



# ECOS

ENVIRONMENTAL  
♦ COUNCIL ♦  
OF SACRAMENTO

Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

February 22, 2023

Howard Chan, City Manager  
City of Sacramento  
915 I Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
hchan@cityofsacramento.org

Re: ECOS support for the City of Sacramento Transportation Infrastructure Adaptation Plan Grant Application to The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program

Dear Mr. Chan,

On behalf of the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS), I am pleased to provide this letter in enthusiastic support for the City of Sacramento in its application for funding from Caltrans for the Transportation Infrastructure Adaptation Plan. We strongly support this grant application, and the project's focus on creating an actionable plan to improve the climate resilience of Sacramento's transportation network. The City's leadership in transportation and climate action demonstrate that the City is equipped to successfully deliver the project in strong collaboration with community.

ECOS was founded in 1971 as a visionary and action-oriented coalition for the region. Today the organizational and individual members of ECOS work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, promote smart growth land use and transportation principles, promote equity in housing, promote sustainable regional water supply for all users, public health and opportunities, and promote regional habitat conservation.

We support this grant application because it will further our organizational goals and priorities to minimize transportation impacts on the environment by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT), which lowers greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to address climate change, ensures cleaner air, improves public health, and protects our natural resources. This grant would assist the City is ensuring a resilient bicycle and pedestrian friendly transportation network.

**Sacramento is especially vulnerable to climate change, with impacts that disproportionately impact our most vulnerable residents.** Sacramento is already experiencing the impacts of climate change now, and proactive planning is needed to prepare for future anticipated climatic events. Sacramento is experiencing more intense extreme weather events, with climate change creating a drier environment, more extreme heat days, higher intensity storms that bring greater flood risk, and impacts to essential

services. This is evident with the recent 2022-2023 winter storms that resulted over 1,500 fallen trees in the “City of Trees”. Not only did trees fall on homes, across sidewalks and streets, many trees fell on utilities leaving residents without electricity or communication services for days. Streets were also flooded, limiting mobility for impacted residents and businesses.

The **Transportation Infrastructure Adaptation Plan** will build on the [SACOG Climate Adaptation Strategies for Transportation](#) and the [City’s Climate Action and Adaptation Plan](#). It will focus on local, specific vulnerabilities to Sacramento’s transportation infrastructure including streets, shared use paths, bridges, transit infrastructure and more. Once the vulnerabilities are understood, the planning effort will identify actions needed to address these vulnerabilities. This analysis is a critical step to enable the City to prioritize project needs and prepare fundable grant requests for future project design and construction. Caltrans support through this grant will result in longer-term investments for climate adaptation in Sacramento’s transportation infrastructure.

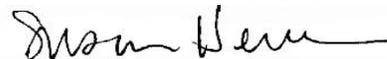
Sacramento is one of California’s oldest cities and our city’s transportation infrastructure is some of the oldest in the region. Sacramento is also home to over a half million people and three-quarters of the region’s disadvantaged communities. This older infrastructure is not ready for the current and worsening strain of climate change. Award of this funding would allow the City to begin the necessary work to ready our community’s transportation network for the increasing risk associated with climate change and ensure a high level of service to our most vulnerable community members.

**We support this grant application and look forward to being collaborative partners in the planning process.**

Sincerely,



Sam Rice  
Transportation Team Lead



Susan Herre AIA AICP  
President of the Board of Directors

cc: Jennifer Donlon-Wyant, City of Sacramento, Transportation Planning Manager