



AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Meeting Date: March 3, 2015

Agenda Item 8B
Approvals:
City Manager jm
Dept. Head _____
Attorney _____
Finance _____

Department: City Manager
Prepared By: James Makshanoff, City Manager

Subject: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of San Clemente opposing implementation of toll lanes on Orange County freeways

Fiscal Impact: None.

Summary: The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) in association with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the cities adjacent to the 405 Freeway Corridor between the SR-73 and 605 freeways, has been working on the 405 Freeway Improvement Project. There continues to be strong push to implement High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes by converting existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to HOT Lanes requiring the paying of tolls to use previously non-toll lanes.

Background: A growing number of cities throughout Orange County have opposed the addition of toll lanes on Orange County's highways. Many governing bodies of these cities have adopted a Resolution opposing any new toll lanes in the conversion of existing freeway facilities. The cities of Fountain Valley, Huntington Beach and Seal Beach are just a few examples. The opposition to the toll lanes centers around the responsible actions by government to consider the social, economic, and political implications to construct the greatest transportation improvements that best utilize taxpayer funds without requiring motorists to pay tolls to use portions of the improvements constructed.

Discussion: Orange County has numerous toll roads already in operation to serve as an alternative route for commuters who choose to pay to use them. These toll roads include the 73, 133, 241 and 261 which are operated by the Transportation Corridor Agencies. Any proposal to convert existing lanes to toll lanes have the following conditions:

1. If toll lanes are approved that Orange County maintains local control over the tolls collected
2. That new toll lanes have continual access of lanes
3. Every effort should be made to keep current 2+ HOV lanes free.

Recommended

Action: The City Manager recommends that the City Council:

1. Adopt the Resolution opposing toll lanes on the 405 freeway and all new toll lanes on other Orange County Freeways.

Attachments: Resolution

Notification: Orange County Transportation Authority
State of California Department of Transportation

RESOLUTION NO. ____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE,
CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING IMPLEMENTATION OF TOLL
LANES ON THE 405 AND ALL OTHER ORANGE COUNTY FREEWAYS
WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ENTIRE ORANGE COUNTY ELECTORATE**

WHEREAS, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) in association with the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the cities adjacent to the 405 Freeway Corridor between the SR- 73 and 605 freeways, has been working on the 405 Freeway Improvement Project; and,

WHEREAS, there continues to be a strong push to implement High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes by converting existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes to HOT Lanes requiring the paying of tolls to use previously non-toll lanes; and,

WHEREAS, toll lanes only increase vehicle throughput in the Express toll lanes at the expense of vehicle capacity in the general purpose or mixed flow lanes; and,

WHEREAS, any construction of new toll lanes or conversion of existing freeway lanes to toll lanes should be required to be placed on a ballot to allow the voters of Orange County to voice their opinion regarding toll lanes; and,

WHEREAS, the City agrees with OCTA that this is possibly the only chance in decades to improve the 405 corridor between the SR-73 and the 605, and because of this is a rare opportunity, the City believes the socially, economically, and politically responsible action is to construct the greatest transportation improvements that best utilize taxpayer funds without requiring motorists to pay tolls to use portions of the improvements constructed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of San Clemente, California, that:

SECTION 1. The City of San Clemente opposes any new toll lanes on Orange County highways.

SECTION 2: Any proposal to add new toll lanes on Orange County highways should be placed before the entire Orange County electorate for a vote.

SECTION 3: If toll lanes are approved that Orange County maintains local control over the tolls collected

SECTION 4: That new toll lanes have continual access of lanes

SECTION 5: Every effort should be made to keep current 2+ HOV lanes free.

SECTION 6: A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the Orange County Transportation Authority and the State of California Department of Transportation.

SECTION 7. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of March, 2015.

Mayor of the City of
San Clemente, California

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK of the City of
San Clemente, California

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF ORANGE) §
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE)

I, JOANNE BAADE, City Clerk of the City of San Clemente, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. _____ was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of San Clemente held on the ____ day of March, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Clemente, California, this ____ day of _____, 2015.

CITY CLERK of the City of
San Clemente, California

Approved as to form:

City Attorney