, and to maintain essential components such as sidewalks and storm drains.

To download a copy of the report, please visit [www.savecaliforniastreets.org](file:///C:\Users\kiana\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\CF9DIQIR\www.savecaliforniastreets.org). For more information on the full report, please contact Rony Berdugo, League of California Cities (916-658-8283) or Kiana Valentine, California State Association of Counties (916-327-7500 x566).

###