May 7, 2019

The Honorable Tom Umberg
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3076
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for SB 400 (Umberg) Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Mobility Options

Dear Senator Umberg:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of Senate Bill 400 (Umberg). Currently, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) administers the Clean Cars 4 All Program, which enables low-income State residents to trade in higher-polluting vehicles for $2,500 towards a used or new hybrid, plug-in hybrid, or zero-emission vehicle. This program is intended to reduce greenhouse gas. SB 400 proposes to expand mobility credit options to include bikeshare and electric vehicles, thus bolstering the State’s commitment to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

With nearly 160 miles of bikeways and a thriving bike-sharing program, Long Beach is well equipped to accommodate the mobility vouchers proposed in SB 400. In March 2018, the Long Beach City Council adopted updates to the City’s 2040 General Plan, including a vision for Long Beach as a multi-modal city that supports pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists, and promotes zero- or low-GHG mobility options. In tandem, the City has committed to expand the Long Beach bike-share network to North Long Beach, adding 600 new bicycles to the fleet and doubling the number of hubs by the end of 2019. Should SB 400 become adopted as State law, the City looks forward to working with our bike-share vendors to that mobility vouchers are accepted as a form of payment. Expanding CARB vouchers to include bike-share and electric bicycles, as SB 400 proposes, would further promote our existing bike-share and incentivize residents to service sustainable modes of transportation.

The City supports policies that increase access to green or low-carbon transportation options. Long Beach is in the process of developing a Climate Action and Adaption Plan (CAAP), which will provide a framework for residents and businesses to reduce our collective GHG footprint. SB 400’s proposed expansion of alternative transportation options would strengthen our ability to provide equitable transportation opportunities for residents - an essential step in reducing GHG emissions and achieving the State’s long-term sustainability goals.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SB 400 (Umberg).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
    The Honorable Steven Bradford, State Senate, 35th District
    The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
    The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District