August 27, 2018

Governor Jerry Brown
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1072 (Support)

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of Circulate San Diego, whose mission is to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods, we are pleased to express our strong support for SB 1072 (Leyva), a bill that seeks to establish regional climate collaboratives, as well as technical assistance policies, to enhance local capacity of urban and rural community groups, businesses and cities to apply, compete, and be awarded climate funding.

The City of San Diego has adopted an ambitious Climate Action Plan with goals for increasing bicycling, walking, and transit commute mode share. To meet San Diego’s climate goals, technical assistance to make San Diego more competitive and receive more state climate funding will be necessary.

California is leading a global effort to cut harmful greenhouse gases (GHGs) – 40% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% by 2050 – through an aggressive array of climate investments to transition us away from fossil fuels while also significantly improving the resilience and health of Californians. However, the communities that are the lowest income and/or exposed to the highest levels of GHG emissions and related air pollution, are also the very same communities with the least resources and capacity to compete for funds available to improve their communities.

Given the urgency of climate change, the realities of our recent drought and flood impacts, pollution and public health challenges, we need to unlock the potential of every community, especially disadvantaged and otherwise under-resourced communities, to help meet the state’s goals while addressing environmental and socio-economic inequities.

To address the barriers facing communities, SB 1072 would provide much needed local capacity building through regional climate collaboratives and establish technical assistance guidelines to set new high-road standards for technical assistance delivery.
In order for the State to meet its climate goals and commitment to underserved areas, every community in California, small or large, must have an equal opportunity and access to tools to envision, design, and implement projects that not only contribute to these goals but also result in direct multiple economic, environmental, and quality of life benefits. SB 1072 is a critical piece of the puzzle to achieving this.

For these reasons, Circulate San Diego urges you to sign SB 1072 into law.

Sincerely,

Colin Parent
Executive Director and General Counsel