

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
THROUGH: COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER
FROM: SUPERVISOR MCDANIEL, DISTRICT 3
SUPERVISOR SILVEIRA, DISTRICT 5

SUBJECT: Delaying Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Requirement of SB-743

SUMMARY:

At the Fresno County Board of Supervisors meeting on May 26, 2020, their Board unanimously passed a resolution requesting that the Governor's Office of Planning and Research delay the implementation of the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) standards required by SB-743 for two years and have asked other Central Valley counties to consider passing a similar resolution.

SB-743 was signed in 2013 with the intention 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." Once implemented, "traffic congestion shall not be considered a significant impact on the environment" within California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) transportation analysis. For land use projects, VMT has been established as the new metrics for identifying and mitigating transportation impacts within CEQA. However, there are concerns that VMT may result in the increased costs of construction of new housing developments and apartment buildings, which then could be passed on to Central Valley residents.

(Summary Continued on Page 2)

STAFFING IMPACT: None by this action.

FISCAL IMPACT: None by this action.

CONTRACT / RESOLUTION / ABSTRACT/OTHER SUBMITTED: Resolution

REVIEW:

CEO

Counsel

REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION/ACTION NEEDED:

1. Consider a Resolution requesting the implementation of the Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) standards recommended by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research be delayed for two years until the effects of COVID-19 have subsided.

Delaying Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) Requirement of SB-743

(Continued from Page 1)

In support of Fresno County and other Central Valley counties that may be adversely affected by the implementation of VMT, we are requesting the Board consider a Resolution requesting the implementation of the VMT as recommended by the Governor's Office of Planning and Research be delayed for two years until after the economic effects of COVID-19 have diminished.