



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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March 28, 2024

Wayne Nastri, Executive Officer
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

RE: SCAG Support for the South Coast Air Quality Management District's Climate Pollution Reduction Program (CPRG) Implementation Grant Application – Infrastructure, Vehicles, and Equipment Strategy for Climate Equity, Air Quality, and National Competitiveness (INVEST CLEAN)

Dear Executive Officer Nastri:

On behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), I am pleased to submit this letter of support for the South Coast Air Quality Management District's (South Coast AQMD) application to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Implementation Grants Program. The Infrastructure, Vehicles, and Equipment Strategy for Climate Equity, Air Quality, and National Competitiveness (INVEST CLEAN) proposal is a transformational all-of-government initiative in partnership with industry, labor, and communities, which aims to overcome barriers to transitioning the goods movement corridor from the Coast to California's border.

INVEST CLEAN aligns with SCAG's efforts to advance both clean transportation technology and operational and demand management strategies for freight.

Through demonstrating efficiencies with innovative operations and with investment from the CPRG in vehicle technology and supporting infrastructure, SCAG's [Last Mile Freight Program](#) strategy can be leveraged to deliver additional and significant near-term benefits. Additionally, SCAG's [Zero Emission Truck Infrastructure \(ZETI\) Study](#), expected to be completed by June 2024, will create a phased blueprint and action plan for implementing a regional network of zero-emission truck charging and fueling infrastructure that serves a range of truck markets and business functions. This blueprint for station locations provides a solid foundation for investments funded through CPRG.

SCAG strongly believes in the importance of INVEST CLEAN. Should the EPA award the CPRG grant to South Coast AQMD for INVEST CLEAN, SCAG is committed to:

- Administer and successfully deliver on the Last Mile Freight Program element of INVEST CLEAN to ensure timely implementation and realize climate pollution reductions and operational efficiencies;
- Partner closely with and support South Coast AQMD on required implementation and reporting aspects for the Last Mile Freight Program;
- Pro-actively engage with communities and stakeholders early and often throughout program development and implementation to incorporate community priorities; and
- Effectively engage with all supply chain stakeholders, including ports, warehouses, 3PLs, and local businesses, to maximize the overall program effectiveness, leverage private sector investment to the greatest extent possible, and build support to ensure successful implementation.

As a project consistent with the policies and goals set forth in Connect SoCal, the 2020-2045 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS), we earnestly advocate for the EPA's favorable consideration and support for INVEST CLEAN. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Ryan Wolfe, Manager of Sustainable and Resilient Development, at (760) 707-7019 or email wolfe@scag.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Kome Ajise
Executive Director