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June 22, 2010

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for implementation of SB 375

Dear Chairwoman Mary Nichols, Board Members and CARB Staff:

As president of Los Angeles City Planning Commission, I urge you to press forward with SB 375 implementation because it will set California back on the road to prosperity by promoting sustainable economic development and a more efficient and effective use of public resources. California is in the spotlight: Other cities across the U.S. and other countries around the globe are watching to learn from California's experience with reducing greenhouse gas emissions through AB 32 and SB 375. This is the first time that metropolitan planning organizations around the state are sitting down together to discuss the best way to incentivize sustainable land use patterns and sustainable transportation investments. They are talking about best practices for promoting transit-oriented development, infill, a more robust jobs-housing balance, transportation demand management and transportation systems management. This is a historic moment and we must press forward.

SB 375 offers California the opportunity to address many challenges at once and will have profound implications for Californians: It will focus resources on creating healthy, active communities designed around transit, walking and biking – allowing people to incorporate physical activity into their daily routines and helping to make the air clean and clear. It will reduce transportation costs for families, and allow people to spend less time in traffic and more time with families and friends. It will bring coordination and clarity to the development process, and help revive the development industry. It will provide more housing choices. It will keep money in the local economy, and reduce costs to local governments. It will increase the region's chances of capitalizing on new federal funding opportunities.

The state is at a crossroads and now more than ever needs a new direction and focus, as well as hope for the future. SB 375 can help set California on a new and more sustainable course.

Sincerely

Bill Roschen, FAIA, LEED AP
President, Los Angeles City Planning Commission