

10-8-2

Alejandro Esparza

**City of Los Angeles testimony
Air Resources Board
September 23, 2010**

Re: Item #2 -- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Targets

Presented by: Legislative Representative, Alejandro Esparza

The City of Los Angeles strongly supports the greenhouse gas regional targets established by ARB staff for both 2020 and 2035. These targets are the product of intensive coordination and collaboration between the RTAC, ARB and the MPOs and represent a feasible approach to creating more sustainable neighborhoods and communities.

The city will, as we have in the past, continue to work with our Metropolitan Planning Agency – the Southern California Associations of Government – to implement the targets that this Board establishes. We do this for a number of reasons, but primarily because these targets maintain local authority over land-use decisions, and don't in any way mandate local government to change their land-use policies. These targets do not impose any sanctions for not conforming to the regional strategy. These targets were developed with input from all local jurisdictions, including LA. These targets are readily achievable and reflect the goals and work already underway in Los Angeles.

We have reduced green house gas emissions by 11 percent and are well on our way to having 40% of our energy from renewables by 2035. The City knows that meeting these goals will not be cheap. We will require additional funding for continued modeling and planning and to ensure that we develop our regional Sustainable Communities Strategy to meet these targets.

I want to assure the Board that we will continue looking - as we have done thus far - for all opportunities for funding - from local, State and federal sources. We will leverage these funds through our regional partnerships and we will take the kind of regional action necessary to reduce green house gas emissions, improve our air quality and create a future Los Angeles that is healthy, vibrant and sustainable.