



# MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

July 2, 2024

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Garcia  
United States House of Representatives  
1305 Longworth Housing Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development and Generating Renewable Energy to Electrify the Nation's (BUILD GREEN) Infrastructure and Jobs Act (Warren and Garcia)**

Dear Senator Warren and Congressman Garcia,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach (City), I write in support of the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development and Generating Renewable Energy to Electrify the Nation's (BUILD GREEN) Infrastructure and Jobs Act. The BUILD GREEN Act would authorize the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to distribute \$500 billion over ten years to electrify and modernize transportation infrastructure projects, including electrified public micromobility projects, bus rapid transit systems, freight and passenger rail, and port infrastructure, to name a few. This funding would be available under President Biden's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and Inflation Reduction Act.

States, local governments, transit agencies, port authorities, and Indian tribes are all eligible entities to receive a grant under the program. Under the BUILD GREEN Act, DOT can fund up to 100 percent of the operation and maintenance costs of the project for the first 10 years of the project, which is critical to establish the "green" elements of these projects like street trees or new park space. In selecting projects to receive BUILD GREEN Act grants, DOT will consider several key criteria, including: criteria that prioritize collective over individual transportation; the extent to which a proposed project contributes to climate resilience and mitigation, and reduces air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; and the extent to which an applicant meets the bill's robust labor standards. All BUILD GREEN Act projects must include strong labor provisions for all workers, including requirements related to prevailing and minimum wage, paid leave and fair scheduling, local hire, and anti-misclassification.

The City of Long Beach fleet has a long history of alternative fuel use and emissions reductions, working towards cleaner transport since the 1970's. Providing clean air to all of its residents, reducing negative environmental impact of vehicle use, upgrading to sources of renewable energy for the City's fleet and pushing the envelope of sustainability at all phases of a vehicle's life are core values of the City of Long Beach's fleet. The City of Long Beach Fleet Services was recently named the number one fleet in the U.S. and Canada by Government Fleet Magazine. In 2022, the City adopted its first-ever [Long Beach Climate Action Plan \(LB CAP\)](#) that provides a comprehensive framework for creating or updating policies, programs, practices and incentives for Long Beach residents and businesses to reduce the city's greenhouse gas (GHG) footprint and help ensure the community is better protected from the impacts of climate change. This includes reducing and eliminating GHG emissions from City fleet by replacing fossil fueled vehicles with electric vehicles when feasible. The City's Green Fleet is comprised of 80 electric vehicles, 86 plug-in hybrids, over 90 electric vehicle charging stations, and four portable solar EV charging stations.

The City supports policies, legislation, and funding to enable adoption of Zero-Emissions Vehicles (ZEV) in the City fleet, including medium and heavy-duty trucks, as required by the Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF) State regulation, to include funding support for both ZEVs and necessary infrastructure. Funding for infrastructure, along with reliable EV vehicle availability and acquisitions, is one of the top three hurdles that will dictate how fast the City can implement more EVs, both for the public and the City. The BUILD GREEN Act will support the City's efforts to electrify public transportation while lowering traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions.

For these reasons, the City supports the BUILD GREEN Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson  
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Senator Alex Padilla  
The Honorable Senator Laphonza Butler  
The Honorable Congressmember Nanette Barragan, 44<sup>th</sup> District