

June 24, 2020

Mayor Darrell Steinberg City of Sacramento 915 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Mayor Christopher Cabaldon City of West Sacramento 1110 West Capitol Avenue West Sacramento, CA 95691

CC: Julia Burrows, Sr. Policy Advisor, Mayor Steinberg

## **RE: Support for Mayors' Commission on Climate Change Recommendations**

Dear Mayor Steinberg, Mayor Cabaldon,

We thank you for your leadership and commitment to addressing climate change in Sacramento, West Sacramento, and throughout the region. Our communities are already experiencing the negative impacts of climate change, which are projected to worsen over time and disproportionately harm marginalized communities. We write to express our support for the recommendations of the Mayors' Commission on Climate Change for achieving carbon zero by 2045.

Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates (SABA) works to support more people to choose a bicycle to make daily trips for work and play. As a member of the TAC on Mobility that helped inform the Commission report, SABA strongly supports the recommendations of the Commission.

The Commission has called for bold, transformative action to achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improve public health outcomes, and create a more equitable future for all. The strategies identified in the Commission's report are ambitious and achievable, and reflect the urgency needed to stem the current trajectory of environmental damage due to current policies and practices.

Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates 909 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste 204 Sacramento, CA 95814 SABA stands behind the Commission's stance on ensuring an equitable implementation of strategies in order to reach its climate goals. We urge both Sacramento and West Sacramento raise expanding their low stress bicycle and pedestrian networks for walking and rolling to the top of their priorities. Doing so will build a strong alternative to using cars and will immediately help citizens as they cope with the pandemic.

We are also learning that transit is not the feared transportation mode that originally thought during the early stages of the pandemic. We encourage both Mayor's and City Councils expand transit and shared mobility services to be more timely, affordable and accessible. All community members, particularly from marginalized communities, should have access to sustainable and affordable mobility options that facilitate positive community outcomes for public health and safety, livability and the economy.

Finally, we support the use of e-bikes whether in community shared fleets available to the general public or for businesses/agencies in our community. The re-emergence of electronically assisted bikeshare services in the Sacramento area as we recover from the pandemic effects is a feature of our Sacramento and West Sacramento communities that we wish to return to. As well, we hope to see e-bike fleet incentives for businesses/agencies become a supported program under the Commission's leadership.

We also support the Commission recommendation that the cities pursue early actions over the next year to demonstrate the benefits of reducing emissions and build momentum for their full suite of strategies.

Please feel free to contact me at <u>Deb@sacbike.org</u> with any questions or further discussion.

Sincerely,

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Debra Banks Executive Director, Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates