



April 24th, 2013

The Honorable Mary Nichols, Chair
 California Air Resources Board
 1001 I Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: DRAFT Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Investment Plan

Dear Chair Nichols,

On behalf of the dozens of non-profit urban forestry organizations working statewide to green California, we are writing to offer our appreciation to the Board for a thoughtful and inclusive public process that helped inform the DRAFT Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Investment Plan released by CARB on April 6th, 2013.

We are pleased to see the inclusion of urban forestry as an integral part of the CARB's recommendations for strategic investments of auction proceeds. These types of projects are critical components in increasing the livability of our communities while also providing significant GHG reductions through direct carbon sequestration.

We are also encouraged by the Plan's recognition of the role urban forestry can play in benefitting disadvantaged communities. The California ReLeaf Network of urban forestry non-profits works throughout the state to empower grassroots efforts and build strategic partnerships that preserve, protect, and enhance California's urban and community forests. As a network of non-profit entities, we have an outstanding record of working in concert with cities, counties, and special districts on projects that benefit California's communities and environment. Consequently, we are often best-suited to partner with disadvantaged communities to achieve local projects that are an integral element of the Draft Plan and will provide the greatest benefit.

Investments in trees, both in urban and rural communities, will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing energy demand and urban heat island effect, and will compliment multiple other investment sectors identified, including affordable housing and public transit. These projects can also provide key health, safety, environmental, and economic co-benefits.

We believe urban forestry investments through CAL FIRE's Urban and Community Forestry Program will meet the goals and objectives of AB 32, AB 1532, SB 535 and SB 375, and we thank the Board for including urban forestry and natural resources in this strategy.

Sincerely,



Ray Trethewey
Sacramento Tree Foundation



Jean Nagy
Huntington Beach Tree Society



David Wilkinson
Woodland Tree Foundation



Rhonda Berry
Our City Forest



Teri Katz
Richmond Trees



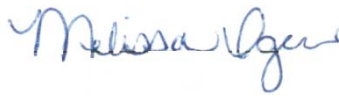
Rose Epperson
Western Chapter, International
Society of Arboriculture



Tina Marchetti
Benecia Tree Foundation



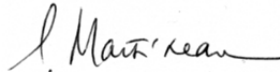
Bryan Tassey
Tree Partners Foundation



Melissa Iger
Tree Foundation of Kern



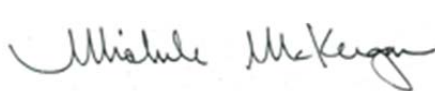
Ken Knight
Goleta Valley Beautiful



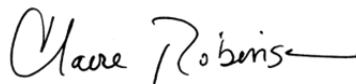
Catherine Martineau
Canopy



Brian Kempf
Urban Tree Foundation



Michele McKeegan
Keep Eureka Beautiful



Claire Robinson
Amigos de los Rios
Forests Council



Mark Kenyon
North East Trees



Gordon Piper
Oakland Landscape Committee



Joe Liszewski
California ReLeaf



Andy Lipkis
TreePeople



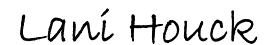
Keith McAleer
Tree Davis



Gail Church
Tree Musketeers



Lee Ayres
Tree Fresno



Lani Houck
Roseville Urban
Forest Foundation



Sandra Sellinger
Marin ReLeaf