



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENTS

March 31, 2010

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Council of San Benito County Governments
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Kings County Association of Governments
Lake County/City Area Planning Council
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Merced County Association of Governments
Metropolitan Transportation Commission
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Placer County Transportation Planning Agency
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San Joaquin Council of Governments
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
Santa Barbara County Association of Governments
Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Southern California Association of Governments
Stanislaus Council of Governments
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Tulare County Association of Governments
Tuolumne County Transportation Council
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CONSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

California State Association of Counties
League of California Cities

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT – SB 1445

Dear Senator DeSaulnier:

As the sponsor of your bill, the California Association of Councils of Governments (CALCOG) is obviously in strong support of your bill.

Your bill will mandate a statewide \$1 motor vehicle registration fee to assist regional agencies in developing and implementing a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), a Regional Blueprint Plan, or a Rural Transportation Plan Element. It also directs the Planning Advisory and Assistance Council to coordinate State investments with these regional plans.

The reason for the bill is quite simple. If the State government wants to see regional and local governments fully implement SB 375 and its required regional transportation plans to address greenhouse gases and for strategic planning for coordination with the efforts of the Strategic Growth Council and other State agencies, then it must provide the financial resources to do so.

Without a guaranteed revenue stream to the regional transportation planning agencies, they simply cannot fully carry out their important responsibilities under SB 375.

It is important that a dedicated revenue source be established at the earliest possible time since the planning agencies are required to carry out a number of tasks to complete an SCS or one of the other plans well in advance of their completion dates.

Sincerely,

Rusty Selix
Executive Director