



May 22, 2012

Hon. Ron Roberts, Supervisor
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: May 24 ARB Discussion -Investment of Auction Funds from California Cap-and-Trade Program toward improving Transportation

Dear Supervisor Roberts,

Thank you so much for your long time service as a member of the California Air Resources Board. You are no doubt aware of the great opportunity that Cap & Trade Auction revenues present toward providing essential support to fund improvements in meeting carbon reduction goals from transportation. This opportunity can ensure California has a cleaner and healthier environment for generations to come.

Move San Diego and WalkSanDiego recommend the state prioritize funding to improve smarter, healthy transportation options and sustainable communities envisioned through AB 32 and SB 375. The single highest contributor to greenhouse gasses in California is transportation. In San Diego, its 46%, higher than any county and 16% above national average. Investments in low carbon transportation options such as transit, walking, biking and sustainable community design are vital (present the best nexus) in meeting AB 32 goals to reduce per capita emissions.

Strategic investment of carbon auction funds can further the aim of AB 32 and deliver long-term economic, environmental, and clean energy benefits. We recommend revenues should be used to expand and improve public transportation, vanpool, car sharing, and walkable, bikeable communities. These investments should be focused in already developed areas, especially along highly congested corridors and in low-income communities.

SANDAG has prepared a Sustainable Communities Strategy that meets the ARB GHG targets. Now our region needs help in implementing it.

According to a recent APA survey of California planning directors, the biggest barrier to successful implementation of SB 375 is the lack of funding for public transportation.

Even with the extension of TransNet, the 40 year "self help" measure, The recent adoption of the 2050 RTP left our region with an \$11 billion gap in funding for transit over 40 years. Locally, the proposed "Quality of Life" sales tax measure would only generate one quarter *or less* that

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what the needs is forecasted to be for transit. It's not enough to fund publically desired "Next Level" transit operations.

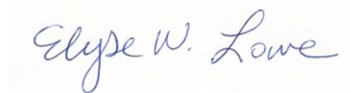
By increasing funding for transit operations from the state, Cap & Trade revenue would advance a multitude of California's statewide AB 32 and SB 375 goals and allow our region to improve the coordination of land use planning and transportation, improve air quality and create sustainable transportation choices. To maximize ridership and GHG reductions, funds should be allocated to local governments to develop and implement plans for equitable transit-oriented development around stations, including homes affordable to lower income households.

In addition to funding transit operations and innovation, we recommend projects promoting Complete Streets or greater safety for people who bike and walk to be another priority area of allocation of the Cap & Trade revenue. Improvement toward these low carbon, low cost modes of transportation have been proven to pay off in fewer vehicle trips taken (reduced VMT) and net improvements in overall public health. By promoting and funding more of these trips, the Bay Area estimates their draft SCS will reduce premature deaths due to fine particulate matter by 73%.

We strongly urge you as an Air Resources Board member, a County Supervisor, an MTS and SANDAG Committee member and as a prominent San Diego transit and public health supporter, to please recommend allocating new Cap and Trade revenues to fund transportation options in SANDAG Smart Growth areas.

Supervisor Roberts, thank you so much for your continued service to the County of San Diego. We appreciate your work on these issues, and the time you dedicate to making San Diego County a better place. If you have any questions, I may be reached at (619) 702-4266 or by email at elowe@movesandiego.org.

Sincerely,



Elyse W. Lowe
Executive Director,
Move San Diego



Kathleen Ferrier, AICP
Policy Manager,
WalkSanDiego

MOVE SAN DIEGO is the public voice in support of effective and sustainable transportation in the San Diego region. We organize and serve a broad collaboration of people to prioritize, fund, and implement sustainable, healthy, convenient transportation and land use solutions.

WalkSanDiego is dedicated to enhancing the livability of communities by making walking a safe and viable choice for all people.