



March 08, 2013

Mary Nichols, Chairperson  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

***Re: Support for Transportation Coalition Proposal in Cap and Trade Investment Plan***

Dear Chairperson Nichols:

Organizations from across the state -- ranging from transportation and rail agencies to business and environmental groups – are writing in support of the proposal submitted by the Transportation Coalition for Livable Communities. This proposal would allocate funds equitably to regional governments to establish a competitive grant process for local entities, under state criteria, to incentivize integrated strategies that combine land use changes with infrastructure investments at the neighborhood scale to achieve greatest long term greenhouse gas emission (GHG) benefits.

Unique from other proposals for state funding programs, the Transportation Coalition's proposal would stimulate local innovation and flexibility to get the greatest GHG reductions and best overall benefits for communities – while cost effectively meeting the goals of AB 32 and supporting co-benefits including: air quality, public health, resource protection, equity, affordable housing, agriculture, and safety.

This proposal integrates livable community infrastructure, maintenance, and operations of the transportation system to maximize GHG reductions from combinations of strategies – rather than single purpose investments. It also would serve as leverage to investments in rail modernization, interregional plans, and other funding mechanisms to encourage more sustainable growth and transportation infrastructure.

California faces a significant shortage in funds to maintain our existing transportation system, and lacks adequate funding to build an active transportation network. This proposal would provide funding for livable community investments to meet the challenges of increasing development in existing urban and developed areas to meet the requirements of SB 375. This proposal would fund GHG-reducing investments at the local level that implement regional Sustainable Communities Strategies within existing urbanized or developed areas – while also helping local governments meet critical sustainable transportation infrastructure and maintenance needs.

We support the Transportation Coalition's proposal for combinations of transportation investments, including: transit service, operating, and maintenance costs; road and bridge maintenance; retrofits for complete streets and urban greening; and clean technology infrastructure – all integrated with land use changes to achieve the maximum greenhouse gas emission reductions from the transportation sector.

This proposal is consistent with AB 32, SB 375, and the provisions of AB 1532 and SB 535 --- and most equitably and effectively meets the transportation and greenhouse gas emission reduction goals of the state and local communities. We request that this proposal be considered for inclusion in the Investment Plan.

Cap and trade revenue is public money resulting from the administration of AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act. It must be spent to implement that law. We believe the Transportation Coalition's proposal provides the most public and local community benefits while achieving the most cost effective implementation of AB 32.

Thank you for your consideration to include funding for this proposal in the AB 32 Investment Plan.

Sincerely,

Transit Agencies

**Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority  
San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District  
Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority  
San Mateo County Transit District  
Victor Valley Transit Authority  
OmniTrans - San Bernardino Valley  
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District  
California Transit Association\***

Northern California Agencies

**Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority  
Humboldt County Association of Governments  
Placer County Transportation Planning Agency  
Shasta Regional Transportation Agency  
City of Sacramento  
City of Davis  
County of Marin  
County of Santa Clara  
County of Sacramento  
County of Napa  
Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency  
Napa Valley Transportation Authority  
Sonoma County Transportation Authority  
Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection  
Authority  
Alameda County Transportation Commission  
Sacramento Area Council of Governments\*  
Metropolitan Transportation Commission\*  
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management  
District\***

Central Coast Agencies

**Transportation Agency for Monterey County  
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation  
Commission  
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments  
County of Monterey**

San Joaquin Valley Agencies

**Kern Council of Governments  
Merced County Association of Governments  
Madera County Transportation Commission  
County of Stanislaus  
San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council\***

Southern California Agencies

**County of San Bernardino  
Western Riverside Council of Governments  
San Diego Council of Governments\*  
Southern California Association of Governments\***

Business & Group Associations

**United Contractors  
Bay Area Council  
Urban Counties Caucus  
Teichert  
California Alliance for Jobs\*  
Transportation California\*  
California State Association of Counties\*  
League of California Cities\*  
Self-Help Counties Coalition\*  
California Association of Councils of  
Governments\***

Non-Profits & Individual Support

**Local Government Commission  
WALKS Sacramento  
Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition  
Richmond SPOKES  
California Urban Forests Council  
Sacramento Tree Foundation  
Sustainable Napa County  
Met Sacramento High School  
Cobblestone Placemaking  
Marlon Boarnet, Director of Graduate Programs in  
Planning and Development, University of  
Southern California  
Natural Resources Defense Council\***

*\*Transportation Coalition for Livable Communities Member Organization*



SUPPORTERS



Sustainable NAPA COUNTY

