

**Contact Information:**

Justin Behrens  
(916) 654-2915  
justin.behrens@catc.ca.gov



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## **California Transportation Commission Releases Statement on Passing of Commissioner Joseph Tavaglione**

**SACRAMENTO, CA** – It is with deep sadness that the California Transportation Commission has learned of the passing of long-serving former Commissioner Joseph Tavaglione. Commissioner Tavaglione retired from the Commission on July 1, 2024, after over 20 years of dedicated service. His remarkable tenure began with his appointment by Governor Gray Davis in September 2002, followed by reappointments by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005 and 2009, Governor Jerry Brown in 2013 and 2017, and most recently, Governor Gavin Newsom in January 2021. He served as Chair of the Commission in 2005 and 2012.

“Joe was a tremendous supporter of transportation improvements across the entire state. He paved the way for notable transformation within California’s transportation system through the investments he approved in his 20-plus years as a Commissioner,” said Commission Chair Carl Guardino. “Not only was Joe well-respected for his more than 50 years of construction experience, but he was also loved, admired, and respected by all of us in the transportation community. He will be greatly missed.”

“Up until the very end, Joe Tavaglione dedicated his life to improving transportation for all of the people of California,” said California Transportation Secretary Toks Omishakin. “We are thankful for his more than two decades of legendary public service on the Commission, and join his colleagues, friends, and family in grieving while at the same time celebrating a life well-lived.”

In addition to his work with the Commission, Commissioner Tavaglione held numerous leadership roles. He served as Chair of the California Contractors’ State License Board, President of the National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies, and as a member of the City of Riverside Board of Public Utilities and Planning Commission. He was the President of Tavaglione Construction & Development Inc., a family-owned business he operated with his son, Jay. He was a Founding Member of the Board of Directors for the Security Bank of California and past President of The Valley Group in the Inland Empire. He was a member of the City of Riverside Planning Commission, a Board Member of the Riverside Humane Society Pet Adoption Center, the Riverside County Regional Medical Center Foundation, and the Children’s Spine Foundation. Additionally, he was a member of the UC Riverside Foundation Board of Trustees and the La Sierra University Foundation Board.

Commissioner Tavaglione’s legacy of commitment and service to California’s transportation infrastructure and his community will be remembered fondly. He will be deeply missed by his colleagues and friends.

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