



# ECOS

ENVIRONMENTAL  
♦ COUNCIL ♦  
OF SACRAMENTO

Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

October 27, 2021

Howard Chan, Sacramento City Manager, [hchan@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:hchan@cityofsacramento.org)

RE: Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Application, 15-Minute Neighborhood Plan

Dear Mr. Chan,

The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) supports the City of Sacramento in its application for Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant for its 15-Minute Neighborhoods Plan.

We served on the Mayors' Climate Change Commission's Transportation Technical Advisory Committee. As you know, the prioritization of active transportation, then transit and shared mobility, and then zero-emission vehicles was unanimously adopted. This prioritization, coupled with housing around transit, would reduce GHG emissions, increase affordable housing with good local and regional access to shops and jobsites, improve air quality, and improve physical safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Over half of Sacramento's greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are from the transportation sector. The City's proposed 15-Minute Neighborhoods Plan will set the stage for increased transit use, walking and biking -- travel modes that are essential to reduce GHG and meet our climate goals.

Sacramento's topography is relatively flat and its neighborhoods are interconnected – these are two necessary but not sufficient preconditions for a large shift to walking and biking for daily errands and for job commutes. Neighborhood studies show that slowing driving is a big concern.

The City's 15-Minute Neighborhoods Plan will calm the entire network of neighborhood streets to make comfortable places to walk, bike, and scoot. Calmer streets will encourage more trips by active transportation, helping the city to meet its goals around sustainability, speed reduction for cars and trucks, community health, and thriving local businesses. The City's 15-minute Neighborhoods Plan will further the following:

- The City's Climate Action Plan;
- The City's commitment to equitable processes by engaging neighborhood communities about their needs;
- Economic vitality of our retail and restaurants within and next to neighborhoods;
- Affordable and efficient access to jobsites, parks, and schools.

Sincerely,

Ralph Propper  
ECOS President