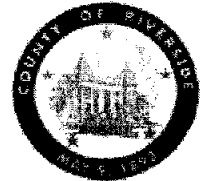


**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley, Fifth District

SUBMITTAL DATE:
March 26, 2008

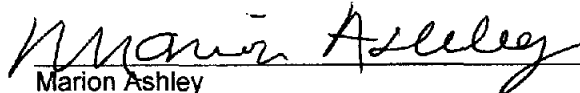
SUBJECT: Traffic Safety on State Route 60 Through the "Badlands"

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board join me in directing the Transportation Department to work with Caltrans and RCTC to explore improvements that can be done on SR 60 through the "Badlands" area to provide both short-term and long-term traffic safety and congestion relief.

BACKGROUND: The portion of SR 60 through the "Badlands" (essentially between Moreno Valley and Beaumont) has high-speed vehicle traffic trying to negotiate the windy road, lanes right up against the center median divider, and a very heavy percentage of slow-moving trucks due to the grade. This mix of differing types of traffic with the challenging road alignment that has resulted from the hilly terrain can lead to a very difficult driving experience, particularly at night and during periods of low visibility such as fog and rain.

The need for a truck lane has long been identified, but funding has not been available due to the tremendous expense coupled with many other priority needs. This truck lane would help separate the conflicts created by the mix of fast-moving cars and slow-moving trucks. I would like the Transportation Department to work closely with the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) and with Caltrans to actively seek and support any potential funding plan that can help deliver this project. The Measure A Extension (2009-2039) Expenditure Plan does include a \$26 million commitment for improvements along this portion of SR 60, however the improvements are not included in the 10 year (2009-2019) Western Riverside County Highway Delivery Plan adopted by RCTC.

Recognizing that putting together the funding, as well as doing the necessary environmental studies, will take many years, I am asking the Transportation Department to approach Caltrans and ask them to closely scrutinize this segment to see what can be done in the areas of reflective marking, striping, signs, or other appropriate measures to improve the driving experience in the near term as well as long term improvements.



Marion Ashley
5th District Supervisor

Prev. Agn. Ref.

District: 5

Agenda Number:

3.1