

April 23, 2010

James D. Boyd
Vice Chair and Presiding Member
Transportation Committee
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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DATE APR 23 2010

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Dear Mr. Boyd:

I write on behalf of the City of San José to urge the California Energy Commission to grant the \$1.9 million application filed by the Association of Bay Area Governments on behalf of 66 public and private organizations in the greater San Francisco Bay Area to the Alternative and Renewable Fuel Infrastructure and Vehicle Technology program. If funded, that application would result in the installation of 337 publicly accessible electric vehicle chargers stretching from as far north as Marin County and as far south as Monterey County.

On November 20, 2008, I joined San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom and Oakland Mayor Ron Dellums to publicly announce our joint commitment to make the San Francisco Bay Area the “Electric Vehicle Capital of America.” As you well know, 40 percent of California’s greenhouse emissions are generated by the transportation section; 50 percent in the San Francisco Bay Area. The state is almost entirely dependent on petroleum-based fuels to meet its transportation needs. Shifting to alternative fuels, such as electricity, can provide economic development opportunities and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, criteria pollutants, and toxic air contaminants.

San José is committed to help realize the transition to low carbon fuels. In October 2007 San José adopted its *Green Vision*, a comprehensive plan that commits the city to more than half its carbon footprint by 2022. Among other things, the Green Vision includes the goal to shift the City’s entire 2700 vehicle fleet to alternative fuels and to adopt measurable GHG reduction goals in its updated General Plan. The City is considering adopting aggressive reduction targets for vehicle miles traveled and fossil fuel consumption.

To facilitate the widespread adoption of electric-powered vehicles, local jurisdictions must install publically accessible electric chargers. The goal of the EV Corridor Initiative is to create a seamless network of chargers throughout the greater Bay Area. Electric vehicle consumers must have the confidence that they will be able to recharge their vehicles whenever they drive—to their job or school, to a medical appointment or the

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theater. And, we need to provide access to those chargers 24-hours a day for those who live in high-rises or older apartment buildings that may not provide such facilities.

San José, and most if not all of the other cities in the EV corridor, will not be able to install the public charging infrastructure necessary to meet this demand without the support of the California Energy Commission. Our city, like many others, is facing a severe budget deficit.

If we want to protect our economy, our environment, and our future, we must shift to electric-powered vehicles. That means installing a robust system of publicly accessible chargers. We urge the CEC to fully fund the ABAG proposal and help San José and the San Francisco Bay Area realize that goal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Chuck Reed
Mayor

CC: California Energy Commission