

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0506

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2311 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0506
(202) 225-7163

DISTRICT OFFICE
ROBERT T. MATSUI U.S. COURTHOUSE
501 I STREET, SUITE 12-600
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 498-5600
<http://matsui.house.gov>

April 7, 2017

Ms. Mary Nichols
Board Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for the City of Sacramento to be designated as a Green City

Dear Chair Nichols:

I strongly support designating Sacramento as a Green City in Volkswagen's Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Plan. As the Member of Congress who represents the City of Sacramento, and as a long-serving member of the House Energy & Commerce Committee, I understand the importance of smart and strategic infrastructure investments to further our mission of becoming a state powered by clean energy, dedicated to environmental protection, and committed to achieving social equity. Sacramento is the city in California best positioned to convert Volkswagen's ZEV investment into scalable technologies that will improve the lives of people—and the environment—across the State of California.

An infusion of the magnitude being considered by the Air Resources Board must leverage existing partnerships while delivering improvements for a range of communities, and Sacramento is best positioned to achieve both of these goals. My city has made significant investments in ZEVs, charging infrastructure, public awareness, and consumer incentive programs; and it boasts strong partnerships with key local agencies like the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District, Sacramento Regional Transit, the County of Sacramento, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments, and the U.C. Davis Institute of Transportation Studies. The U.S. Department of Transportation has also recognized the Sacramento region's leadership in this space, recently designating the three major freight routes that run through the city as a national electric vehicle charging corridor (which further positions Sacramento as a leading supporter of Governor Jerry Brown's California Sustainable Freight Action Plan).

The Sacramento region is growing, with a population of 2.4 million people that is expected to surpass 3 million in the next 20 years. The city is one of the most diverse communities in the nation, with significant potential to bring new ideas and service models to scale in an environment reflective of all of California. A disproportionate share of the region's population live in disadvantaged census tracts, and historic challenges with ozone pollution and youth unemployment make Sacramento an ideal place for an infusion of clean energy resources such as low-cost ZEV vehicles, public charging infrastructure, and car share programs. Sacramento is a market that is large enough to test new concepts, but manageable enough for changes to be implemented visibly and effectively.

Directing Volkswagen's investment to Sacramento will generate broad-based benefits that will spur innovation across the region and across the State. Sacramento will deliver a transformational program that delivers real benefits to the kinds of communities that need it most. I urge you to choose Sacramento as a Green City in Volkswagen's ZEV Investment Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doris O. Matsui". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

DORIS O. MATSUI

Member of Congress