New Road Improvement Fee

Issue Date: June 9, 2020

New Information
Effective July 1, 2020, a $100 road improvement fee (RIF) will be assessed as part of the
total vehicle registration (VR) renewal fee on all model year 2020 and later zero emission
vehicles (ZEVs).

NOTE: The RIF will not be assessed on the initial registration of a newly-purchased
ZEV from a licensed vehicle dealer.

Procedures
Continue to process all VR renewal applications as normal. Programming will generate
the applicable RIF.

The following are exempt from the RIF:
- Commercial vehicles with an unladen weight of more than 10,000 pounds.
- Vehicles exempt from registration fees.
- Vehicles currently on planned nonoperational (PNO) status.
- International Registration Plan (IRP) vehicles.
- Vehicles with historical plates.

Background
Legislation signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in 2017, continues to provide
additional resources for the state to repair the infrastructure under its jurisdiction and
distribute billions of dollars at the local level for road maintenance.

Distribution
Notification that this memo is available online at dmv.ca.gov under Publications was
made via California DMV’s Automated Email Alert System in June 2020.

Reference
California Vehicle Code §9250.6

Contact
Call the DMV Customer Communications Section at (916) 657-6560 for further
clarification of this memo.