

Submitter: Nathan Vega

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Capital Construction

Measure, Appointment or SB1601
Topic:

This bill contains a reroute of funding from alternative transportation to highway maintenance. I understand that federal money is often required to be spent on non-maintenance construction, that revenues are falling for the highway fund, and that leveraging new taxes is an onerous process. However, these rail, walkway, bikeway and safe routes to school monies are meant to be spent on those categories, and the services provided will outweigh the benefit of highway maintenance, while actively reducing the wear-and-tear on our highways in the future. I would rather see us take on state debt to cover the expenses of this emergency than reappropriate funds from these projects. Other funding transfers like from the lawnmower fund are acceptable. If these important funds are transferred, I will be watching to see that stable funding from well-designed gas taxes for both the highway and these 4 project types are restored before your next election.