

## DOCKETED

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Funding Strategies for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Workshop
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*Comment Received From: Johanna Vandemoortele*

*Submitted On: 6/24/2016*

*Docket Number: 16-ALT-01*

**Re: June 6, 2016 “ CEC Staff Workshop on Funding Strategies for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure**

*Additional submitted attachment is included below.*



June 24, 2016

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 16-ALT-01  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

**Re: June 6, 2016 – CEC Staff Workshop on Funding Strategies for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure**

Dear California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) Staff,

Green Commuter appreciates the opportunity to comment on the California Energy Commission's staff workshop on funding strategies for electric vehicle infrastructure, held on June 6, 2016.

Green Commuter is a minority-woman- owned Benefit Corporation, incorporated as a small business in the State of California in 2014. As a Benefit Corporation, instead of having the responsibility to our stakeholders to make decisions based only on financial impact, we choose to consider our social and environmental impact as well. We believe in social justice and equity and are committed to keeping costs manageable and EV technology available to people of all income levels. Green Commuter is the only all-electric vanpool provider in California and the first company to combine vanpooling, car sharing, and fleet replacement. This means we can make greater environmental impact by maximizing the use of our zero emission fleet.

Green Commuter supports the CEC's goals for charging infrastructure deployment, and respectfully submits the following comments for your consideration:

Green Commuter encourages incorporating EV charging infrastructure funding with smart mobility services, like vanpooling or car sharing as an effective way to leverage infrastructure funding to increase PEV awareness among consumers. We support CEC investments in infrastructure that include funding for outreach and education efforts to demystify the technology and promote the benefits to help increase market penetration.

Fleet operators should also be able to apply for funding to maximize the landscape of willing participants. Solicitations should be open to both NGOs and for profit organizations to stimulate increased investment in alternative fuels vehicles and infrastructure.

Green Commuter supports CEC efforts to get funds to the intended recipients quickly and simply. We support a voucher program, which is a bond of redeemable transaction and has upfront value, as opposed to a rebate program where expenses must be paid up front in order to then get refunded. Upfront costs can often inhibit a site's decision to move forward with EV infrastructure installation. In order to incentivize such installation, the process for site hosts must be as simple as possible, and offering vouchers with upfront value as opposed to them incurring additional costs is preferable. We also support a simple application form or checklist for funding opportunities.



A zero emission vehicle vanpool  
and car sharing company.

We suggest allowing both networked and non-networked chargers to qualify for incentive programs. Providing flexible options will greatly increase the deployment of chargers by offering low cost alternatives for behind the gate solutions like workplace and fleet charging, where up front costs can often inhibit deployment of alternative fuel vehicles.

Small, targeted solicitations may streamline the funding process, but could hinder innovation. New approaches to infrastructure like mobile charging units and wireless charging need to be considered to solve infrastructure challenges. It is important that funding approaches remain flexible to accommodate integration with renewable energy sources and micro grid projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments to the California Energy Commission's staff workshop on funding strategies for electric vehicle infrastructure held earlier this month. We appreciate the leadership of the CEC and its efforts to reach the state's sustainability goals. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Johanna Vandemoortele  
Co-Director, Grants and Partnerships