

April 14, 2022

The Honorable Cristina Garcia
California State Assembly
California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SUPPORT - AB 1778** - State transportation funding: freeway widening: poverty and pollution

Dear Assemblymember Garcia,

SPUR supports AB 1778, which would require the Department of Transportation to consult the California Healthy Places Index (HPI) prior to the start of highway widening, highway extensions and interchange expansion projects that would facilitate vehicular travel projects to determine if the project area meets the approved HPI score or be denied funding permits and personnel time.

Expanding auto access in communities that are already disadvantaged and overburdened by climate pollution further degrades the health and wellbeing of these communities. This bill would ensure that future transportation investments do not repeat the mistakes of the past and are consistent with California's climate, equity and environmental justice commitments.

Sincerely,

Laura Tolkoff

Laura Tolkoff
Transportation Policy Director