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April 10, 2017

Mary D. Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
1011 I Street, P.O. Box 2415
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Volkswagen Settlement California ZEV Investment Plan

Dear Chair Nichols,

I am writing to express our strong support of the Volkswagen Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Plan, including the designation of Sacramento as the first Green City. Valley Vision is enthusiastically in support of Sacramento's selection as a Green City because of the opportunities it provides to connect existing public transit services to first- and last-mile destinations; to showcase innovative ZEV solutions that can be replicated state-wide and nationally; and to provide residents in our most disadvantaged communities with transportation they currently lack for accessing basic needs such as healthcare, employment and education. Valley Vision is eager to participate in focused public and community outreach in support of the deployment of ZEV charging, ZEV ride-sharing services and ZEV delivery fleets.

The \$44 million Green City investment in Sacramento will leverage multiple investments and collaborative efforts among multiple agencies and partners to expand electric vehicle access and adoption in the Sacramento region, and Valley Vision is fully committed to work as a partner to deliver transformational change. The region's commute patterns and high traffic density along the three main freight and commute corridors create a strong platform for the Green City investment to enhance mobility, improve air quality, and support a better quality of life for the community.

Valley Vision is a civic-leadership organization headquartered in Sacramento. We are committed to making our communities the most livable in the nation by creating the conditions for community equity, environmental sustainability, and economic vitality.

An active member of the Sacramento Area PEV collaborative, Valley Vision brings a wealth of experience and demonstrated success in projects related air quality, clean transportation and community outreach and engagement, including:

1. Working together with business leaders and local economic, workforce, and community partners to identify and grow the industries around ZEVs and renewable natural gas produced through organic sources of waste in the region through the Regional Industry Cluster of Opportunity—or RICO—project.
2. Managing the Cleaner Air Partnership, which for more than three decades has brought together the Sacramento business, environment, and public health communities to work collaboratively on air quality issues, advocating for solutions such as cleaner vehicles and fuels, electrification of fleets and school buses and voluntary incentives to reduce air pollution.
3. Conducting community health needs assessments for the region's non-profit health systems in 17 hospital services areas across the region. Lack of transportation was identified as a priority health need for Sacramento's most disadvantaged communities, creating a barrier to accessing basic needs such as healthcare, employment and education.
4. Founding the region's first-ever partnership of those working in the clean economy, the Green Capital Alliance, whose success in the mid-2000s helped lay the foundation for many of the ongoing collaborative relationships in the region today.
5. Serving as Vice Chair of the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative (CRCRC), a partnership of organizations active in climate adaptation strategies.

Currently, in the transportation arena, Valley Vision is partnering with UC Davis on a Transportation Demand Management Project; with the cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento on community outreach related to the proposed streetcar project; and with Sacramento Regional Transit on a communications project related to bus and light rail service in Sacramento County. These and dozens of other ongoing and completed projects have established Valley Vision's unrivaled expertise in bringing together critical stakeholders to assess community conditions and develop actionable plans for progress.

Working together, we bring the expertise and capability to deliver a transformational program that can be scaled across the region, state, and nation. We look forward to the opportunity to support with implementation of this exciting program.

Sincerely,



Bill Mueller
Chief Executive

cc: The Honorable Darrell Steinberg, Mayor of the City of Sacramento
Senator Richard Pan, California 6th Senate District
Assembly Member Kevin McCarty, California 7th Assembly District
Assembly Member Jim Cooper, California 9th Assembly District
California Air Resources Board Members
Electrify America