

November 3, 2021

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95815

RE: FY 21-22 Low Carbon Transportation Funding Plan

Dear California Air Resources Board Members and Staff,

The Lion Electric Co. (Lion) appreciates the opportunity to provide our support for the FY 21-22 Low Carbon Transportation Funding Plan. Lion is very happy to see the significant investment for zero-emission school buses and trucks and the overall prioritization of zero-emission vehicles.

Lion is a leading Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) of purpose built all-electric medium and heavy-duty vehicles, including zero-emission school buses, zero-emission trucks, and zero-emission shuttle buses. Lion is headquartered in Quebec, Canada, with facilities in both Northern California and Southern California, in Sacramento and Alhambra. Today, Lion has deployments in more than 16 states, and there are currently over 400 electric vehicles in operation throughout North America. Our zero-emissions school buses have been carrying kids to school every day safely for the last six years, with over 8 million miles of service provided. Lion is also deploying the Lion6 and Lion8, commercial heavy-duty electric urban trucks designed to serve California's freight and goods movement industries.

Lion strongly supports the proposed heavy-duty investments included in the Low Carbon Transportation discussion document. Specifically, Lion supports the proposed \$570 million for the HVIP program, including the \$130 million allocation for school buses, \$70 million allocation for transit buses, and \$75 million allocation for drayage trucks. The funding for zero-emissions school buses will help cash-strapped school districts transition aging vehicle fleets and reduce exposure to harmful pollutants for children throughout the state.

Lion also applauds utilizing the \$40 million for demonstration projects to support projects from ARB/CEC's previous joint drayage truck solicitation. These projects are poised to move forward and will achieve significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions, as well as provide the needed demonstration at-scale to advance zero-emission drayage trucks.

Lion supports the proposed allocations for clean transportation equity investments included within the discussion document. Specifically, Lion is encouraged by the funding for transportation equity projects, including \$10 million for the Clean Mobility in Schools Program. Within this, we stand behind staff's consideration to fund existing applications from the FY 2018-19 funding cycle that were extremely competitive, rather than conducting a new solicitation. These projects remain ready to move forward if awarded, and would immediately reduce GHG emissions, provide the much-needed demonstration and showcase of a comprehensive array of zero-emission mobility solutions for schools, and support educational opportunities for students, faculty, and the community to

learn more about the benefits of zero-emission vehicles. These projects will provide the lessons learned to deploy future, larger-scale zero-emission projects at other school districts throughout the state.

Lion greatly appreciates the opportunity to provide input and support for the FY 21-22 Low Carbon Transportation Funding Plan. We look forward to continuing to work with ARB to support the Low Carbon Transportation Funding Plan.

Sincerely,



Orville Thomas
Director of Government Relations
The Lion Electric Co.