

December 11, 2017

Clerk of the Board
Mary Nichols
Chair
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SACRAMENTO EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION (SEED) COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2017-18
FUNDING PLAN FOR CLEAN TRANSPORTATION INCENTIVES

Dear Chair Nichols:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2017-18 Funding Plan for Clean Transportation Incentives.

Volkswagen's selection of Sacramento as its first "Green City" where the theory that electric vehicles can become an essential part of uplifting communities utilizing electric transportation and fueling technologies is a great opportunity for the City of Sacramento and the entire Greater Sacramento Community. The designation also presents opportunities for disadvantaged communities in the City of Sacramento to develop integrated new energy solutions and build sustainable communities.

SEED

Sacramento Employment and Economic Development Corporation (SEED), a nonprofit corporation, was founded in 2016 with the support of the City of Sacramento, the Mayor and City Council to address the concerns of underserved neighborhoods.

The nonprofit's mission is to coordinate and facilitate health based economic development and revitalization in disadvantaged neighborhoods by developing programs and projects that create jobs, opportunities, and build community health and wealth. SEED's vision is that every neighborhood in the City of Sacramento becomes able to provide opportunities that enable people to live longer, healthier lives, regardless of zip code, income or ethnic background.

SEED's current focus is revitalization of the Del Paso Heights Community.

THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) STRATEGY

SEED strongly agrees that California can and must lead the way to creating a cleaner, more livable and equitable cities, particularly in disadvantaged communities. The proposed FY 2017-18 Funding Plan covers a total of \$663 million in clean transportation investments from four related funding sources appropriated to CARB in budget bills passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2017.

With this in mind, we support the proposed funding plan as this type of funding has the potential to significantly accelerate Electric Vehicle (EV) adoption, carshare, vanpools and public transportation in Del Paso Heights, an area in the highest levels of disadvantaged communities according to the CalEnviroScreen 3.0. Marysville Boulevard east to Roseville Road as 91%-95% disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution.¹ The area of Del Paso Heights further to the west from the Walter S. Ueda Parkway east to Altos Avenue is identified as 81%-85% disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution.

As mentioned by California Strategic Growth Council Member Manuel Pastor at the December 5 council meeting, his work with CARB found that neighborhoods most affected by air pollution are those that are situated next to freeways and high traffic corridors. Del Paso Heights is bordered to the north by Interstate 80, which recently completed expansion to a five-lane freeway. Moreover, south of Del Paso Heights is Highway 160. Both Interstate 80 and Highway 160 serve as traffic corridors to Downtown Sacramento, the center of state government activity.

The following funding sources would help disadvantaged communities to meet the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improve public health and the environment:

- \$540 million for Low Carbon Transportation Investments funded with Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds
- \$25 million Volkswagen Settlement Funds for Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV)

Understanding the challenges facing it and the need for a road map to addressing its challenges, Del Paso Heights already has a completed redevelopment plan by the City of Sacramento in addition to a completed Del Paso Heights revitalization plan by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Communities by Design.

SEED has been collaborating with the City of Sacramento to develop partnerships and capacity building in order to develop public-private partnerships for capital works projects in Del Paso Heights.

¹ OEHHA CalEnviroScreen 3.0 website:

<https://oehha.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=4560cfbce7c745c299b2d0cbb07044f5>

Del Paso Heights is ideally positioned for redevelopment and revitalization, with plans for a new affordable housing development and a greatly enhanced commercial corridor.

TWIN RIVERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT JUMP STARTS EV MOVEMENT WITH FLEET OF FIRST ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUSES AS PART OF LARGEST ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS DEPLOYMENT IN NATION

We want to acknowledge, as part of our comments, that the climate initiative to create cleaner and healthier communities has already taken root in Del Paso Heights. Twin Rivers Unified School District is among the school districts with which Metropolitan Air Quality Management District partnered to deploy electric school buses and charging infrastructure throughout the county.

GRANT UNION HIGH SCHOOL GEO ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE PROGRAM AND INVESTMENT OF \$1 MILLION BY CAP-AND-TRADE FUNDING FOR GREEN SPACES AND GARDENS

A low carbon and electrified transportation sector in Del Paso Heights would also help to spur interests in future careers in the green economy for Grant Union High School students through the GEO Environmental Science and Design Academy. The program's mission is to teach youth how to create healthy and sustainable communities, while engaging students in unique and challenging educational opportunities that foster a sense of community and environmental stewardship. The environmental science program is especially important for children in disadvantaged communities growing up with limited resources and support.

The GEO Academy offers college bound 9th-12th grade students outdoor learning and hands-on experiences in environmental horticulture, landscape architectural design, habitat restoration, "green" business, and environmental science monitoring. The academy provides strong academic training and real world based projects that deepen students' appreciation of our environment and its natural resources while preparing students for careers that will shape the planning of our environment and communities.

Finally, like the rest of Sacramento, we are delighted that the city has been designated Volkswagen's first "Green City" by CARB and hope that you will receive our comments and recommendations as an effort, on behalf of SEED Corporation, to enhance its potential for having the most significant and uplifting impact on Sacramento.

Thank you or your kind consideration of these recommendations and comments.

Sincerely,



Susie Wong
Managing Partner

Clear Sky Strategies, Inc.

cc: Monèt Crowley, Chair, SEED Corporation
Mel Assagai, Partner, Clear Sky Strategies, Inc.