

Date of Hearing: August 29, 2016

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

SJR 24 (Beall) – As Introduced August 2, 2016

**SENATE VOTE:** 38-0

**SUBJECT:** Federal transportation funding

**SUMMARY:** Urges Congress and the President to fully fund the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program and to work together to find a long-term, sustainable funding solution for transportation. Specifically, **this resolution:**

- 1) Makes findings and declarations regarding the degraded condition of the state's transportation infrastructure, the economic importance of California's goods movement system, and the benefits to be realized from an expanded public transportation system.
- 2) Commends Congress and the President of the United States for enacting the federal Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act) to provide stability and reliability in federal transportation funding over the next five years.
- 3) Urges Congress and the President to fully fund the TIGER program at a level of \$525 million in 2017 to provide additional critical transportation investments.
- 4) Urges Congress and the President to find a long-term, sustainable funding solution to restore the lost purchasing power of the federal fuel excise tax.

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

**COMMENTS:** The highly competitive federal TIGER grant program supports innovative projects, which are difficult to fund through traditional federal programs. Since 2009, the TIGER grant program has provided a combined \$5.1 billion to 421 projects in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and tribal communities. These federal funds leverage money from private sector partners, states, local governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and transit agencies.

Demand for the 2016 TIGER grant program continued to far exceed available funds. To illustrate, the United State Department of Transportation (Department) received 585 eligible applications from all 50 states, and several U.S. territories, tribal communities, cities, and towns throughout the United States, collectively requesting over \$9.3 billion in funding. During the previous seven rounds, the Department received more than 7,300 applications requesting more than \$143 billion for transportation projects.

The TIGER program is slated to be funded at the \$525 million level for Fiscal Year 2017. This resolution encourages Congress and the President to follow through with this commitment and also to find a long-term, sustainable funding solution to the nation's under-funded transportation infrastructure system.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Janet Dawson / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093