California Legislature

STATE CAPITOL SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA



July 12, 2011

Mary Nichols, Chair, California Air Resources Board 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairwoman Nichols,

We write jointly, as Members of the San Diego delegation to the California State Legislature, to respectfully ask that CARB maintain the current levels of funding available for alternatively-fueled vehicles under the Clean Vehicle Incentive Project for vehicles used in car-sharing programs.

As you may already know, Car2go has proposed to launch the world's first fully-electric car-sharing program in San Diego later this year. In the planning and rollout of this ambitious program, Car2go will commit \$20 million, including the purchase of 300 fully-electric Smart vehicles. During Car2go's worldwide search for a location to launch the program, the availability of public incentives for the program played a key role. The selection of San Diego as the launch city rested largely upon the availability of electric vehicle charging infrastructure being installed in the City as part of a \$191 million federal grant to the EV Project under the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009), and the availability of rebate dollars through California's Clean Vehicle Rebate Project. However, since Car2go made the decision to come to San Diego, CARB staff has proposed to cut rebate levels by fifty percent for vehicles used in any application.

As members of the California State Legislature, we appreciate CARB staff's intention to make rebates available to more individuals by cutting the rebate level by fifty percent. However, we also urge CARB to consider the numerous public benefits that alternatively-fueled car-share programs can bring to California. The establishment of such programs in California has the potential to bring increased access to the program to segments of the population that cannot afford an alternatively-fueled vehicle while at the same time decreasing range anxiety and increasing consumer acceptance of alternatively-fueled vehicles. At the same time, alternatively-fueled car-sharing programs can help us to meet the ambitious environmental goals our state has set under AB 32 and SB 375. We also believe that it is critical that the Administration provide planning and investment

also believe that it is critical that the Administration provide planning and investment certainty to companies that are willing to make significant investments toward meeting those environmental goals.

We look forward to your support of alternatively-fueled car-sharing programs under the Clean Vehicle Incentive Project.

Sincerely,

TONI ATKINS

Assembly Member, 76th District

MARTY BLOCK

Assembly Member, 78th District

NATHAN FLETCHER

Assembly Member, 75th District

BENTHUESO

Assembly Member, 79th District

JUAN VARGAS

Senator, 39th District