

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0007
(916) 319-2007
FAX (916) 319-2107
DISTRICT OFFICE
915 L STREET, SUITE 110
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 324-4676
FAX (916) 327-3338

Assembly California Legislature

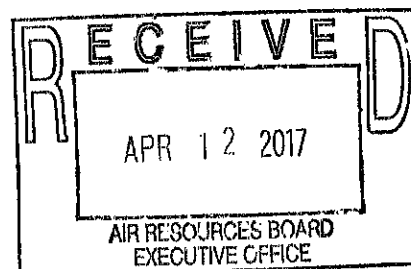


KEVIN McCARTY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTH DISTRICT

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON FAIRS,
ALLOCATION AND CLASSIFICATION

April 7, 2017

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



Dear Chairwoman Nichols:

I write to express my strong support for designating the City of Sacramento as a Green City in Volkswagen's Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Plan. Sacramento's Green City initiative will include shuttles to transport the area's poorest residents to needed services, last-mile connections to the region's light rail system, and autonomous vehicle demonstrations. Intertwined throughout its efforts will be workforce training and job opportunities, significant emphasis on disadvantaged communities, and highly visible public demonstrations of new technologies and service models.

Sacramento's readiness and ability to deliver will enable transformational change that will catalyze the advancement and use of ZEV technologies in a manner that is rapidly scalable and transferable to other areas of the state.

Rated as one of the most racially and culturally diverse cities in the nation, Sacramento is the capital city of the sixth largest economy in the world, with rare opportunity to test programs that are replicable across a range of communities. And as the State's capital, Sacramento is at the heart of California policy-making. Showcasing the State's capital as the first Green City provides an unparalleled opportunity to demonstrate California's commitment to sustainability and highlight innovative mobility programs that benefit all residents, particularly those in disadvantaged communities.

Sacramento has established a readiness that is built on its initial investments in ZEVs, charging infrastructure, public awareness, and consumer incentives; its ability to both innovate and spread successful innovations throughout the State; and its strong partnerships with key agencies, including, but certainly not limited to, 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 UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies.

Among other important initiatives, work with these key partners resulted in the first regional EV readiness plan for Sacramento in 2013, known as TakeCharge, with a second one currently underway. The purpose of this plan is to develop an efficient charging network that meets the current and future demands for EV adoption by identifying charging in locations that minimize the need to drive, and strategies to monitor the placement of charging opportunities over time.



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While this is a good start, a concentrated investment is needed to scale up our efforts and achieve the Governor's target of 1.5 million ZEVs by 2025.

To realize Sacramento County's share of the Governor's target, UC Davis recently developed scenarios that indicate we should aim to support approximately 66,000 to 84,000 ZEVs in the County by 2025. To realize these levels, the County's current fleet of roughly 3,000 ZEVs needs to grow by more than 20 times. Furthermore, to get these cars on the road, significant investment in charging infrastructure is necessary; UC Davis's analysis suggests we have less than 50 percent of the public and workplace chargers needed to support ZEV ownership targets by 2025.

Note that these analyses focus only on light-duty vehicles and undercount the importance of our infrastructure for regional heavy-duty trucking and corridor charging. Situated at the confluence of three major freight routes, which the US Department of Transportation has also designated as national electric vehicle charging corridors, Sacramento is uniquely poised to foster transformation in our interstate freight system. We see ZEV deployment in Sacramento as critical to the success of efforts to electrify freight transport, consistent with the Governor's California Sustainable Freight Action Plan.

This investment is particularly important in Sacramento, where our disadvantaged communities rank in the top 10 percent of disadvantaged census tracts in the state, and a disproportionate share of Sacramento's residents live in disadvantaged communities, with 36 percent of Sacramento residents living in the top 25 percent of disadvantaged census tracts statewide. In addition, among the 25 largest metropolitan areas in the country, Sacramento has the second highest youth unemployment rate, and Sacramento has been ranked the sixth most polluted city in the nation for ozone. The investment in Sacramento as a Green City is sorely needed.

The potential for transformative change coupled with the environmental and economic distress many residents face make Sacramento the ideal area for State investment.

Sincerely,



KEVIN McCARTY
Assemblymember, 7th District

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