



April 4, 2017

PRESIDENT
Ryan Hooper

Mary D. Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1011 I Street, P.O. Box 2415
Sacramento, CA 95814

VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Janine Bera

Dear Chair Nichols:

SECRETARY
Melissa Williams

I am writing to express our support for designating Sacramento as Electrify America's first Green City and for proposing investment in community charging in the Sacramento region as part of Volkswagen's Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Plan. Volkswagen's proposed Plan clearly meets the California Air Resources Board's guidance for investments and will help further California's position as an innovative leader in sustainability.

TREASURER
Michael Benoff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Christi Black-Davis
Cindy Carter
Cheryl Dell

At the Sacramento Tree Foundation we are ready to leverage this investment, especially in disadvantaged neighborhoods.

Eric Douglas
Della Gilleran
William Ishmael
Steve Johns

Our vision is to build upon Volkswagen's framework by adding street tree canopy in the Plan's targeted neighborhoods. This will improve the quality of life, and health and well-being of the residents.

John Lane
Charles Metzinger

Recent research and evidenced-based studies have associated streets with complete canopy cover with a reduction in traffic speeds, lower incidences of car accidents, and increased longevity of asphalt roadways. In addition, tree lined streets are associated with stabilizing neighborhoods, increasing property values, and improving urban aesthetics. The environmental co-benefits of streets with ample tree canopy include an uptake of airborne pollutants, cooler summer ambient temperatures, and cleaner water.

Tom Rotelli
Rev. Jean Shaw
Robert Sherry

Michelle Smira Bratmiller
Jeff Townsend
Honey Walters

A recent MIT study which identified the City of Sacramento's street tree canopy as number one in the nation and number three in the world also highlighted the lack of street tree canopy throughout our disadvantaged neighborhoods. Aligning our urban greening plan with the Volkswagen Plan is an unparalleled opportunity to demonstrate successful programs that benefit all residents, particularly those in our most underserved communities.

Dr. Robert Waste
John Webre
Caylyn Wright

BOARD EMERITUS
Jane Hagedorn
Ann Kohl

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Raymond L.
Tretheway

The Sacramento Tree Foundation has a long and rich history of working closely with the City of Sacramento to advance an urban forest that benefits all neighborhoods. We also have a 25 year partnership with the Sacramento Municipal Utility District to



educate residents throughout city neighborhoods on the value of trees and best planting and care practices.

We are very supportive of this important opportunity to be Electrify America's first Green City. We are committed to ensuring its success while also contributing value added elements to making all of Sacramento's neighborhoods sustainable and climate resilient.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Ray Tretheway
Executive Director

cc: Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor
Kevin de León, Senate President Pro Tempore
Anthony Rendon, Assembly Speaker
ARB Board Members
Jennifer Gress, Office of Mayor Darrell Steinberg