



COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

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April 24, 2018

The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes
Member, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5164
Sacramento CA 95814

**RE: AB 162 (Cervantes) – Continuous Access Carpool Lanes in Riverside County
As amended 4/9/2018 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Cervantes:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of AB 162, your measure that would require high-occupancy vehicle (HOV or carpool) lanes in the County of Riverside allow for continuous access.

As you are aware, HOV lanes are configured differently in Northern and Southern California. In the north part of the state, HOV lanes are marked by continuous broken white lines, which permits vehicles to move in and out of those lanes at any point. In Southern California, however, HOV lanes offer more limited access in that there are designated entry and exit points; the length of the lane in between those points is marked by solid, double yellow lines. Drivers who enter and exit the limited access HOV lanes outside of the designated points are subject to considerable fines.

AB 162 would specify that in the County of Riverside all HOV lanes – except for existing HOV toll lanes – shall be continuous access. The measure contemplates that double parallel solid lines would be removed, thereby allowing vehicles to enter and exit the carpool lane at any point. This policy change is supported by research that has shown that limited access HOV lanes are associated with negative safety outcomes as measured by various collision metrics. Further, a UC Riverside study showed that, given the restrictions on traffic flow, limited HOV lane access produces increased vehicle exhaust emissions as compared to continuous access HOV lanes.

For these reasons, the County of Riverside is pleased to support AB 162. If you have any questions about the County's position, please do not hesitate to contact our Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande, at (951) 955-1110, bnestande@rivco.org.

Sincerely,



Chuck Washington
Chair, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Riverside County Delegation