SACOG Board of Directors

April 10, 2014

Support for AB 1957 – State Highway Route 16

**Issue:** Should SACOG support AB 1957, which would relinquish portions of Highway 16 to the City of Sacramento and County of Sacramento?

**Recommendation:** The Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee unanimously recommends that the Board support AB 1957.

**Committee Action/Discussion:** AB 1957 (Dickinson) would authorize the California Transportation Commission to relinquish to the City of Sacramento the portion of State Highway Route 16 that is located within its city limits and to relinquish to the County of Sacramento a specified portion of State Highway Route 16 that is located within the unincorporated area of that county as defined in the legislation.

The City of Sacramento and County of Sacramento are seeking relinquishment from the State to the two local agencies for a portion of Highway 16 between Howe Avenue and Watt Avenue in order to accommodate growth in the corridor. Approximately 55,000 new dwelling units and 19 million square feet of commercial space are planned, which would transform the rural nature of the state highway to an urban arterial. Local control of this corridor would allow for improved roadway design, including complete streets and signalization, which would be more appropriate for the urbanizing area.

The City of Sacramento supports AB 1957. The County of Sacramento is supportive of relinquishment and intends to support AB 1957. Caltrans and the Metro Chamber also support relinquishment. There are no opponents on record, although Amador County Transportation Commission has expressed concern in the past about increased travel times by lowering speed limits or signalization. The bill is before the Assembly Transportation Committee, but a hearing is not presently scheduled.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

Attachment

Key Staff: Erik Johnson, Government Affairs Team Manager, (916) 340-6247
An act to amend Section 316 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to state highways.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1957, as amended, Lowenthal Dickinson. State Highway Route 16.
Existing law gives the Department of Transportation full possession and control of all state highways. Existing law describes the authorized routes in the state highway system and establishes a process for adoption of a highway on an authorized route by the California Transportation Commission. Existing law authorizes the commission to relinquish certain state highway segments to local agencies.

This bill would authorize the commission to relinquish to the City of Sacramento the portion of State Highway Route 16 that is located within the city limits of that city, and to relinquish to the County of Sacramento the specified portion of State Highway Route 16 that is located within the unincorporated area of that county, under certain conditions.


The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 316 of the Streets and Highways Code is amended to read:
316. (a) Route 16 is from:
(1) Route 20 to Route 5 near Woodland via Rumsey and Woodland.
(2) Watt Avenue to Route 49 near Drytown.

(b) Upon a determination by the commission that it is in the best interests of the state to do so, the commission may, upon terms and conditions approved by it, relinquish to the City of Sacramento the portion of Route 16 that is located within the city limits of that city if the city agrees to accept it. The following conditions shall apply upon relinquishment:

(1) The relinquishment shall become effective on the date following the county recorder’s recordation of the relinquishment resolution containing the commission’s approval of the terms and conditions of the relinquishment.
(2) On and after the effective date of the relinquishment, the relinquished portion of Route 16 shall cease to be a state highway.
(3) The portion of Route 16 relinquished under this subdivision shall be ineligible for future adoption under Section 81.
(4) For the portion of Route 16 relinquished under this subdivision, the City of Sacramento shall apply for approval of a business route designation for the relinquished portion of the highway in accordance with Chapter 20, Topic 21, of the Highway Design Manual.
(5) For the portion of Route 16 relinquished under this subdivision, the City of Sacramento shall install and maintain within its jurisdiction signs directing motorists to the continuation of Route 16 to the east.
(6) The City of Sacramento shall maintain the Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) truck route designation for the portion of Route 16 relinquished that previously held that designation.

(c) Upon a determination by the commission that it is in the best interests of the state to do so, the commission may, upon terms and conditions approved by it, relinquish to the County of Sacramento the portion of Route 16 that is located within the unincorporated area of that county, east of the City of Sacramento boundary and west of Watt Avenue, if the county agrees to accept it. The following conditions shall apply upon relinquishment:

(1) The relinquishment shall become effective on the date following the county recorder’s recordation of the relinquishment
resolution containing the commission’s approval of the terms and
conditions of the relinquishment.
(2) On and after the effective date of the relinquishment, the
relinquished portion of Route 16 shall cease to be a state highway.
(3) The portion of Route 16 relinquished under this subdivision
shall be ineligible for future adoption under Section 81.
(4) For the portion of Route 16 relinquished under this
subdivision, the County of Sacramento shall apply for approval
of a business route designation for the relinquished portion of the
highway in accordance with Chapter 20, Topic 21, of the Highway
Design Manual.
(5) For the portion of Route 16 relinquished under this
subdivision, the County of Sacramento shall install and maintain
within its jurisdiction signs directing motorists to the continuation
of Route 16 to the east.
(6) The County of Sacramento shall maintain the STAA truck
route designation for the portion of Route 16 relinquished that
previously held that designation.