



# CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

SENATOR ART TORRES (RET.), CHAIRMAN

SD07.37 A

## SUPPORT PARK INTEGRITY

**WHEREAS**, the Orange County Transportation Authority supports the Foothill Transportation Corridor South Toll Road Extension (241), hereinafter referred to as Foothill-South, as an important regional facility that would help reduce future congestion on the San Diego Freeway (I-5) in South Orange County; and

**WHEREAS**, the current proposed Foothill South extension is planned to connect to the I-5 just across the San Diego county line. The proposed alignment would split the 2,100 acre San Onofre State Park, eliminating 320 acres of the park and having potentially significant impact on local flora and fauna. It would also cut through the Donna O'Neill Conservancy, a sensitive environmental area and building the proposed alignment would set a troubling precedent for paving over state parkland; and

**WHEREAS**, a legitimate disagreement has occurred between two important sections of the California Democratic Party on this issue. On one hand, the state and local Building Trades Councils strongly advocate the construction of the Foothill-South extension as a way to reduce existing and future traffic congestion and create good, prevailing wage jobs for local workers. On the other hand, many California environmentalists and organizations oppose the Foothill-South extension because of the significant negative environmental consequences that a six-lane freeway would present, as well as the precedent it would set that could put other parks at risk;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the California Democratic Party opposes the current proposed alignment of the Foothill-South extension through San Onofre State Park; that the California Democratic Party opposes any roadway through San Onofre State park unless there is significant enough mitigation that a consensus of support for the project would exist with local elected officials, the State Coastal Commission and local environmental groups; and that we urge the Democratic members of our State Legislature and Congress to protect our state and national parks from unnecessary development; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the California Democratic Party urges the Orange County Transportation Authority, the Transportation Corridor Agency and the Southern California Association of Governments to work with California's congressional delegation and the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy to seek additional land to provide an alternate route for the 241 Foothill South extension.

Resolutions Committee Substitute

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Adopted by the Democratic State Central Committee of California  
AKA "California Democratic Party"  
At Its Annual State Convention  
San Diego Convention Center  
April 29, 2007