Sacramento, CA; This afternoon, CA Secretary of State announced that the initiative to repeal $5.5B in funding per year for CA roads has qualified for the November 2018 statewide ballot. This measure, if successful, will stop critical investments in current and future transportation improvement projects including projects to make road safety improvements, ease traffic congestion, fix potholes, upgrade bridges and overpasses, and improve public transportation in every California community.

If passed, this measure would jeopardize more than 5,000 transportation improvement projects currently underway or planned throughout the state - making our local roads less safe, more congested and more deteriorated.

“Repealing transportation funding would rob our communities of vital road safety and transportation improvement projects and would have disastrous impacts for our states infrastructure.” – Paul Cianciarulo, UCON President, Graniterock

"We are disappointed that cynical politicians have decided to use vital transportation funding – a historically bipartisan issue – to try to divide voters for their own political benefit. It is short sighted and dangerous and we will do everything in our power to defeat this measure." – Emily Cohen, Executive Vice President, United Contractors
"This flawed and dangerous measure...jeopardizes the safety of millions of Californians by stopping local communities from fixing their crumbling roads and bridges. Just say no." – Governor Brown.

In June, voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 69, providing constitutional protections to ensure the newly passed transportation funding is protected for transportation projects only and can never be diverted by the legislature for other purposes.

United Contractors and the Fix Our Roads coalition opposes this measure because it would:

**Jeopardize public safety.** Currently, 89% of counties have roads that are in 'poor' or 'at-risk' condition and more than 1,600 bridges and overpasses are structurally deficient and unsafe. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were more than 3,600 fatalities on California roads in 2016, many caused by poor road conditions. This measure will eliminate hundreds of projects throughout the state improving the safety of our roads and ensuring our bridges, tunnels and overpasses are structurally sound and meet seismic safety standards.

**Stop or threaten more than 5,000 transportation improvement projects already underway in every community.** According to the California State Transportation Agency, there are currently more than 5,000 local transportation improvement projects underway or in progress throughout the state. This measure would put these and thousands of future projects at risk – eliminating projects we need to fix potholes, make safety improvements, ease traffic congestion, upgrade bridges, and improve public transportation.

**Make traffic congestion worse.** Our freeways and major thoroughfares are among the most congested in the nation. This measure would stop hundreds of congestion relief projects throughout the state and will make our traffic even worse.

**Cost drivers and taxpayers more money in the long-run.** This measure is a bad deal that will cost the average California driver hundreds of dollars each year in car repairs as road conditions will continue to get worse. The average driver already spends $739 dollars per year on front end alignments, shocks, and tire repairs because of bad roads, and this measure will cost us more in the long run by stopping projects that will create smoother, safer roads.
Hurt job creation and our economy. The California Chamber of Commerce opposed this measure because it would eliminate 68,000 good-paying jobs and wipe out $183 billion dollars in economic investments as thousands of road construction projects are put to a stop.

Eliminate public transportation improvements that improve air quality and reduce congestion. This measure would stop public transportation improvements including projects expanding commuter rail lines, buses and other public transportation services that get people out of cars and reduce traffic congestion. These projects also directly reduce air pollution and carbon emissions that cause climate change.

United Contractors encourages members to get the facts and join the campaign to defeat this measure. Learn more at FixCaRoads.com.

If you would like more information about this topic, please call Emily Cohen at 925-855-7900 or ECothen@UnitedContractors.org