Ms. Mary Nichols

Chair, California Air Resources Board

1001 I Street

Sacramento CA 95814

RE:  Investment plan for cap-and-trade auction revenues

Dear Chair Nichols:

CHPC is one of more than 50 organizations that has signed on to the [Sustainable Communities for All proposal](http://www.chpc.net/dnld/SustainableCommunitiesforAllProposal.pdf), which would direct a portion of cap-and-trade auction revenues to building and preserving affordable homes near transit, increasing public and active transit options, and providing energy efficiency and sustainable energy resources for multifamily homes affordable to low income households.

California's transportation sector is responsible for 38% of greenhouse gas emissions, more than any other sector. **Because transportation needs are driven in large part by where people can afford to live, housing affordability strongly affects the sector’s emissions.**

According to [a recent report by the California Housing Partnership Corporation](http://chpc.net/dnld/AffordableTODReport030113.pdf), preserving and building affordable homes near transit will allow California to maximize VMT and GHG-reduction benefits of investment in transit infrastructure and transit-oriented development. In addition to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency and sustainable energy investments in low income multifamily homes provide an opportunity to improve public health and lower operating costs to residents and building owners, helping to preserve affordable rents and provide financial relief.

The following existing programs will expeditiously and effectively reduce GHGs through investment in housing, transportation, and energy efficiency:

1. The Affordable Transit-Oriented Development Program
2. Weatherization Assistance Program, The Energy Savings Assistance Program, and the Multifamily Affordable Solar Homes Program
3. The State Transit Assistance Program and proposed Active Transportation Program

Our firm: FME Architecture and Design is also backing the Sustainable Communities for all proposal.

The Sustainable Communities for All proposal will help to achieve the vision of AB 32 and SB 375 equitably by providing transportation and housing choices that allow all Californians to drive less and reduce household costs, especially for low income households. We thank you for the opportunity to provide this input.

Sincerely,

Sally P. Fee

FME Architecture and Interior Design

cc: Megan Kirkeby, California Housing Partnership, mkirkeby@chpc.net