



**MEMORANDUM
CLERK OF THE BOARD**
County of Placer

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Megan Wood, Clerk of the Board

DATE: March 28, 2023

SUBJECT: Presentation | California Department of Transportation

ACTION REQUESTED

Receive a presentation from the California Department of Transportation regarding fuel taxes.

BACKGROUND

Fuel taxes fund much of California's transportation system, including the repair of roads and bridges. The federal government also relies on the gas tax to fund transportation projects. However, fuel purchases will eventually decline as California transitions to electric and other clean air vehicles in the future. To address this funding concern, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 1077 in 2014, and Senate Bill 339 in 2021, to study a transportation tax based on a per-mile fee, known as a road usage charge.

In 2023, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will conduct further research and aims to recruit participants from two distinct populations: rural and tribal communities. The research pilot, known as the Public/Private Roads Project, will gather essential information for planning how a road charge program could address travel to and from public, private, and tribal roadways. In addition to recruiting participants for focus groups and attitude survey research, the state is offering incentives of up to \$250 for community members to take part in a 7-month pilot launching in March 2023. Rural and tribal communities have unique needs that could interact in different ways with a road charge system. It is important to explore and understand these opportunities and issues and make sure the community voices are heard as this potential policy is developed.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact related to this item.

ATTACHMENTS

None

