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**Union leader emphasizes hidden costs of Prop. 6**

Alameda, Calif. – Operating Engineers Local 3 Business Manager Russ Burns believes Prop. 6 is not only bad for the middle class construction worker, some 37,000, of which he represents, but it's also bad for California drivers. "Prop. 6 not only threatens the safety of California drivers, it threatens local middle-class workers and businesses that thrive during construction," said Burns. "We will have all hands on deck for a No on Prop. 6 campaign this fall."

TRIP, a National Transportation Research Group, recently reported that California drivers pay a total of \$61 billion each year and as much as \$2,995 per driver in some areas, due to extra vehicle maintenance/repairs and financial burden of accidents resulting from rough roads, bridges and other deteriorating transportation infrastructure.

"This report only confirms why we oppose Prop. 6, a misguided attempt to overthrow the will of the voters," said Burns

If passed, Prop. 6 would repeal a funding bill the California State Legislature passed last year and California voters secured in June under a lockbox measure, which prevents the funds from being used for any purpose other than transportation infrastructure. The result would be the elimination of \$54 billion in transportation funding, directly affecting nearly 7,000 bridges, road safety, transportation and public transit improvement projects currently underway throughout California. According to Allan Zaremborg, President and CEO of the California Chamber of Commerce (CalChamber), this would hurt job creation in the state and jeopardize more than 68,000 good-paying jobs and \$183 billion in economic growth.

Infrastructure has been in the limelight lately after an aging bridge in Genoa, Italy collapsed in August, killing 39 people and raising new concerns about the safety of bridges in the United States. In California, over 13,700 bridges are 50 years old or older, and an investigative unit tasked with assessing their condition ranked more than 1,600 of these locally and state-maintained bridges as "structurally deficient."

To read the full TRIP report, go to [http://www.tripnet.org/docs/CA Transportation by the Numbers TRIP Report Aug 2018.pdf](http://www.tripnet.org/docs/CA_Transportation_by_the_Numbers_TRIP_Report_Aug_2018.pdf)

*To find out why Prop. 6 is bad for the middle class, visit [NoProp6.com](http://NoProp6.com). Operating Engineers Local 3 is one of the largest construction trades locals in the United States and represents about 36,000 heavy equipment operators and other workers in construction, public works and law enforcement in Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah and Hawaii. For more information about Operating Engineers Local 3, please visit [www.oe3.org](http://www.oe3.org).*

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