



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

April 10, 2017

Mr. Mark Williams
Mailstop 3E Air Resources Board
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, California 95812

Dear Mark,

I am writing to express my support and commitment to improving air quality and accelerating a clean, advanced transportation industry in Los Angeles and urge your support for the City's application for a Volkswagen (VW) designated Green City.

This innovative collaborative package of zero emission "shovel ready" projects - with its broad coalition from public agencies to community-based organizations and operators- may prove to be a model for the rest of the State of California in serving disadvantaged communities impacted by pollution. I am confident that the team assembled and the comprehensive strategy proposed will be highly successful and take important steps towards mitigating impacts in wide range of neighborhoods in our city.

Angelenos need flexible options that are designed around the unique nature of their communities. The City's strong leadership and collaborative relationships with City departments, project partners, and community-based organizations make highly possible the successful adoption of solutions to complement with public transportation and an expanded electric transportation network while achieving significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Selecting Los Angeles as a Green City enables VW to achieve maximum impact, leverage public and private funding, mitigate diesel emissions in communities that need it the most, and accelerate zero emission vehicle deployment. Los Angeles has already identified, "shovel-ready" projects that can augment investments in vehicle electrification and sustainable mobility; and the City's global brand can enable VW to magnify its investment in one of the most traveled to destinations in the world.

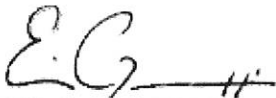
Moreover, Los Angeles has demonstrated leadership and commitment to an electrified future and is eager to work with VW and the Electrify America LLC team to include innovative solutions that propel the City into the next iteration of urban mobility—enabling VW to achieve significant impacts of a healthier environment, stronger economy, and greater equity in the communities of LA.

Key considerations for Los Angeles as a Green City include:

- Los Angeles is an incredibly important market for vehicle electrification—with a large consumer market of more than 7.7 million registered vehicles and over 45,000 registered plug-in electric vehicles. The City is also the first major city to have an electric vehicle car share pilot in disadvantaged communities.
- Los Angeles has committed itself to an electrified future (see the City's pLAN at www.plan.lamayor.org) that also incorporates new and innovative mobility (see LA's Urban Mobility in a Digital Age plan) and goods movement solutions (see Clean Air Action Plan) to improve environmental, economic, and equity outcomes within the region. The City's Sustainable City pLAN has intentionally set major initiatives on air quality, mobility, transportation, green jobs, and environmental justice, including leading by example with a focus on greening the City's own internal fleet.
- Los Angeles can significantly benefit from zero emission vehicle investment as the region has some of the worst air quality in the state with significant air pollution stemming largely from diesel vehicles. Over 50% of the state's disadvantaged communities are located within Los Angeles—many of whom suffer disproportionately from transportation pollution. This allows Los Angeles to leverage millions of Cap & Trade dollars, 25% of which must be awarded to projects touching disadvantaged communities.
- Los Angeles is the only place in the nation with two federally-designated Promise Zones.
- Los Angeles is home to the nation's busiest port complex (carrying 40% of the US inbound containerized freight) and busiest origin-and-destination airport (LAX).
- Los Angeles has committed itself to connecting corridors and improving mobility options for residents and visitors, including through a twice-approved voter-imposed tax on transit (bringing in \$120 billion over the next 40 years) and also through Mobility 2035, which stressed different modes of transportation and multi-modal options to move people, goods and services.
- Los Angeles has set ambitious deadlines to target increased BEVs in new vehicle procurement efforts for the city—making the city the largest EV fleet in the nation.
- Los Angeles is the headquarters for a Clean Energy Smart Manufacturing Innovation Institute, a \$70M grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Energy leveraging both state and private investment in cradle-to-grave clean energy technology advancements.
- Los Angeles is the only US-city as a finalist for the Olympics in 2024.
- Los Angeles is a key hub for tourism, accepting over 50 million visitors annually who collectively spend \$18 billion each year within the region.

For all of the above reasons, I strongly believe that the VW Green City initiative should go to Los Angeles where the investment can be leveraged many times over—enabling VW to reduce emissions in disadvantaged communities, pilot innovative programs in one of the largest consumer markets in the world, and increase access and awareness of zero emission vehicles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Garcetti', with a horizontal line extending to the right and a small flourish at the end.

ERIC GARCETTI
Mayor

cc: Mary Nichols, Chair