



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Chairwoman Betty T. Yee**

**1<sup>st</sup> District – San Francisco**

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## **BETTY T. YEE SAYS GASOLINE USE UP SLIGHTLY IN JANUARY**

A recently announced decline in gasoline consumption in California during the last three quarters of 2006 may have ended in January 2007 according to new figures released today by Board of Equalization Chairwoman Betty T. Yee.

“While it is too early to tell if this is the end of a trend or an anomaly, Californians used 3.3 million more gallons of gasoline in January this year over last,” said Chairwoman Yee. Month-to-month fluctuations were noted in the last three quarters of 2006, even though declines were reported in each quarter’s totals.

“Gas prices declined through most of January, which likely explains the pickup in consumption,” said Yee.

Average pump prices started the year at \$2.656, and dropped to \$2.535 four weeks later.

On average, January 2007 prices were about 19 cents above those seen in January 2006.

From April thru December of 2006, Californians used 165 million gallons less gasoline than the same period of 2005. During that period of declining consumption, the average price was \$2.958 – up 33 cents from the same period of 2005.

The figures can be viewed at: <http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/reports/imvf10ynet.pdf>.

Chairwoman Betty T. Yee was elected to her post in November 2006. Her district includes many of California’s coastal counties, from Del Norte to Santa Barbara, and includes the entire San Francisco Bay Area.

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects nearly \$53 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

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