



# City of Gilroy

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **\$14.1 Million Authorized for Highway 152 Improvements through Gilroy**

July 12, 2017 (Gilroy, CA): The City of Gilroy announced that the California Transportation Commission has approved a standalone amendment authorizing \$14.165 million in funds for the repaving of California State Highway 152 through Gilroy.

Approved on June 29, 2017, the State Highway Operations and Protection Program (SHOPP) Project Amendment authorizes funds to rehabilitate pavement on the 7.9 mile stretch of Highway 152 that runs through Gilroy from State Highway 101 to 0.3 miles west of Santa Teresa Boulevard. Caltrans is now able to commence project development, including design and environmental work, with construction estimated in 2019.

On sections of Highway 152, including First Street (between Santa Teresa Boulevard and Monterey Street), Monterey Street (between First Street and Leavesley Road) and Leavesley Road (between Monterey Street and Highway 101), the pavement has completely disintegrated and having an economic impact on businesses along First Street. In some places, motorists have to drive on bare gravel and risk damage to their vehicles.

Mayor Roland Velasco and members of the Gilroy City Council considered this issue to be extremely important to the quality of life for local residents. Since December 2016, Mayor Velasco and City Administrator Gabriel Gonzalez have traveled to Caltrans District Headquarters in Oakland. They subsequently traveled to Sacramento to meet with state legislators and Caltrans officials about the failing condition of the road in an effort to make this project a priority. In May 2017, before the SHOPP amendment was passed, Caltrans authorized \$1 million in emergency funds for the areas most in need of immediate repair.

Roland Velasco, Mayor of Gilroy, stated, "We are very happy to have secured funding for this vital project that will improve the quality of life for so many Gilroy residents. We want to especially thank State Senator Bill Monning and State Assembly Member Anna Caballero for their active support and advocacy for these much-needed road improvements."

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