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April 18, 2013

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**Mary Nichols, Chairperson**  
**California Air Resources Board**  
**1001 I Street**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**

**Re: Support for Transportation Coalition Proposal in Cap and Trade Investment Plan**

**Dear Ms. Nichols:**

The Santa Barbara County Association of Governments Board of Directors supports the Transportation Coalition for Livable Communities proposal to assure that a fair share of Cap-and-Trade funding is returned to transportation projects. This proposal would require that auction revenues attributable to vehicle fuels are used to meet the AB 32 goals by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation. Since transportation is responsible for nearly 40% of all greenhouse gas emissions, investing Cap and Trade revenues in transportation infrastructure and improvements is entirely appropriate and will help ensure that these funds are used to receive the greatest benefit.

The Transportation Coalition's proposal would also ensure that funds are distributed equitably to regional governments to establish a competitive grant process for local entities, under state criteria, to incentivize integrated strategies that combine land use changes with infrastructure investments. Given that every region will be paying the cost of the Cap and Trade program, every region can and should benefit from emission reducing transportation projects. SBCAG believes that regional agencies comprised of local government officials are in the best position to select projects that address the unique characteristics and needs of our communities while at the same time complying with guidelines established by the state. Flexibility and local control of these revenues will be key to ensuring the success of this program. Providing revenues to regional governments will also help us to implement the Sustainable Communities Strategies and meet the emission targets established under SB 375.

SBCAG urges the Air Resources Board to include the Transportation Coalition's proposal in the Cap and Trade Investment Plan.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

  
**Roger Aceves**  
**Chair, SBCAG**

**cc: Senator Hannah Beth Jackson**  
**Assemblymember Das Williams**  
**Assemblymember Katcho Achadjian**  
**Gus Khouri**  
**Joe Caves**

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