

Date of Hearing: April 9, 2018

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

AB 2473 (Bonta) – As Amended March 22, 2018

**SUBJECT:** State Highway Route 185: relinquishment: City of San Leandro

**SUMMARY:** Authorizes the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to relinquish to the City of San Leandro all or any portion of State Route (SR) 185 within its city limits. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Authorizes CTC to relinquish to the City of San Leandro all or any portion of SR 185 within its city limits, upon terms and conditions CTC finds to be in the best interest of the state.
- 2) Provides that the relinquishment will become effective immediately following recordation of the relinquishment resolution.
- 3) Specifies that following the effective date of relinquishment, the relinquished segment will no longer be state highways and may not be considered for future adoption as state highways.
- 4) Requires the City of San Leandro to maintain signage directing motorists to the continuation of SR 185.

**EXISTING LAW:**

- 1) Defines a "state highway" as any roadway that is acquired, laid out, constructed, improved, or maintained as a state highway pursuant to constitutional or legislative authorization.
- 2) Statutorily identifies state highway system routes.
- 3) Specifies that it is the intent of the Legislature that the prescribed routes of the state highway system connect communities and regions of the state and that they serve the state's economy by connecting centers of commerce, industry, agriculture, mineral wealth, and recreation.
- 4) Provides for a two-step state highway relinquishment process allowing for the deletion of sections of the state highway system beginning with the Legislature amending existing law to allow for the state highway segment to be deleted and culminating with the CTC making a finding that it is in the best interest of the state to delete a specified portion of roadway from the system.
- 5) Authorizes CTC to relinquish to the City of Hayward or Alameda County all or any portion of SR 185 within the city limit of Hayward or within the unincorporated area of Alameda County, as applicable, upon terms and conditions CTC finds to be in the best interest of the state.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** None, this bill is keyed non-fiscal by the Legislative Counsel.

**COMMENTS:** Each session, numerous bills authorizing CTC to relinquish segments of the state highway to local jurisdictions are passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. Relinquishment transactions are generally preceded by a negotiation of terms and conditions between the local jurisdiction and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Once an agreement has been established, the Legislature authorizes CTC to relinquish the segment and CTC then approves the relinquishment and verifies its approval via resolution. The final step is for the Legislature to delete these segments from current law.

This bill is consistent with Caltrans' policy encouraging the relinquishment of state highways that do not serve regional or statewide transportation needs. Recipient agencies often seek relinquishment of state highways so that they can have greater control over the facility, which often serves as a local street.

SR 185 is a 10.5-mile long primary arterial that runs through the cities of Hayward, San Leandro, and the eastern portion of Oakland. It includes sections of Mission Boulevard in Hayward, East 14th Street in San Leandro, and International Boulevard in Oakland. Portions of SR 185 were relinquished to the City of Hayward in 2010.

According to the author, this bill is necessary to ensure the regular upkeep of a vital thoroughfare in San Leandro and Alameda County. Relinquishing control of this section of SR 185 once it has been restored to a condition of good repair will enable the City of San Leandro to ensure much-needed safety improvements are made, such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities, pavement maintenance, signage, and other streetscape improvements. The City of San Leandro is committed to the future maintenance of this route. However, without pavement repairs and official relinquishment, residents' concerns will continue to go unaddressed.

*Previous legislation:* AB 333 (Quirk), Chapter 339, Statutes of 2017, relinquished portions of SR 185 to Alameda County.

SB 491 (Committee on Transportation and Housing), Chapter 451, Statutes of 2015, restored CTC's authority to relinquish segments of SRs 92, 185, and 238 to the City of Hayward, if Caltrans and the city reach an agreement. These provisions were identical to the provisions of prior legislation granting CTC relinquishment authority for these route segments by AB 1386 (Hayashi), Chapter 291, Statutes of 2009, which was inadvertently removed by the 2012 Transportation Omnibus Bill, AB 2679 (Committee on Transportation), Chapter 769, Statutes of 2012.

## **REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

### **Support**

City of San Leandro

### **Opposition**

None on file

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