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## Support for Targeted Car Sharing and Mobility Options in Disadvantaged Communities Pilot Project

1 message

**Fabiola Lao** <fabi@ccair.org>

Mon, Dec 12, 2016 at 9:22 AM

To: "Mike.Bonin@lacity.org" &lt;Mike.Bonin@lacity.org&gt;

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December 12, 2016

Councilmember Mike Bonin

Chair, Transportation Committee

Los Angeles City Council

**Re: Support for Targeted Car Sharing and Mobility Options in Disadvantaged Communities Pilot Project**

Dear Chair Bonin:

On behalf of the Coalition for Clean Air, I would like to thank the Transportation Committee for considering the low-income electric vehicle (EV) car sharing pilot project at its Special Meeting later today.

Established in 1971, the Coalition for Clean Air (CCA) is California's only statewide organization exclusively advocating for improving air quality and addressing climate change. We co-sponsored SB 1275 (de León) in 2013, which created the Charge Ahead California Initiative to accelerate the deployment of zero emission passenger vehicles, and to improve access to zero emission transportation in disadvantaged communities.

One of the provisions in SB 1275 mandates the creation of car sharing programs that serve disadvantaged communities and utilize electric vehicles.

As one of the leaders of the Charge Ahead California campaign, along with Communities for a Better Environment, Environment California, The Greenlining Institute, and Natural Resources Defense Council, we have been working closely on the implementation of SB 1275. We want to ensure the success of this breakthrough car sharing pilot project, which will ensure that communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution and climate change – low-income communities of color – are benefitting from clean vehicles.

Residents living in these communities identified by the state's CalEnviroScreen tool will benefit from improved air quality, improved public health and a better quality of life because they will have more access to destinations like grocery stores, doctor appointments and job interviews. Furthermore, in complement with Metro's bus and rail network, this car sharing pilot project will produce significant greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions as members avoid car ownership.

Furthermore, key specific goals in Los Angeles' Sustainable City pLAN are closely aligned with the goals of this electric vehicle car sharing pilot. For example, the pLAN calls for the installation of 1,000 publicly available charging stations by 2017. The stations installed as part of this project will help meet this goal. This pilot project will also help achieve the city and state's air quality and climate change goals, such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

We commend the City of Los Angeles for being a trailblazer and a leader in the implementation of this novel and much needed program. By putting EVs and infrastructure in low-income neighborhoods and providing a subsidy to encourage their use, the City is helping increase access to economic opportunities while also promoting behavior change, eco-friendly mobility options and improved air quality.

We urge the approval of the project's contract and look forward to Council action for a final approval. Moving forward with this project will demonstrate that the City of Los Angeles is committed to bringing electric vehicle charging infrastructure to communities struggling with limited mobility options. Lastly, we hope that this pilot program will soon be expanded in communities throughout Los Angeles so that they will also benefit from the opportunities that this project will create.

Thank you for your consideration,

**Fabiola P. Lao, MPA**

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