

From: Marianne Kast <fourkasts@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2020 2:10 PM
To: BOSComments
Subject: May 26, 2020 meeting

Agenda item: 20.1 Resolution delaying implementation of SB743

I'm writing to oppose this resolution. SB743 marked an historic change to evaluating the impact of vehicle travel on the location of new development projects. VMT evaluation does not increase the price of housing and other development when new projects are placed close to existing public transportation networks. The effect of waiving the SB743 requirements for developers is to disincentivize infill and close-in development in our County, requiring residents to drive more. Continuing sprawl subjects County residents to the adverse health effects of increased air pollutants and reduced physical exercise, as well as increased costs for utilities and services. Because of its large area, Fresno County is exactly the right place for SB743 VMT analysis to be instituted as soon as possible.

Marianne Kast
559-270-7937

From: radleyreep@netzero.net
Sent: Monday, May 25, 2020 11:11 PM
To: Clerk/BOS
Cc: BOSComments
Subject: Comment on Item No. 20.1 for the Board Hearing of May 26, 2020
Attachments: 2020 - 05-25 - Rad's Letter to Fr Co. BOS re Agenda Item No. 20.1 on May 26, 2020 - SB 743.docx; 2020 - 05-25 - Rad's Letter to Fr Co. BOS re Agenda Item No. 20.1 on May 26, 2020 - SB 743.pdf

CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK

May 25, 2018

Bernice E. Seidel
Clerk to the Board
Fresno County Board of Supervisors

Dear Bernice,

Please enter the attached document into the administrative record for Item No. 20.1 (Adopt Resolution Delaying Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) requirements of SB-743), which will be heard by the Board of Supervisors on May 26, 2020.

I am asking that you let the Board know that I wish Item No. 20.1 to be pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and vote.

When the item comes up for action, I would like you to see that Board members have a copy of my letter. In addition, I would appreciate it if you would read my letter to the Board so that county residents who are participating remotely through video streaming can hear what I have to say.

Thank you.

Radley Reep
radleyreep@netzero.com
(559) 326-6227

May 25, 2020

SENT VIA EMAIL

Fresno County Board of Supervisors
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: May 26 2020 Agenda Item No. 20.1: Adopt Resolution Delaying Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) requirements of SB-743

Dear Board Chairman Buddy Mendes and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The proposed Board resolution offers two reasons for the County's decision to delay implementation of SB 743 for two years: (1) the COVID-19 virus has caused an economic recession and (2) the bill stands in opposition to a goal of affordable housing in that its implementation will significantly increase the cost of new homes.

My response is simply this. Neither reason justifies the County's decision to violate state law.

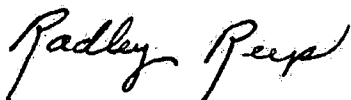
SB 743 was signed into law on September 27, 2013. In January 2019, the Natural Resources Agency incorporated the requirements of SB 743 into the CEQA Guidelines, and the due date for statewide implementation is July 1, 2020.

In enacting SB 743, it was the Legislature's intent to "more appropriately **balance** the needs of congestion management with statewide goals related to infill development, promotion of public health through active transportation, and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions." It was also "the intent of the Legislature to **balance** the need for level of service standards for traffic with the need to build infill housing and mixed use commercial developments within walking distance of mass transit facilities, downtowns, and town centers and to provide greater flexibility to local governments to **balance** these sometimes competing needs." (Government Code 65088.4)

It's evident that the Legislature was aware of housing needs when it enacted SB 743. Important to this hearing is the fact that there is no evidence before your Board that, since the bill's adoption in 2013, the County has attempted either to implement the law or to conduct an analysis to support its claim that SB 743 is detrimental to affordable housing. And finally, based on a sincere appreciation for the rule of law, I'm distressed that the County is able to justify delaying the implementation of a statute.

I ask your Board not to adopt the resolution. The County must incorporate SB 743 into its present effort to update its General Plan and into any new or ongoing environmental reviews.

Sincerely,



Radley Reep
radleyreep@netzero.com (559) 326-6227