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10/24/90

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Mr. Clayton Roche
Deputy Attorney General
455 Golden Gate Ave.
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San Francisco, CA 94102-3658

Dear Mr. Roche:

The purpose of this letter is to give you my understanding and opinion concerning the proposed toll booth at Ford Road and Newport Coast Drive adjacent to Newport Beach. First let me state that I served as the City Manager of the City of Newport Beach from August, 1971 to December, 1991. As a representative of Newport Beach, I attended the very first meetings of City representatives of this area to discuss and formulate a Joint Powers Agency to construct the three proposed toll roads in Orange County. These meetings occurred in Santa Ana, Costa Mesa, Irvine, and Orange County and included all Cities in the benefit area. I remained personally active with this group until the J.P.A. was created and ratified by State Legislation. As I now recall this step took 18 to 24 months because there were so many Cities involved and each City representative seemed to have a different idea on the process.

Also I have been very much aware that since 1971 the residents of Corona del Mar and the City of Newport Beach have strongly favored and supported a by-pass around C.D.M. A by-pass was universally supported by every group of which I was aware. No one opposed it. Pacific Coast Hiway in C.D.M., especially in the A.M. and the P.M. peak periods, was very badly congested with cars. Newport Coast Drive provided this by-pass and its dedication was almost a sacred event in this community. Traffic congestion was immediately reduced and I can honestly say that I know of no other project that has been so praised and accepted as this project.

Once the Transportation Corridor Agency was organized, my almost daily participation was reduced, but I still kept a high priority interest in the Corridor. I was aware that the E.I.R.-E.I.S. listed many alternatives in the project but I was never aware that a toll was being seriously considered on Newport Coast Drive. I was always of the opinion that while San Joaquin Transportation Corridor intersected Newport Coast Drive before the McArthur intersection, a toll would not be charged to those who traveled

Newport Coast Drive from P.C.H. (east of C.D.M.) through to McArthur Blvd. I was of the opinion that a toll booth would be located east of the Corridor intersection with Newport Coast Drive and that the Newport Coast Drive travelers would use a short section of the Corridor to McArthur Blvd. without paying a toll. As City Manager of Newport Beach, I can honestly say that I never received anything from the T.C.A. that would indicate the establishment of a toll on this much sought after by-pass around C.D.M. After the bonds were sold and this fact surfaced, I remember my total surprise that a toll would be charged.

I hope this brief account of my recollections will be helpful to you in your investigation. Please feel free to call me if you have questions that you think I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Robert L. Wynn

bcc: The Honorable Phil Sansone