



## MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA CITY OF LONG BEACH

April 20, 2017

The Honorable Cristina Garcia  
California State Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
1020 N. Street, Room 164  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### **Re: Support for AB 1180 (Holden) – California Tire Fee: Stormwater Permit Compliance Fund**

Dear Assemblymember Garcia:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to support Assembly Bill 1180 (Holden). Under the 2012 Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit, adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, cities in Los Angeles County must meet some of the strongest water quality guidelines in the country. Long Beach recognizes the financial need to support local municipal projects to help achieve these guidelines. AB 1180 correctly tackles this funding challenge by increasing the fee on rubber tires as they are one of the leading contributors to zinc-oxide, a runoff that is a high-level threat to water quality in collected stormwater.

With the intention of creating better systems to clean stormwater runoff, Long Beach has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) to design and construct the Long Beach Municipal Urban Stormwater Treatment (LB-MUST) Recycle Facility. This project will capture and divert urban runoff containing pollutants to a newly constructed stormwater recycling facility prior to discharge into the lower Los Angeles River. The facility is specifically designed to treat water for pollutants such as bacteria, hydrocarbons, trash, and metals that are not easily captured through current filtration systems. The LB-MUST Recycle Facility will have the capacity to treat 40% of dry weather runoff that streams into the Los Angeles River.

Projects such as LB-MUST and other stormwater best-management practices are critical to maintaining healthy water quality. Since rubber tires are one of the leading contributors to zinc-oxide, a metal that cities have been trying to remove from stormwater, a fee on tires to fund such projects is appropriate. Stormwater management is an environmental responsibility of all cities, and a funding source for the issue is sorely needed.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 1180 (Holden).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly  
The Honorable Christopher Holden, State Assembly 41<sup>st</sup> District  
The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33<sup>rd</sup> District  
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64<sup>th</sup> District  
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70<sup>th</sup> District