



## NEWS RELEASE

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*For immediate release*

### **RCTC Chair Jan Harnik Requests Urgent Riverside County Transportation Solutions from Gov. Newsom**

Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) Chair Jan Harnik, Mayor Pro Tem of Palm Desert, sent a letter Friday to Gov. Gavin Newsom to applaud his attention and collaborative approach to addressing traffic congestion on southbound Interstate 15 near the California-Nevada Border, and to ask that the governor apply the same urgency to reduce debilitating congestion in Riverside County.

On December 5, Gov. Newsom jointly [announced](#) with Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak plans to expand I-15 between the Nevada border and the California Agricultural Inspection Station with a new, temporary lane to be added to the shoulder. According to Gov. Newsom, this action provides traffic congestion relief that has frustrated travelers on I-15. In his news release, the governor called the expansion, “crucial for continued economic health and resilience in the region and beyond.”

In her letter, Chair Harnik emphasized the urgent need for state action.

“Riverside County, like the California-Nevada border, also has longstanding traffic issues that we have worked to address. While we appreciate the state’s assistance to date, we frankly need much more. We need a proactive partnership and strategy from the state to bring traffic relief to this region.”

She also stated, “The well-being and prosperity of our disadvantaged communities depend on it, as do the state and national economies. While multimodal transportation systems are vital to future mobility, roads and highway expansion cannot be discounted as a tool that helps keep people and goods moving.”

From the 2002 voter-approved [Measure A transportation sales tax](#) to the 2020 Commission-approved [Traffic Relief Plan](#), RCTC continues to develop and deliver critical transportation improvements, with limited resources, to meet the infrastructure needs of a region experiencing unprecedented population growth and goods movement traffic.

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## **RCTC Chair Harnik Requests Support for Riverside County Transportation Solutions**

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Chair Harnik has asked Gov. Newsom to call her to discuss how he may partner with RCTC to make meaningful improvements to the lives of Riverside County's working families.

Read full letter [here](#). For more information, go to [rctc.org/support](https://rctc.org/support)

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