



**COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE**  
105 E. Anapamu St., Fourth Floor • Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-3400 • FAX (805) 568-3414  
www.countyofsb.org

## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

**News Media Contact:**

Lael Wageneck  
Public Engagement Coordinator  
(805) 568-3425  
lwageneck@countyofsb.org

DATE: Tuesday, October 20, 2015  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **California Road Charge Pilot Program is Looking for Volunteers**

(Santa Barbara County, CA) – The California State Transportation Agency is looking for 5,000 volunteers for its California Road Charge Pilot Program. Volunteers will help the State evaluate options that could potentially replace the current gas tax. The Road Charge Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is currently studying all aspects and methods that might be used to collect information on individual roadway use. While no final decisions have currently been made, it is anticipated that the TAC will recommend a variety of manual and technology based options, and ultimately allow each volunteer to select the option that suits them best. While the pilot program will collect a minimum amount of a volunteer's personal information, including location tracking information, it would also ensure that processes for collecting, managing, storing, transmitting, and destroying data are in place to protect the privacy of drivers. The pilot is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2016 and will run through the spring of 2017.

The program is the result of Governor Brown's signing of Senate Bill 1077, which requires the State to design and implement a pilot program to study Road Usage Charge (RUC) alternatives to the gas tax, and to make recommendations to the Secretary of the Transportation Agency on the design of a pilot program no later than January 1, 2017. The ultimate goal of the road charge pilot program is to assess whether a road charge system is a viable option as a source of revenue to maintain our roadways and bridges in California.

For more information on the California Road Charge Pilot Program, including information on how to volunteer, visit the California Department of Transportation's website at [http://www.dot.ca.gov/road\\_charge/pilot/index.html](http://www.dot.ca.gov/road_charge/pilot/index.html).

###