



ECOS

ENVIRONMENTAL
♦ COUNCIL ♦
OF SACRAMENTO

Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

June 26, 2020

Sent via email to

Mayor Darrell Steinberg <mayordarrellsteinberg@gmail.com>,
Christopher Cabaldon <CHRISTOPHERC@cityofwestsacramento.org>

Re: Support for Mayors' Commission on Climate Change Recommendations

Dear Mayor Darrell Steinberg, and Mayor Christopher Cabaldon,

The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) was created by the organizers of Sacramento's first Earth Day, 50 years ago, to achieve regional sustainability and a healthy environment for our region's residents. In furtherance of this mission, ECOS has the following policy objective: "Improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to slow climate change." Therefore, ECOS strongly supports the report's recommendations regarding land use, transportation, and vehicle-miles-traveled (VMT). Also, ECOS is pleased that the report includes appropriate recommendations regarding equity, as underserved communities would suffer the most from climate change.

ECOS has requested that the members of the Mayors' Commission on Climate Change adopt the report drafted by the Local Government Commission because it will benefit Sacramento's economy. In order to achieve the vision espoused by Sacramento's leadership and as a first step in rebounding as a region from this economic crisis, it is time to be in the forefront of implementing innovative policies and practices that enable the vision. We ask the Cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento to embrace these recommendations, and ask for you to encourage other jurisdictions in our metropolitan area to do the same.

During my tenure with the California Air Resources Board's Climate Science Section, we were required to perform a cost-benefit analysis for all proposed regulations. These cost estimates almost always turned out to be over-estimates, as businesses found innovative ways to reduce emissions at less cost. Moreover, because California implemented air pollution controls before the rest of the nation (and the world), the California economy has benefited as businesses have sold air pollution control equipment around the world. Similarly, Sacramento-area businesses will benefit by embracing the Commission's report, and becoming leaders in the world-wide trend to limit greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Sacramento businesses have already started to benefit from being a trend-setter GHG-limiting technology:

- 1) The Autonomous Transportation Open Standards Lab (ATOS) is making Sacramento the epicenter of an emerging innovation ecosystem working to develop breakthrough solutions. With the leadership of Mayor Steinberg, Congresswoman Matsui, Senator Pan, and Sacramento Kings owner Ranadivé, Sacramento is becoming the country's next real-world testbed for urban innovation.
- 2) Volkswagen subsidiary Electrify America recently designated Sacramento as the first Green City in its Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Investment Plan. Under this initiative, Electrify America has been investing \$44 million in car-sharing services and ZEV charging systems throughout our region.

ECOS also asks the Commission to recommend the enactment of all-electric new construction ordinances next year. All-electric construction is cheaper to build and operate, improves indoor air quality and health for residents, and is safer than buildings with gas lines. Earlier adoption of this ordinance will prevent costly future retrofits, and eliminate creation of new gas infrastructure that will become stranded assets. We note that the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District already passed a requirement that favors all-electric for future construction in Sacramento County. Additionally, ECOS supports the commission's recommendation to follow the CALGreen Tier 2 requirements for electric vehicle charging.

Ralph Propper,
ECOS President
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph Propper".

Ralph Propper
President, ECOS

Cc: Julia Burrows jburrows@cityofsacramento.org