



November 12, 2024

Dr. Steven Cliff **Executive Officer** California Air Resources Board 1001 | Street Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposed Fiscal Year 2014-25 Funding Plan for Clean Transportation Incentives

Dear Dr. Cliff,

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Proposed Fiscal Year 24-25 Funding Plan for Clean Transportation Incentives (Funding Plan). The District would like to recognize the efforts of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff in developing the Funding Plan and incorporating feedback provided throughout the public workgroup process. Incentive funding plays a critical role in reducing emissions within the San Joaquin Valley in order to meet our air quality attainment goals and the District looks forward to opportunities to implement additional funding outlined within the Funding Plan.

The District has implemented the Clean Cars 4 All (CC4A) program since 2015. To date, the District has replaced over 7,000 older high polluting vehicles with newer, cleaner alternatives. This critical program also provides emission reductions in communities throughout the Valley that have historically been overburdened by a variety of environmental factors, including air pollution. In addition, CC4A provides opportunities for the Valley's low-income residents to participate in state efforts to transition to zero-emission vehicles. Without incentive funding, many program participants would not have been able to replace their vehicle with a cleaner option.

The District supports the proposed CC4A allocation formula within the Funding Plan for any additional funding that may be available for the program. The proposed allocation formula considers the need for program funds within the Valley as well as the success of the District in implementing CC4A funds. The District has utilized an effective, grassroots, community-driven approach to program outreach and has experienced a strong demand for program funds that currently exceeds the amount of funding available to the program. Based on this program response, the District will stop accepting new applications by the end of the year. While the proposed fixed distribution provides some needed certainty in the allocation of future funds; given the strong program demand in Valley communities and funding shortfall, the District recommends strong advocacy for funding in the coming year as well as ongoing reassessment of opportunities for additional funding within the CC4A program.

> Samir Sheikh Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

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Southern Region 34946 Flyover Court Bakersfield, CA 93308-9725 Tel: (661) 392-5500 FAX: (661) 392-5585 Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments on the proposed Funding Plan and we are committed to offering these necessary funding options to Valley residents. In addition, we value and appreciate the effective partnership with CARB staff and recognize their collaboration in implementing effective air quality incentive programs.

Sincerely,

Samir Sheikh

Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer