



## **Prop 6: Oppose**

<https://noprop6.com/>

### **One liners:**

- Stop the attack on bridge and road safety!

### **Congressional Democrat Talking Points**

- California's roads and bridges are crumbling and unsafe. We have more than 1600 bridges that are structurally deficient and more than 89% of counties have roads that are in "poor" or "at risk" conditions.
- Our crumbling infrastructure is the direct result of inaction by Washington republicans led by Donald Trump, Paul Ryan and (member you're running against).
- These do-nothing politicians have failed our district.
- That's why I'm running for Congress – to replace (Republican) and to go to Washington to fight for our district.
- At the same time, that's why I'm opposing Proposition 6. The measure was put on the ballot by Trump Republicans in a cynical attempt to help them maintain Trump's majorities in Congress.
- But Prop 6 would further destroy our infrastructure, by eliminating billions in funds and thousands of bridge and road safety projects in our region.
  - For regional statistics on local funding at risk and local projects that would be eliminated by Prop 6 visit: <https://noprop6.com/local-projects/>
- We must stand up to the Republican attack on bridge and road safety and reject Prop 6.

### **Talking Points**

- **The Tagline: No on Prop 6: Stop the Attack on Bridge and Road Safety.**
- **The Soundbite:**
  - The California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, American Society of Civil Engineers, business, local government, labor, environmentalists and first responders urge NO on Prop 6 because it will stop critical transportation projects and jeopardize the safety of our bridges and roads. Prop 6 eliminates more than \$5 billion annually in *existing transportation funds* and stops funding for more than 6,500 bridge and road safety, transportation and public transit improvement projects *currently underway* throughout California.
- **Key Messages:**
  - The California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the American Society of Civil Engineers, public safety, environmental, business and labor leaders all urge you to **Vote NO on Prop 6** because it will make our bridges, roads and transportation system less safe, more congested and more deteriorated.
  - Prop 6 will **eliminate funding for more than 6,500 projects currently underway in every community** making road safety improvements, upgrading bridges and overpasses to make them seismically safe and structurally sound, easing traffic congestion, fixing potholes, and improving public transportation in every California community.

- ***This measure is a dangerous attack on bridge & road safety.*** California has more than 1,600 bridges and overpasses that are structurally deficient and unsafe, and our crumbling roads are a threat to driver safety. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there were more than 3,600 fatalities on California roads in 2016, many of them caused by poor road conditions. By stopping thousands of transportation improvement projects, Prop 6 will make our roads, bridges and transportation system less safe and lead to more traffic accidents and fatalities.
- ***We should not eliminate transportation funds that are accountable to taxpayers*** and that voters have overwhelmingly dedicated to fixing our roads. Voters passed Prop 69 in June that prevents Sacramento politicians from diverting transportation funds and dedicates these funds only for transportation improvements.
- ***This measure is opposed by the California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the American Society of Civil Engineers,*** paramedics, local transportation agencies, cities, counties, the California Chamber of Commerce, environmental groups, business and labor organizations throughout California.
- ***(optional if time)*** This measure is opposed by the California Chamber of Commerce and working families because It ***would eliminate 68,000 good paying jobs and wipe out \$183 billion in economic investments*** as thousands of road construction projects are put to a stop.
- **If Discussing Partisan Backers:**
  - It's unfortunate that certain partisan politicians are willing to stop vital road safety and transportation improvement projects for their own attempted political gain. This measure is being funded by right wing politicians in Congress, John Cox and other Donald Trump supporters. We ***should reject this attempt by partisan politicians and Donald Trumpites to push an agenda that hurts California.***

**Q&A:**

- **Why is it important to protect SB 1 (or the gas tax)?**

*(NOTE: Don't get caught in the trap of talking about SB 1 or supporting the gas tax. Remember, we are an OPPOSITION campaign to the ballot measure. Flip this question to talk about the negative impacts of the ballot measure)*

  - The California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the American Society of Civil Engineers, public safety and business leaders urge you to vote NO on Prop 6 because it will jeopardize public safety by making our bridges and roads less safe.
  - This measure will eliminate funding for more than 6,500 vitally-needed transportation improvement projects currently underway to make road safety improvements, ease traffic congestion, fix potholes, upgrade bridges and overpasses, and improve public transportation in every California community.
- **Doesn't polling show that voters support repealing the gas tax?**
  - What we know is that voters want projects, they are fed up with bad roads and want them fixed.
  - We're confident voters will reject Prop 6 once they learn that it will make our bridges, roads and transportation system less safe and eliminate funding for more than 6,500 projects currently underway in every community to fix crumbling bridges, roads,

freeways, relieve traffic congestion, and improve public transit and transportation infrastructure.

- Our broad coalition of public safety leaders, engineers, business, labor, environmentalists and community leaders will wage an active campaign between now and November to educate the voters.
- **Aren't voters angry about the gas tax?**
  - Voters are angry about driving on unsafe, crumbling roads and bridges. Voters are angry about wasting hours away from our families stuck in traffic every week.
  - And the voters should be angry that certain partisan politicians are willing to jeopardize driver safety and our quality of life by eliminating funding for more than 6,500 transportation improvement projects.
  - We're confident voters will reject Prop 6 once they learn it will make our bridges, roads and transportation system less safe and eliminate funding for more than 6,500 projects currently underway in every community to fix crumbling bridges, roads, freeways, relieve traffic congestion, and improve public transit and transportation infrastructure.
- **What happens if this proposition passes?**
  - There is no back up plan if Prop 6 passes. It will eliminate funding for more than 6,500 transportation improvement projects throughout the state, and there is no sufficient funding at the state and local level to keep the vast majority of these projects going.
  - The California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the American Society of Civil Engineers, public safety and business leaders urge you to vote NO on Prop 6 because it will jeopardize public safety by making our bridges and roads less safe.
  - The measure will eliminate funding for more than 6,500 projects currently underway in every community to fix crumbling bridges, roads, freeways, relieve traffic congestion and improve public transit and transportation infrastructure.
  - We must defeat Prop 6 to prevent our bridges, roads and transportation infrastructure from becoming less safe, more congested, and more deteriorated.
- **Will passing this measure save motorists \$700 a year?**
  - No. This measure is a bad deal that will cost drivers more in the long run. The average California driver already spends \$739 dollars per year on front end alignments, shocks and tire repairs because of driving on bad roads. Stopping projects that fix our roads means more car repairs and more money out of drivers' wallets.
- **Supporters are saying these funds will just end up in the general fund and not go to roads.**
  - That is unequivocally wrong and easily proven inaccurate. Not a single dollar of these funds go to the General Fund.
  - And voters passed Prop 69 this June which dedicates these funds for specific transportation programs and they cannot be diverted by the Legislature. More important, there are more than 6,500 transportation improvement projects underway in every California community, providing further proof that these funds are already being used to fix our roads.
  - We should not eliminate transportation funds that are accountable to taxpayers and that voters overwhelmingly dedicated to fixing our roads.
- **Isn't there waste in the system? Isn't Caltrans inefficient?**
  - There are more than 6,500 projects underway in every community in California, proof that these funds are going straight to transportation, being spent efficiently and are accountable to taxpayers.



- Furthermore, Caltrans has been mandated to reform its operations and save \$100 million annually to ensure projects are completed faster and more efficiently.
- The fact is this measure will cost us all more in the long run and make our bridges and roads less safe.
- **Do you think Republicans will successfully use this to elect candidates?**
  - It's shameful that certain partisan politicians are willing to jeopardize driver safety by eliminating funding for more than 6,500 transportation improvement projects currently underway throughout the state.
  - We are confident voters will reject this dangerous attack on bridge and road safety repairs.
- **How involved is the Governor going to be?**
  - The Governor is actively involved in our campaign, as are hundreds of organizations including the California Professional Firefighters, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, the American Society of Civil Engineers, business leaders, working families, community groups, local governments, and public safety leaders all across California.
  - These groups oppose Prop 6 because it will make our bridges, roads and transportation system less safe and eliminate funding for more than 6,500 transportation improvement projects throughout the state.
- **How much are you going to spend to defeat this?**
  - We will have a robust campaign to educate the voters. We don't comment on campaign finance, but we will be reporting all our campaign contributions and spending as required by law.