



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

September 8, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Assembly Bill 2722 (Burke) – Transformative Climate Communities Program

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write to urge your signature on Assembly Bill 2722 (Burke). This bill creates the Transformative Climate Communities Program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC).

Earlier this year, I was proud to join a coalition of California mayors in support of SB 32. In that same vein, Long Beach supports the creation of a Transformative Climate Communities Program. The City has been a consistent strong supporter of statewide policies that promote sustainability, recognize and mitigate climate change, and foster economic growth. To this end, Long Beach looks forward to partnering with the State and our local community on initiatives and benefits afforded through AB 2722.

As an example of the multi-stakeholder type of collaborative work that the Transformative Climate Communities Program values, Long Beach puts forth the Livable West Long Beach Plan. Because of its proximity to the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, the West Long Beach community is impacted by Port-related industrial uses, other industrial uses (e.g. refineries), as well as associated truck and rail traffic. A survey of existing conditions – including demographics, environmental conditions, and land uses – has yielded valuable context for the projects and programs identified in the Plan. As a first step in the project process, neighborhood assets were mapped, including schools, institutions, parks and health facilities. Land use maps and the delineation of neighborhood boundaries also informed the preliminary analysis.

Since the development of the Livable West Long Beach Plan, the City and our community have been seeking a range of funding sources to implement projects identified in the Plan. It is our belief that the Transformative Climate Communities Program provides essential opportunities for these types of collaborations, which are necessary to comprehensively address the burdens of disproportionately impacted communities that have suffered from decades of environmental pollution.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports AB 2722 and urges your signature on this bill.

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District