



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

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August 26, 2015

Marsha McLean  
Mayor

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

Bob Kellar  
Mayor Pro Tem

**RE: Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Second Investment Plan Draft Concept**

Dear Ms. Nichols:

Dante Acosta  
Councilmember

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Second Investment Plan Draft (Concept Paper). The City of Santa Clarita strives to provide the highest level of municipal services to the community while remaining mindful of the great need to protect our environment and natural resources.

TimBen Boydston  
Councilmember

The Concept Paper's inclusion of Natural Resources and Waste Diversion as one of the three investment priorities identified within the draft investment concepts is of particular interest to the City of Santa Clarita. More specifically, the target goal of protecting and managing natural and working lands to store carbon and provide net greenhouse gas benefits is closely aligned with the priority of Santa Clarita to develop a greenbelt around the City for the purpose of preserving our natural lands for perpetuity and offering a permanent space to provide carbon sequestration. The City is appreciative that the Air Resources Board recognizes the significant role preservation of our natural lands plays in the ability to protect our natural environment and encourage that local governments be viewed as a primary recipient of these funds to fulfill this target goal.

Laurene Weste  
Councilmember

The City of Santa Clarita holds the preservation of natural lands within and around the city in high regard. Since the City's incorporation in 1987, we have worked diligently toward our goal of purchasing undeveloped open space parcels around Santa Clarita for the purpose of preservation and to form a greenbelt around the City to reduce overall carbon emissions and encourage infill growth within our community. This effort was greatly enhanced in 2007, when Santa Clarita's residents voted to establish the Open Space Preservation District to preserve natural lands around the City. Thanks to this successful program, the City's Open Space Preservation District properties, as well as jointly owned properties, total 8,745 acres.



Mary D. Nichols, Chair

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Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the Second Investment Plan Draft. If you have any questions regarding the City's comments, please contact Michael Murphy, Intergovernmental Relations Manager, at (661) 255-4384 or by email at [mmurphy@santa-clarita.com](mailto:mmurphy@santa-clarita.com).

Sincerely,



Marsha McLean

Mayor

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cc: Members of the City Council  
Senator Fran Pavley  
Senator Sharon Runner  
Assembly Member Scott Wilk  
Assembly Member Tom Lackey  
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager  
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager  
Rick Gould, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services  
Michael P. Murphy, Intergovernmental Relations Manager  
Matt Levesque, Administrative Analyst