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Councilmember Moreno Urges SANDAG to Remove SR 125 Toll for South Bay Residents

SAN DIEGO – Today, Councilmember Vivian Moreno, joined by Assemblymember David Alvarez, Mayor John McCann, Councilmember Carolina Chavez, and local South Bay residents, is calling on SANDAG to remove the SR 125 tolls. A recent audit has exposed severe flaws in the toll system, including issues with inaccurate billing. Despite these findings, SANDAG approved a new contract with similar toll operational concerns. Councilmember Moreno demands the removal of SR 125 tolls to ensure equity for South County residents and alleviate congestion on local roadways that residents are forced to use.

Councilmember Vivian Moreno said, “I urge SANDAG to take immediate steps to remove the tolls on SR 125.” **says Councilmember Moreno.** “The people of South County deserve a transportation system that works for them-not against them. By making this road toll-free, we can finally alleviate traffic congestion and improve accessibility for all South County residents – not just those who can afford it.”

State Assemblymember David Alvarez commented, “SANDAG needs to remove the tolls on State Route 125 as soon as possible,” **said Assemblymember David Alvarez.** “This tolling system is a money pit and SANDAG should stop wasting taxpayer dollars in a futile effort to fix it. I will do my best to ensure that the State of California does all it can to help SANDAG remove these tolls once and for all.”

Mayor John McCann stated, “The Toll on the SR-125 should be removed immediately. By removing the toll it will decrease traffic congestion on the 805 and local streets, reduce millions of dollars of local road repairs and reduce carbon emissions with drivers spending less time on their commutes.”

Councilmember Carolina Chavez said, “Tolls on SR-125 disproportionately impact South Bay residents who are already paying their share through taxes,” **said Chula**

Vista Councilmember Carolina Chavez, SANDAG Board member. “For over a decade, this toll has placed an unjust financial burden on Chula Vista families, reinforcing inequities across our community. It’s time to deliver on the promises made to our residents, remove this toll, and ensure transportation policies work for everyone—not just a few.”

Bonita Resident, Judy Tieber commented, “This press conference is a wonderful way to bring attention to the significant non- residential, toll-avoidance traffic that courses through the small community of Bonita every day. Studies show that our main residential streets like San Miguel Road and Corral Canyon Rd are inundated with upwards of 15,000 or more vehicles that speed through our neighborhoods on their way to SR 54. SANDAG needs to either reduce the toll to an amount people can afford, or open up the San Miguel Ranch Road/SR125 intersection to free travel. This only seems fair since CALTRANS built most of the roadway and all the bridges leading up to SR 54.”

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Councilmember Vivian Moreno represents the Eighth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Barrio Logan, Egger Highlands, Grant Hill, Logan Heights, Memorial, Nestor, Ocean View Hills, Otay Mesa, San Ysidro, Shelltown, Sherman Heights, Southcrest and the Tijuana River Valley.