



# Proposition 6 Debunking the Myths

The California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, American Society of Civil Engineers, business, local government, labor, environmentalists and first responders urge NO on Prop 6 because it will stop critical transportation projects and jeopardize the safety of our bridges and roads. Prop 6 eliminates more than \$5 billion annually in existing transportation funds and stops funding for more than 6,500 bridge and road safety, transportation and public transit improvement projects currently underway throughout California.

Here are the facts to dispel some of the myths being told by Prop 6 promoters.

## 1. MYTH: The money all goes to the General Fund and none of the money goes to new roads.

**FACT**

- That is unequivocally wrong and easily proven inaccurate. Not a single dollar of these funds goes to the General Fund.
- Voters overwhelmingly passed Prop 69 in June preventing Sacramento politicians from raiding transportation funds and ensuring these funds are only used for transportation improvements.
- In fact, according to the nonpartisan, independent Legislative Analyst's review of Proposition 6, "The State Constitution requires that nearly all of these new revenues be spent on transportation purposes... about two-thirds of the revenues (are dedicated) to highway and road repairs, with the remainder going to other programs (such as for mass transit)
- Proposition 6 will eliminate funding for more than 6,500 local transportation improvement projects underway in every California community, including:
  - 3,727 projects fixing potholes and repaving crumbling, unsafe roads
  - 1,571 projects dedicated to improving road and driver safety
  - Repairs or replacement of 554 bridges and overpasses
  - 337 projects relieving traffic congestion
  - 453 improvements to public transportation operations and services including buses and rail to increase reliability, and
  - 442 projects improving pedestrian safety

- If Prop 6 passes, construction will come to a grinding halt in every city and county in the state, wasting money and making road conditions even worse.
- We should not eliminate transportation revenues that are accountable to taxpayers, can't be diverted, and that voters overwhelmingly dedicated to fixing our roads.

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## 2. MYTH: California can use existing revenues to fix our roads.

**FACT**

- Proposition 6 eliminates more than \$5 billion annually in existing funding currently being used on more than 6,500 road and bridge safety, congestion relief and transportation improvement projects all over the state.
- If we eliminate these projects, there is no "Plan B." Prop 6 makes our roads and bridges less safe.
- California has a combined need of over \$130 billion over the next 10 years just to bring the state highway and local street and road systems into a good and safe condition.
- If we were to use funds from the General Fund, we would need to pull \$130 billion from important areas like education, healthcare, public safety, and other programs that Californians rely upon.
- These funds are constitutionally protected as voters overwhelmingly passed Prop 69 in June preventing Sacramento politicians from raiding these funds to ensure they are only used for transportation improvements.

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## 3. MYTH: Prop 6 will save families upwards of \$700 a year.

**FACT**

- This measure is a bad deal that will cost drivers more in the long run.
- The average California driver already spends \$739 dollars per year on front end alignments, shocks and tire repairs because of driving on bad roads.
- Stopping projects that fix our roads means more car repairs and more money out of drivers' wallets.

## 4. MYTH: We can fix the roads just by eliminating waste in the system and from Caltrans.

**FACT**

- There are more than 6,500 projects underway in every community in California, proof that these funds are going straight to transportation, being spent efficiently and are accountable to taxpayers.
- Furthermore, Caltrans has been mandated to reform its operations and save \$100 million annually to ensure projects are completed faster and more efficiently. There are new reforms including establishing an independent Inspector General who is appointed to oversee projects and programs to ensure all funds are spent as promised and to reduce bureaucracy, waste, and red tape.
- The fact is this measure will cost us all more in the long run and make our bridges and roads less safe.

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## 5. MYTH: Polling shows that voters support repealing the gas tax.

**FACT**

- We're confident voters will reject Prop 6 once they learn that it will make our bridges, roads, and transportation system less safe and eliminate funding for more than 6,500 projects currently underway in every community.
- Our broad coalition of public safety leaders, engineers, business, labor, environmentalists and community leaders will wage an active campaign between now and November to educate the voters.

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## 6. MYTH: Passing Prop 6 will help the economy by lowering what we all pay.

**FACT**

- The California Chamber of Commerce and business organizations throughout the state oppose Prop 6 because it would eliminate 68,000 jobs and \$183 billion dollars in economic investments as thousands of road construction projects are halted.

## 7. MYTH: The revenues that Prop 6 would eliminate are being used to repay loans and debt, not to fix roads.

**FACT**

- All outstanding transportation loans are being repaid by the General Fund.
- Proposition 6 will eliminate funding for more than 6,500 local transportation improvement projects underway in every California community, including:
  - 3,727 projects fixing potholes and repaving crumbling, unsafe roads
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## 8. MYTH: This measure will help elect Republican candidates.

**FACT**

- It's a shame that certain partisan politicians are willing to jeopardize driver safety by eliminating funding for more than 6,500 transportation improvement projects currently underway throughout the state.
- We are confident voters will reject this dangerous attack on bridge and road safety repairs.

## 9. MYTH: State transportation funds will be diverted to fund high-speed rail.

**FACT**

- No funds raised from the revenues impacted by Proposition 6 will be used to fund high-speed rail. California's state-maintained transportation infrastructure is receiving roughly half of revenues to improve our state highways. The other half is going to local roads, transit and pedestrian and bicycle safety. There are no funds being used to support the high-speed rail project.

## 10. MYTH: A broad coalition supports Proposition 6.

**FACT**

Prop 6 is opposed by more than 300 organizations including:

- California Professional Firefighters
- California Association of Highway Patrolmen
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- Emergency responders and paramedics
- California Chamber of Commerce
- California League of Conservation Voters
- League of Women Voters of California
- California State Association of Counties
- League of California Cities
- State Building & Construction Trades Council of California
- California Alliance for Jobs
- California NAACP
- Congress of California Seniors
- Latin Business Association

*Stop the Attack on Bridge & Road Safety.*

***Vote No on Prop 6***

Paid for by No on Prop 6: Stop the Attack on Bridge & Road Safety, sponsored by business, labor, local governments and transportation advocates

Committee Major Funding from  
California Alliance for Jobs

State Building and Construction Trades Council of California  
Laborers Pacific Southwest Regional Organizing Coalition  
Funding details at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov)