

Date of Hearing: August 29, 2024

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Lori D. Wilson, Chair

SCR 13 (Roth) – As Amended August 8, 2024

SENATE VOTE: 33-0

SUBJECT: Joseph Tavaglione Memorial Interchange

SUMMARY: Designates the State Route 60, 215/91, 215 Separation (Bridge Number 56-0402) where State Highway Routes 60 and 91 meet Interstate 215 in the County of Riverside as the Joseph Tavaglione Memorial Interchange. The measure would request the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

EXISTING LAW: Assigns Caltrans the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways. This includes the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown, but the measure requests that Caltrans determine the cost of appropriate signage consistent with requirements for the state highway system, and only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: Joseph Tavaglione was born on July 14, 1923 and was three years of age when his family moved to the City of Riverside in 1927.

Joseph Tavaglione began his construction career working for a major lumber firm then had a spectacular career as a local residential developer overseeing the construction of thousands of military base housing units on the west coast. He started his family business, Tavaglione Construction and Development Inc. in 1960 in the City of Riverside-with his younger brother, Louie Tavaglione.

Throughout his career of more than 60 years in the construction field, Joseph Tavaglione's firm has built throughout the United States, primarily specializing in freestanding retail sit-down restaurants, fast food restaurants, and over 1,000 7-11 convenience stores and gas stations.

Joseph Tavaglione was the longest serving member in the history of the California Transportation Commission (CTC) and was appointed to CTC in October of 2002 by Governor Gray Davis. He was reappointed to CTC by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005 and 2009, Governor Jerry Brown in 2013 and 2017, and Governor Gavin Newsom in 2021. He was honored to serve as chair of CTC and resigned from his seat on CTC on July 1, 2024, after over 21 years of distinguished service.

Joseph Tavaglione was a past chair of the California Contractors' State License Board, where he served two terms. He previously served as the President of the National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies. He served two four-year terms on the City of Riverside's Board of Public Utilities and as a member of the City of Riverside's Planning Commission. He also served as the President of The Valley Group of the Inland Empire and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Riverside Humane Society Pet Adoption Center, the Riverside County

University Health System Medical Center Foundation, and the Children’s Spine Foundation. Mr. Tavaglione was a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees for both the University of California, Riverside, and La Sierra University.

Joseph Tavaglione was proud to celebrate his 100th birthday on July 14, 2023. He passed away peacefully at 101 years of age on August 1, 2024, surrounded by his family.

Joseph Tavaglione will always be remembered for his decades of active participation in the community until his passing. He lived an illustrious life of commitment and love for his family and community, which included directing billions of dollars, as a commissioner on CTC, to the County of Riverside for countless transportation improvements that bolstered the region’s population growth, grew the region’s economy, and supported mobility and access to opportunity for the region’s residents.

Joseph Tavaglione was known for his expressed entreaties to “put people to work”. His “put people to work” mission to create good paying jobs in the County of Riverside and throughout the state extended not only to his direction of vital state funding to needed transportation projects, but also to his penchant for bringing people together to solve seemingly unsolvable project delivery and policy challenges, with his personal involvement ensuring integrity and transparency throughout the process.

Joseph Tavaglione’s immeasurable impact on countless transportation projects throughout the state included regionally significant projects, including the State Route 91/State Route 60/Interstate 215 Interchange Project, the State Route 91 High Occupancy Vehicle Project, the State Route 91 Corridor Improvement Project, the Interstate 15 Express Lanes Project, widenings of Interstate 215 across the Counties of San Bernardino and Riverside, the Metrolink 91/Perris Valley Line Project, and numerous railroad crossing grade separations.

Joseph Tavaglione’s life was additionally marked by his entrepreneurial spirit and his service as President, and co-owner with his son Jay, of Tavaglione Construction and Development Inc. until Joseph’s passing on August 1, 2024.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

California Association of Councils of Governments
California Transportation Commission
Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG)
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Karen Spiegel
Monday Morning Group of Western Riverside County
National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA)
Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC)
San Bernardino County Transportation Authority

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Aimee Anspach / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093