

July 5, 2022

The Honorable Laura Friedman
Chair, Assembly Transportation Committee 1021 O Street, Room 112
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2953 (Salas): Department of Transportation and local agencies: streets and highways: recycled materials. Notice of OPPOSE (As Amended on March 17, 2022)

Dear Assemblymember Friedman:

The City of Carson must respectfully oppose AB 2953 (Salas), which would require our City to apply standard specifications that allow for the use of recycled materials in streets and highways at or above the level allowed in the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) most recently published standard specifications, when feasible and cost effective.

While the City of Carson appreciates the recent amendments, which specify that local agencies have flexibility in determining whether adopting the specifications for the materials outlined in the bill are feasible and cost effective. However, we remain concerned with the exemption for cities and counties that meet arbitrary revenue proportions of statewide annual local government revenues. Carson is adjacent to the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach, which results in disproportionate wear and tear to our roads from truck traffic and logistics operations that already create increased cost to maintain our City.

Governor Newsom vetoed AB 1035 (Salas, 2021), a substantially similar bill, and highlighted that requiring all local agencies that have jurisdiction over streets and highways to comply with Caltrans' recycling standards may result in increased costs and would create a reimbursable state mandate. The Governor's veto message also cited objections to forcing local agencies to adopt standards by Caltrans that are specifically designed for larger projects that address a greater volume of traffic and may be inappropriate for all local streets and roads.

For these reasons, we respectfully oppose AB 2953. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our City 310-952-1731 or mgeorge@carsonca.gov.

Sincerely,

City Council