

Teri Duarte
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Testimony on AB32 Final Scoping Plan
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Teri Duarte, RD, MPH
Health Program Manager
Sacramento County Dept of Health & Human Services

I would like to thank you for the public health-related improvements in the revised scoping plan. One comment I have is that the **public health benefits analysis in the revised plan covers air quality issues well, but it still lacks an analysis of the opportunity for the benefits of increased physical activity of the population.** Over the past 50 years, we have lost physical fitness as we've built communities and lifestyles completely dependent upon driving. Two-thirds of adults today are overweight. And two-thirds of deaths are related to chronic disease caused in part by physical inactivity. We have now the opportunity to reduce car travel and improve health at the same time by getting people walking, bicycling, and using transit as much as they used to.

If we build denser, more connected communities, we will get three for the price of one:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by shortening distances that vehicles travel between everyday destinations, including the distances that food travels to get to the population
- Improve population health by raising rates of physical activity and reducing air pollution, reducing traffic injuries, and improving social connectedness
- Preserving the forests, parks, and open space that act as carbon sinks.

It is urgent to take action now. Transportation overall today contributes nearly **40% of greenhouse gas emissions statewide. To get to our 2020 emissions target, we must dramatically reduce the contribution that vehicles make.** We can't do that with improved vehicle efficiency and low carbon fuels alone. In California, 25% of the development that will be on the ground in the year 2020 will be built between now and then. With this rapid rate of development, and the permanency of the new development, we have no time to waste in changing our patterns of how we build. We need strong state leadership to so that local jurisdictions will modify zoning codes, design guidelines, general plans, and community plans to begin reducing the emissions created by our transportation system.

I ask that you:

- Create a broader land use and transportation framework in the scoping plan with short-term and long-term policy tools to achieve the 2020 and 2050 targets.
- Prioritize funding for public transportation and implementation of regional plans.
- Adopt an indirect source rule for greenhouse gas emissions that will help calculate and mitigate impacts of development projects.
- Fully analyze the impacts of mitigation strategies on vulnerable and low-income communities and ensure that they are protected from inequitable adverse impacts.
- Establish a formal role for public health in the implementation of AB32. Include state and local public health agencies in the development and review of all

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proposed greenhouse gas reduction measures, and regulatory and market mechanisms, so that they can provide input and analysis of the public health benefits and impacts of those measures.

Thank for your consideration of these suggestions.