



ECOS

ENVIRONMENTAL
♦ COUNCIL ♦
OF SACRAMENTO

Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

March 3, 2023

The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Member, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 6350, Sacramento, CA 95814

Sent via <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>

RE: AB 350 (Aguiar-Curry): Regional transportation plans: Sacramento Area Council of Governments; As Introduced on January 31, 2023 – SUPPORT
Referred to the Assembly Transportation Committee

Dear Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry:

The Environmental Council of Sacramento supports your Assembly Bill 350, which would facilitate greater interregional collaboration by more closely aligning the Sacramento Area Council of Government's (SACOG) sustainable communities strategy update with those of its regional partners, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the San Joaquin Council of Governments (SJCOG), both for SACOG's current plan update and into the future.

MTC, SJCOG and SACOG collectively make up the Northern California Megaregion, which includes 16 counties and 136 cities with a total population of nearly 11 million. Among other joint efforts, the regions have been collaborating to advance interregional projects that will benefit quality of life, transportation, and commerce throughout Northern California. By more closely aligning the timing of SACOG's next sustainable communities strategy update with those of the MTC and the SJCOG, AB 350 will facilitate better interregional planning and encourage the development of shared priorities across the Megaregion that support improved quality of life and continued economic growth throughout the Megaregion.

AB 350 will also allow SACOG more time to meaningfully collaborate and iterate with its partner agencies and it will provide the opportunity for additional robust outreach and engagement of under-resourced communities well beyond what is required by law. This additional time will ensure that the technical work of the plan does not diminish the important work of engaging member jurisdictions, regional partners, community-based organizations, and the public, on what this plan means for the future of the region and how we implement it together.

Some background on ECOS:

The mission of ECOS is to achieve regional sustainability, livable communities, environmental justice, and a healthy environment and economy for existing and future residents. ECOS strives to bring positive change to the Sacramento region by proactively working with individual and organizational ECOS members, neighborhood groups, and local and regional governments.

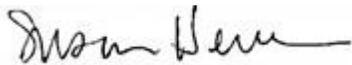
ECOS is a coalition of community-based individuals and organizations throughout the Sacramento region that helps drive a community conversation and promote action. ECOS strives to implement its mission through several approaches: Expertise coalition; community partnership; and environmental activism.

The following are our primary policy objectives:

- *Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality*
- *Promote and reinforce smart growth principles*
- *Establish a regionally coordinated conservation strategy*
- *Establish a sustainable water supply*
- *Achieve equity in housing, public health, and opportunities*

For these reasons stated above, ECOS supports your AB 350. If you would like to discuss or need more information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Susan Herre AIA AICP
President of the Board of Directors
susanherre@gmail.com
202-747-4087

cc: The Honorable Laura Friedman, Chair, Assembly Transportation Committee
Members, Assembly Transportation Committee
Christine Casey, Consultant, Assembly Transportation Committee
Daniel Ballon, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus