April 13, 2005

Bill Number: AB 1623  Bill Author: Assembly Member Klehs

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Contact: Shanna O’Hare

Department: Public Works Agency

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RECOMMENDED POSITION: Support

Summary of the Bill: AB 1623 would authorize the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (CMA), to impose an annual fee of up to $5 on motor vehicles registered within Alameda County for a 10 ½ year period beginning July 2006 and ending December 2016. Revenues from this fee would fund: 1) a program to manage traffic congestion; and 2) mitigation of environmental impacts of motor vehicles with the county. (The bill’s author recently amended his bill to include Contra Costa, Marin and Napa County which have also expressed interest in this program.)

Positive Factors for Oakland: Oakland’s proportional share of Alameda County’s annual revenues, based on our population, would be approximately 28% (or roughly $1.5 million per year in 2005 dollars). These funds could be used to defray the cost of implementing and maintaining projects in Oakland that smooth traffic flow. Some examples include interconnecting traffic signals to allow timing coordination, installing video cameras to detect traffic congestion and message boards to redirect traffic to less congested streets. Improving pedestrian and bicycle access to key transit hubs would also be an eligible use of these funds.

Negative Factors for Oakland: None

PLEASE RATE THE EFFECT OF THIS MEASURE ON THE CITY OF OAKLAND:

X Very Important (priority for City lobbyist, city position necessary)

Known support:

Alameda County Congestion Management Agency, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, AC Transit, and Supervisor Nate Miley.

Known Opposition: None at this time.

Is state legislative committee analysis available?  No.
INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF OAKLAND'S SUPPORT
FOR AB 1623 (KLEHS)
(Vehicle Registration Fee for Congestion Management and Related Environmental Mitigation)

WHEREAS, current economic conditions have reduced transportation funding from state and federal sources while congestion on freeways and local roads continues to be a significant problem for residents and employees in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, traffic congestion impacts the economy of the county and the ability of employers in Alameda County to attract and keep employees; and

WHEREAS, improvements in the operation of local arterials, improvements in the operations of transit, and improvements in the operations of freeways can provide relief from congestion; and

WHEREAS, transportation improvements can have environmental impacts that require mitigation; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency (CMA) was created in 1991 by a joint powers agreement among the cities of Alameda County and the County of Alameda to provide a forum for addressing congestion and other transportation issues; and

WHEREAS, Assemblyman Johan Klehs, as the request of the CMA, introduced AB 1623 in the 2005 session of the California Legislature that would authorize the CMA, by a 2/3rd vote of its members, to levy up to a $5 vehicle registration fee aimed at addressing congestion and the associated environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, a proportional share (based on population) of the revenues raised by this registration fee would be earmarked for projects in Oakland that improve the flow of traffic and address the environmental impacts of transportation improvements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council supports AB 1623 (Klehs) to permit the Alameda County Congestion Management Agency to levy a vehicle registration fee for congestion management projects and environmental mitigation of transportation projects.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, ________________, 2005

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: __________________________________________
LATONDA SIMMONS
Interim City Clerk and Interim Clerk of the Council
Of the City of Oakland, California