



PEGGY LEMONS
Mayor

BRENDA OLMOS
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO
Councilmember

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Councilmember

July 22, 2025

The Honorable Monique Limon
1021 O Street, Room 7610
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jacqui Irwin
1021 O Street, Room 6220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support Cap & Trade Reauthorization By Prioritizing Investments in Climate Safe Infrastructure

Dear Senator Limon and Assemblymember Irwin,

On behalf of the City of Paramount, we write to you today to encourage legislators to prioritize climate safe infrastructure improvements as you reauthorize and improve the Cap-and-Trade program.

We support investments in physical and natural infrastructure that are proven to reduce the greatest amount of greenhouse gas emissions, make California safer and more resilient to the impacts of climate change, while still supporting good paying middle class jobs. We also encourage you to keep affordability in mind and ensure that reauthorization does not increase the taxes or fees that are ultimately paid by consumers in the form of higher costs of living.

Climate change and extreme weather are already significantly impacting our community. We need an improved Cap-and-Trade program that prioritizes effectiveness and accountability while preserving affordability in the quality of life it delivers.

While there are many initiatives that the current program funds that are deserving of consideration, we believe that continuous investments in the following priorities will deliver the most benefits to help California achieve its greenhouse gas reduction goals, while also delivering tangible benefits to Californians that improve their day-to-day lives.

State and Regional Clean Transit Infrastructure

- Fund capital projects of regional significance with funds to be used to support the buildout of an integrated rail network
- Invest in local and regional transit agencies to support the recovery, stabilization, and growth of transit and rail service statewide, including capital expansions, ZEV transition, and operations and maintenance

Dedicated to providing fiscally responsible services that maintain a vibrant community.

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Clean Local Transportation Infrastructure

- Prioritize new funding for local governments to safely implement green transportation infrastructure, including:
 - Hydrogen and EV charging infrastructure
 - Support for local Active Transportation Infrastructure
 - Funding for local government and transit clean fleet compliance
 - Develop a network of regional VMT mitigation banks to offset local transportation project costs

State Wildfire Resilience Infrastructure

- Dedicate funding for high wildfire risk counties, including:
 - Firefighting capital infrastructure, fire engine procurement and training for local fire agencies, and mobile equipment management
 - Statewide wildfire fuel mitigation projects, including landscape-scale reforestation, fuels reduction, pest management, prescribed fire, and forest biomass utilization
 - Public safety emergency water supply infrastructure
 - Wood Products and Bioenergy grants and workforce development, including using GGRF funds to cover above-market cost of producing bioenergy
 - Expansion of local fire evacuation routes including community fire planning and preparedness and wildfire response and readiness

Local Land Use Infrastructure to Support High Density and Infill Development

- Invest in local, rural, and regional governments to support projects consistent with a sustainable communities strategy, including:
 - Funding for local infrastructure around Transit Oriented Development
 - Conversion of underutilized urban offices and commercial properties into housing
 - Continued funding for state and regional affordable housing, sustainable communities programs, and transformative climate communities efforts and programs like Local and Regional Early Action Planning Grants (LEAP & REAP)

Climate Adaptation for Sea Level Rise Infrastructure

- Fund annually projects related to climate adaptation, including:
 - Levee improvements and catastrophic flooding prevention
 - Relocate or replace existing transportation, coastal airports, and other critical infrastructure threatened by sea level rise
 - Municipal waste and recycling infrastructure and local assistance for organic waste collection and processing including facility siting and permitting

Local Examples from Paramount

- Expansion of EV Charging stations throughout Paramount's commercial corridors
- Infrastructure improvements to support transit-oriented housing near the West Santa Ana Branch light rail project

- Upgrades to our stormwater system and recycling facilities to address increased weather events

With the dual crisis of affordability and climate change knocking at our door, the City of Paramount respectfully asks that you prioritize the above investments as you reauthorize the Cap & Trade Program. Please feel free to contact City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2225, if you have any questions or need further details regarding our support. We appreciate your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT



Peggy Lemons
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Congresswoman Nanette Barragan, 44th District
Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assemblymember Jose Luis Solache, 62nd District
Nicholas Cabeza, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association