# CITY OF LOS ALAMITOS

Audit Report

## SPECIAL GAS TAX STREET IMPROVEMENT FUND

*July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006*

JOHN CHIANG
California State Controller

April 2008

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California State Controller

April 11, 2008

Ken C. Parker, Mayor
City Of Los Alamitos
3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Marcie Medina
Interim Administrative Services Director
City of Los Alamitos
3191 Katella Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Dear Mr. Parker and Ms. Medina:

The State Controller's Office audited the City of Los Alamitos' Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund for the period of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006. We also audited the Traffic Congestion Relief Fund allocations recorded in the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund for the period of July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2006.

Our audit disclosed that the city accounted for and expended its Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund—highway users tax and Traffic Congestion Relief Fund allocations—in compliance with requirements, and that no adjustment to the fund is required.

If you have any questions, please contact Steven Mar, Chief, Local Government Audits Bureau, at (916) 324-7226.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

JEFFREY V. BROWNFIELD
Chief, Division of Audits

JVB/sk:wm

cc: Marcie Medina, Interim
Administrative Services Director
City of Los Alamitos

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# Audit Report

## Summary

The State Controller's Office audited the City of Los Alamitos' Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund for the period of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006. We also audited the Traffic Congestion Relief Fund allocations recorded in the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund for the period of July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2006.

Our audit disclosed that the city accounted for and expended its Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund—highways users tax and Traffic Congestion Relief Fund allocations—in compliance with requirements, and that no adjustment to the fund is required.

## Background

The State apportions funds monthly from the highway users tax account in the transportation tax fund to cities and counties for the construction, maintenance, and operation of local streets and roads. The highway users taxes derive from state taxes on the sale of motor vehicle fuels. In accordance with Article XIX of the California Constitution and Streets and Highways Code section 2101, a city must deposit all apportionments of highway users taxes in its Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund. A city must expend gas tax funds only for street-related purposes. We conducted our audit of the city's Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund under the authority of Government Code section 12410.

Government Code section 14556.5 created a Traffic Congestion Relief Fund (TCRF) in the State Treasury for allocating funds quarterly to cities and counties for street or road maintenance, reconstruction, and storm damage repair. Cities must deposit funds received into the city account designated for the receipt of state funds allocated for transportation purposes. The city recorded its TCRF allocations in the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund. We conducted our audit of the city's TCRF allocations under the authority of Revenue and Taxation Code section 7104.

## Objective, Scope, and Methodology

Our audit objective was to determine whether the city accounted for and expended the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund in compliance with Article XIX of the California Constitution, the Streets and Highways Code, and Revenue and Taxation Code section 7104. To meet the audit objective, we determined whether the city:

- Properly deposited highway users tax apportionments and other appropriate revenues in the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund;
- Expended funds exclusively for authorized street-related purposes; and
- Made available unexpended funds for future expenditures.

We conducted our audit according to *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We did not audit the city's financial statements. We limited our audit scope to planning and performing the audit procedures necessary to obtain reasonable assurance that the city accounted for and expended the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund in accordance with the requirements of the Streets and Highways Code and Revenue and Taxation Code section 7104. Accordingly, we examined transactions, on a test basis, to determine whether the city expended funds for street purposes. We considered the city's internal controls only to the extent necessary to plan the audit.

## Conclusion

Our audit disclosed that the City of Los Alamitos accounted for and expended its Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund in compliance with Article XIX of the California Constitution, and the Streets and Highways Code, for the period of July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006 Our audit also disclosed that the city accounted for and expended its TCRF allocations recorded in the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund in compliance with Article XIX of the California Constitution, the Streets and Highways Code, and Revenue and Taxation Code section 7104 for the period of July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2006.

## Follow-Up on Prior Audit Findings

The city satisfactorily resolved the findings noted in our prior audit report, issued on October 25, 1999.

## Views of Responsible Official

We discussed the audit results with city representatives during an exit conference on February 1, 2007. Marcie Medina, Interim Administrative Services Director, agreed with the audit results. Ms. Medina further agreed that a draft audit report was not necessary and that the audit report could be issued as final.

## Restricted Use

This report is intended for the information and use of city management and the SCO; it is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. This restriction is not intended to limit distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

*Original signed by*

JEFFREY V. BROWNFIELD
Chief, Division of Audits

April 11, 2008

# Schedule 1—
# Reconciliation of Fund Balance
# July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006

| | Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Highway Users Tax Allocation [1] | TCRF Allocation [3] | Totals |
| Beginning fund balance per city | $ 350,277 | $ — | $ 350,277 |
| Revenues | 239,944 | 53,515 | 293,459 |
| Total funds available | 590,221 | 53,515 | 643,736 |
| Expenditures | (241,769) | (53,515) | (295,284) |
| Ending fund balance per city | 348,452 | — | 348,452 |
| SCO adjustment | — | — | — |
| Ending fund balance per audit | $ 348,452 | $ — | $ 348,452 |

[1] The city receives apportionments from the state highway users tax account, pursuant to Streets and Highways Code sections 2105, 2106, 2107, and 2107.5. The basis of the apportionments for Sections 2105, 2106, and 2107 varies, but the money may be used for any street purpose. Streets and Highways Code section 2107.5 restricts apportionments to administration and engineering expenditures, except for cities with populations of fewer than 10,000 inhabitants. Those cities may use the funds for rights-of-way and for the construction of street systems.

[2] Government Code section 14556.5 created a Traffic Congestion Relief Fund (TCRF) in the State Treasury for allocating funds quarterly to cities and counties for street and road maintenance, reconstruction, and storm damage repair. The TCRF allocations were recorded in the Special Gas Tax Street Improvement Fund. The audit period was July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2006.

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