

Date of Hearing: June 25, 2018

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Jim Frazier, Chair

ACR 250 (Holden) – As Amended June 18, 2018

SUBJECT: Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overpass

SUMMARY: Designates the North Arroyo Boulevard Overcrossing in the City of Pasadena as the "Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overpass". Specifically, **this resolution:**

- 1) Honors the six men who lost their lives as a result of the Foothill Bridge collapse in 1972 and the pain of their friends, families, and loved ones.
- 2) Designates the North Arroyo Boulevard Overcrossing in the City of Pasadena as the "Arroyo Seco Victims Memorial Overpass".
- 3) Requests that the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system, showing the special designation and, upon receiving donations from non-state 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 resolution requests that Caltrans only erect the appropriate signage upon receiving donations from non-state sources covering the cost.

COMMENTS: At approximately 1:30 p.m. on October 17, 1972, faulty scaffolding on a 60-foot stretch of the Foothill Freeway collapsed while concrete was being poured for the bridge construction, crushing victims at the time of the collapse. The bridge was being built to pass the Foothill Freeway over the Arroyo Seco below Devil's Gate Reservoir, near Arroyo Boulevard and Rosemont Avenue in the City of Pasadena.

In response, an army of 500 rescue workers labored throughout that night to locate missing workers who were buried under six feet of concrete. Workers on the bridge included, among others, Hector Delgado Gonzalez of Pico Rivera, Jesus Jose Quinonez of Pasadena, and Robert Queenan of Alhambra, all of whom were pronounced dead on arrival at St. Luke's Hospital. Six survivors of the bridge collapse were also admitted to Huntington Hospital in serious condition; three of them later died from their injuries. A total of 21 men suffered serious injuries related to the accident.

The bridge collapse caused an unexpected tragedy that created intense pain for families of those who died or were injured. The author believes it would be an appropriate tribute to name the now completed bridge replacing the former Foothill Bridge in honor of the six men who lost their lives over the Arroyo Seco.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Eric Thronson / TRANS. / (916) 319-2093