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Comments on Investment Plan Update

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

**Comments on
Investment Plan Update for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program**

Submitted by
Jody London, Sustainability Coordinator, Contra Costa County
November 17, 2017

Thank you to the California Energy Commission (CEC) for this opportunity to provide input to the Investment Plan Update for the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program. The Update shows vision and ambition that are important for leading California to a cleaner transportation future. As described below in greater detail, I encourage the CEC to continue to provide funding for planning at the local government level. There continues to be great opportunity and need for funds that will allow local governments to better support the State in reaching its climate goals.

As the Sustainability Coordinator for Contra Costa County (County), charged with implementing the County's *Climate Action Plan (CAP)* to improve health and quality of life in Contra Costa County, I am focused on options that will reduce emissions from the transportation sector. The California Energy Commission (CEC) is an important partner for the County and other local governments as we develop strategies at the local level for meeting State and local goals.

47% of greenhouse gas emissions in the Contra Costa County *CAP* come from the transportation sector, the largest source in the *CAP*. Contra Costa County is home to several of the largest stationary sources of greenhouse gas emissions in California; those sources are regulated by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). Contra Costa County is also relatively suburban, which requires most residents to have access to a car or other vehicle. We know that in order to meet the goals in our County *CAP*, we need to rethink how people travel through the County. We are working to increase active transportation options, and we know that vehicles will continue to play a role.

The County is partnering with the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) to develop an Electric Vehicle (EV) Shared Mobility Readiness Plan. As the congestion management agency for Contra Costa County, CCTA is responsible for maintaining and improving the County's transportation system. CCTA works with all the jurisdictions in the County. CCTA is a recognized leader in the development and testing of autonomous and connected vehicles, with the GoMentum Station in Concord being selected as one of just ten federally designated proving grounds for autonomous vehicles by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The EV Shared Mobility Readiness Plan will look beyond personal vehicles to fleet, transit, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, and even electric bicycles – all vehicles that will have a need to charge. The scope of this study is more specific than previous studies developed by the BAAQMD, which was looking at the nine-county Bay Area region. This plan will identify:

- Current location of EV charging facilities in Contra Costa County.
- Current personal use EV penetration in Contra Costa County.
- Current land uses in Contra Costa County which will demonstrate opportunities for EV charging installation.

- Best practices for EV station port turnover (pricing strategies, parking policies, enforcement, etc.) as well as developer requirements/ordinances. This could include developing model ordinances that jurisdictions in Contra Costa County and elsewhere could modify and adopt.
- Countywide demand for electricity for EV charging and weaknesses, if any, in the distribution grid.
- Potential locations for shared mobility centers that could host electric vehicle fueling centers.
- Transit demand for electricity storage and charging to ensure supply at both bus storage facilities and en route through an inductive charge network.
- Operation and maintenance models and cost estimates for the network.

A critical gap for us as we develop this Readiness Plan is funding to do the work. We need County-specific planning documents when we plan for infrastructure deployment. The scale of an agency like BAAQMD is too big to address specific local issues. The CEC should indicate its support for this local work by identifying in the Update Plan its continued commitment to providing funds for local planning initiatives.