



March 28, 2024

Christian Clegg
City Manager
City of Bakersfield
1600 Truxton Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Re: Letter of Support for the City of Bakersfield Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program Application

Dear Mr. Clegg,

I am writing to express the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's (District) support for the City of Bakersfield's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program application. The Project consists of: 1) revitalizing over 40 acres of green space in 6 parks; 2) complete 3 street projects along major corridors in disadvantaged communities; 3) e-bike project funding; 4) add solar to the Bakersfield Senior Center and 150 low income homes; 5) weatherize 100 low-income homes; 6) .add electric vehicle infrastructure to municipal buildings; 7) purchase 124 electric vehicles; 8) planting 5,000 trees annually until year 2045; and 9) procure new compost and recycling sorting equipment.

The San Joaquin Valley faces one of the most significant air quality challenges in the country, and is currently in nonattainment of the latest federal ozone and PM2.5 standards. Additionally, the San Joaquin Valley is home to 7 of the 10 most disadvantaged communities in California. The recent promulgation of a more stringent PM2.5 standard further highlights the importance of investing in cost-effective opportunities that assist in achieving our collective public health goals. The mobile source sector contributes to the vast majority of greenhouse gas, criteria pollutant and toxic air contaminant emissions in the San Joaquin Valley. This Project is an important step towards achieving the goals of California and the District in minimizing vehicle miles traveled, enhancing sustainability, and reducing air quality emissions impacts in the San Joaquin Valley region.

Given the long-term benefits, the District is supportive of this Project and hope this application will be selected for funding. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at (559) 230-6000.

Sincerely,


Samir Sheikh

Executive Director/ Air Pollution Control Officer

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Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer

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