

# REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

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DATE: September 8, 2023

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations  
Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso *KEY for* Council File: 23-0002-S84  
Chief Legislative Analyst Assignment No. 23-09-0466

SUBJECT: Resolution to Support AB 776 (Holden)

**CLA RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached Resolution (Rodriguez – Blumenfield) to include in the City’s 2023-2024 State Legislative Program, support for AB 776 (Holden), which would require the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to work with California tribes local to, or historically located along, State Route 210 and identify locations to erect signage that recognize tribal lands and designate the highway as the Southern California Native American Freeway.

## SUMMARY

Resolution (Rodriguez – Blumenfield), introduced on August 11, 2023, states that State Route 210 follows the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains for approximately 85 miles, connecting the northeastern suburbs of Los Angeles with the Inland Empire. Existing law identifies the California state highway system through a description of segments of roads that are owned and operated by Caltrans and requires the agency to maintain all signage adjacent to a state highway that have been erected to mark registered historical places.

Assembly Member Holden introduced AB 776 on February 13, 2023 to recognize the historical and cultural importance of the Indigenous People who lived along State Route 210. Specifically, AB 776 (Holden) requires Caltrans to identify appropriate locations to erect signage that recognize tribal lands in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties and rename State Route 210 as the Southern California Native American Freeway. The bill also requires Caltrans to work with the Native American Heritage Commission, the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names, the Counties of Los Angeles and San Bernardino, as well as California tribes local to, or historically located along, State Route 210.

Resolution (Rodriguez – Blumenfield) states that the bill recognizes the tribal cultural affiliations along State Route 210, including Cahuilla, Chumash, Gabrieleno/Tongva, Fernandeno/Tataviam, and Serrano, and includes findings and declarations related to the role Native Americans have played in the state and the country’s culture and success. This acknowledgement of indigenous lands presents an educational opportunity for people who may not be informed of the tribes and acknowledges indigenous/tribal protocol.

On June 18, 2019, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-15-19, which acknowledges and apologizes on behalf of the State for the historical “violence, exploitation, dispossession and the attempted destruction of tribal communities,” which dislocated California Native Americans from their ancestral land and sacred practices. It is the policy of Governor Newsom’s administration to support California tribes’ co-management of and access to natural lands that are within a California tribe’s ancestral land and under the ownership or control of the State, and to work cooperatively with California tribes that are interested in acquiring natural lands in excess of State needs.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Department of Transportation

BILL STATUS

9/1/23 In committee: Held under submission.  
8/28/23 In committee: Referred to suspense file.  
8/21/23 In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.  
8/14/23 From committee chair, with author’s amendments: Amend, re-refer to committee.  
Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on APPR.  
7/12/23 From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 3 Noes 1) (July 11)  
Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Mandana Khatibshahidi  
Analyst

SMT:mk

Attachment: AB 776 (Holden) Resolution (Rodriguez – Blumenfield)

**RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, existing law identifies the California state highway system through a description of segments of roads that are owned and operated by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans); and

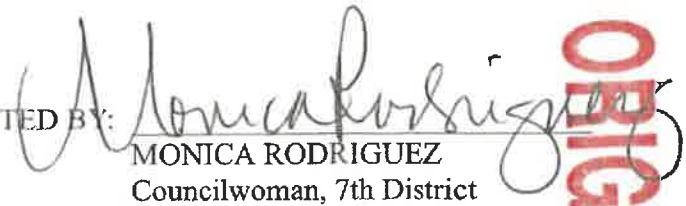
WHEREAS, California State Route (SR 210) follows the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains for approximately 85 miles, connecting the northeastern suburbs of Los Angeles with the Inland Empire; and

WHEREAS, on February 13, 2023, Assembly Member Holden introduced AB 776, which would require Caltrans to work with certain entities, including, but not limited to, California Indian tribes local to, or historically located along, State Route 210, to identify appropriate locations for signs to recognize tribal lands in Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties and designate the highway as the Southern California Native American Freeway; and

WHEREAS, AB 776 acknowledges the tribal cultural affiliations along Route 210 including Cahuilla, Chumash, Gabrieleno/Tongva, Fernandeño/Tataviam and Serrano and includes findings and declarations related to the role Native Americans have played in the state and country's culture and success; and

WHEREAS, the bill's acknowledgment of indigenous lands provides exposure and a learning opportunity for individuals who may have never heard the names of the tribes, acknowledges the land is indigenous/tribal protocol, and establishes a respectful routine and habit of supporting reconciliation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for Assembly Bill 776 (Holden) that would require Caltrans to work with California Indian tribes local to, or historically located along State Route 210, to identify appropriate locations for signs to recognize tribal lands and designate the highway as the Southern California Native American Freeway.

PRESENTED BY:   
MONICA RODRIGUEZ  
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY: 

  
AUG 11 2023

ORIGINAL