



July 13, 2021

The Honorable Anthony Portantino
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2206
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1035 (Salas): Recycled Materials Standards
As Amended on June 28, 2021 – OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED
Set for Hearing in Senate Appropriations Committee – July 15, 2021**

Dear Senator Portantino:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and the League of California Cities (Cal Cities) had previously taken an “oppose unless amended” position on AB 1035, which would require local agencies to apply standard specifications that allow for the use of recycled materials at or above the level allowed in the California Department of Transportation’s (Caltrans) most recently published standard specifications in streets and highways when feasible and cost effective. **CSAC and Cal Cities will remove opposition to the bill under either of the following scenarios:**

- 1) If the bill advances to the Senate floor with its current language, including amendments taken coming out of the Senate Transportation Committee that require Caltrans to consult with local agencies prior to future updates of the standard specifications referenced in the bill.
- 2) If the consultation requirement is removed due to cost concerns, we would remove opposition only if the bill is amended to require that local agencies adopt the current Caltrans standard specifications referenced in the bill where feasible and cost-effective (that is, the specifications published on October 22, 2018).

Requiring a consultation in advance of future Caltrans updates will ensure that relevant specifications are developed in a way that facilitates their use on local street and road projects, which are fundamentally different than state highway projects. If this requirement is removed from the bill, CSAC and Cal Cities request that the bill be amended to apply only to Caltrans’ 2018 Standard Specifications, which are currently published and available for review by local jurisdictions.

CSAC and Cal Cities look forward to formally removing our opposition to the bill if it advances from the Appropriations Committee in its current form or is amended to apply only to the current Caltrans standard specifications. If you need additional information, please contact Chris Lee (CSAC) at clee@counties.org or Damon Conklin (Cal Cities) at dconklin@cacities.org.

Sincerely,



Christopher Lee
Legislative Representative
California State Association of Counties



Damon Conklin
Legislative Representative
League of California Cities

cc: The Honorable Rudy Salas, California State Assembly
Honorable Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Mark McKenzie, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee
Ted Morley, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus