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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**STEPHEN C. PADILLA**  
EIGHTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #4 ON  
STATE ADMINISTRATION AND  
GENERAL GOVERNMENT  
CHAIR  
MEMBER  
AGRICULTURE  
BUDGET  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION  
HOUSING  
NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATER

March 28, 2024

Coleen Clementson  
Chief Executive Officer  
San Diego Association of Governments  
401 B Street, Suite 800  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Re: SANDAG's EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program Application for the Decarbonizing the San Diego Region Project Phase II Implementation Funding**

Dear Ms. Clementson:

As the California State Senator representing Senate District 18, encompassing the vibrant cities of Chula Vista, National City, Imperial Beach, and parts of the City of San Diego, I am pleased to send this letter of support to the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) regarding the submittal of the Decarbonizing the San Diego Region Project (Project) to the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program for Phase II Implementation funding.

In 2023 SANDAG was awarded CPRG Program Phase I funding to conduct climate action planning in the region with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and harmful air pollution. SANDAG, in coordination with local governments, community-based organizations, tribal governments, and other stakeholder groups, developed a Regional Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) identifying near-term actions and policies that can be implemented quickly to reduce GHG emissions and air pollution in the San Diego region.

The Project enables the implementation of GHG emission-reduction measures identified in the San Diego Regional PCAP and will accelerate decarbonization in the transportation, building, and energy sectors. This Project will benefit residents, municipalities, and tribal nations across the entire region, enabling them to take aggressive action now to combat climate change, particularly in low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Environmentally-centered projects like these resonate with my legislative and budget priorities in Sacramento. Recognizing our state's clean and renewable energy goals while understanding our local challenges and needs is crucial to identifying ways we can solve existing climate change-induced problems. Should this grant application be successful, the resources will be used to increase the adoption of zero-emission vehicles, expand active transportation opportunities, increase the use of public transport through programs like the Youth Opportunity Pass, electrify buildings, and increase solar and energy storage.

I stand ready and committed in supporting this application for the betterment of the various sectors that impact the lives of Senate District 18, and I appreciate the opportunity to provide a letter of support for this innovative project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen C. Padilla".

Senator Stephen C. Padilla  
18<sup>th</sup> Senate District