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Transportation Bills Introduced in Both Houses of Legislature on First Day of 2017-18 Session

Sen. Jim Beall (D-San Jose) and Assembly Member Jim Frazier (D-Oakley) each announced their own transportation reform and funding proposals early this morning as the first order of business under SB 1 and AB 1, respectively. These proposals represent a continued effort by the Assembly and Senate to address the \$73 billion unmet funding need for local streets and roads and \$59 billion backlog to the state's transportation infrastructure.

The bills are not yet formally in print. The League will be preparing a more comprehensive analysis of the proposal to be distributed in the next few days. The analysis will include preliminary estimates of the revenues that cities could receive under the proposal per each of the author's estimates.

[The Fix Our Roads Coalition](#), of which the League is a founding member, issued the following statement Monday afternoon.

Fix Our Roads Coalition Applauds Senator Beall and Assembly Member Frazier for Continued Commitment to Transportation Funding

"The Fix Our Roads Coalition appreciates Senator Beall's and Assembly Member Frazier's continued commitment to finding a funding and reform solution for California's transportation crisis. The bills introduced today — along with the Governor's and Legislative Leadership's expressed commitment to "finally get this done" — provide a starting point for serious negotiations early in 2017 around a final transportation funding/reform package.

"While the 2016 Legislature failed to pass a funding/reform package, we are hopeful a deal for a long-term transportation package will come together soon in the new legislative session and that 2017 will be the year the Legislature finally gets the job done.

"There is no question the state's transportation system is declining. With little funding for maintenance of our roads and bridges our state highway system has a backlog of \$59 billion, and local streets and roads has a backlog of \$73 billion. The longer we wait to fix small road problems, the bigger and more expensive they become.

"According to an August 2016 report from the National Transportation Research Group (TRIP), an inadequate transportation system costs California motorists a total of \$53.6 billion every year in the form of additional vehicle operating costs (VOC), congestion-related delays and traffic crashes. TRIP calculates that as an average cost of \$2,826 per driver in California.

"We remain committed to working with all legislators and the Administration to pass a transportation funding package in 2017."