



June 22, 2023

The Honorable Laura Friedman California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5740
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 7 (Friedman) - Transportation: planning: project selection processes – support, as amended May 25, 2023

On behalf of the Council of Infill Builders, we write to support your bill AB 7, which would starting January 1, 2025, require state transportation agencies to incorporate the principles of the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure and the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in the project selection and implementation process.

The transportation sector in California accounts for approximately \$30 billion between state and local funds, and represents approximately 40% of the state’s greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). A recent report from the Strategic Growth Council found that there remains significant misalignment between the transportation projects the State funds and our climate goals. California cannot reach its ambitious climate targets while continuing to invest so heavily in projects that increase our dependence on fossil fuel vehicles.

According to Whitehouse Blueprint on Decarbonization, “To address the climate crisis, we must eliminate nearly all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the sector by 2050 and implement a holistic strategy to achieve a future mobility system that is clean, safe, secure, accessible, affordable, and equitable, and provides sustainable transportation options for people and goods.” California will receive an average increase of \$2.2 billion annually in federal road and transit formula funding through 2025-26 from the Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). We must focus our transportation investments on projects and programs that increase affordable, clean mobility choices for all while supporting well-paying transportation jobs.

The following components of AB 7 will ensure our transportation investments accelerate progress on meeting our climate goals, rather than working at cross purposes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mott Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mott Smith
Board Chair

C: Meea Kang, Founding Board Member