July 31, 2025

The Honorable NAME

ADDRESS

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support Cap-and-Trade Reauthorization by Prioritizing Investments in Climate Safe Infrastructure**

Dear Senator/Assemblymember LAST NAME,

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County, we write to you today to encourage legislators to prioritize climate safe infrastructure improvements as you reauthorize and improve California’s Cap-and-Trade program.

We support investments in physical and natural infrastructure proven to reduce the greatest amount of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and make California safer and more resilient to the impacts of climate change. We also encourage you to keep affordability in mind and ensure that reauthorization does not increase taxes or fees that are ultimately paid by consumers in the form of higher cost of living.

Climate change and extreme weather are here already. We need an improved Cap-and-Trade program that prioritizes effectiveness and accountability while preserving affordability.

Although many of the programs currently funded are worthy of consideration, we believe that sustained investment in the following priorities will most effectively help California meet its GHG reduction goals while also providing meaningful benefits to Californians that improve their day-to-day lives.

**Transportation and Housing**

* Ongoing support for local active transit infrastructure.
* Continuous funding for transit and rail recovery, operations, maintenance, ZEV transition, and capital expansion.
* Sustained investment in affordable housing, sustainable communities, and climate-focused community programs.

**Organic Waste Management**

* Ongoing support for implementation of the state’s Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy to divert organic waste from landfill, including but not limited to:
	+ Robust statewide education and outreach activities.
	+ Planning and permitting organics recycling facilities.
	+ Edible food recovery programs.

**Wildfire Resilience Infrastructure**

* Ongoing funding for equipment and training for local fire agencies.
* Support for vegetation management and home hardening.
* Investment in fire evacuation routes and emergency water infrastructure.
* Expansion of forest biomass utilization efforts.

**Climate Adaptation for Sea Level Rise and Flooding**

* Continuous investment in levee improvements and catastrophic flooding prevention.
* Planning, protecting, replacing, or relocating critical infrastructure threatened by sea level rise.

**[INSERT EXAMPLES FROM YOUR COUNTY THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE FUNDING FOR]**

With the dual crisis of affordability and climate change knocking at our door, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ County respectfully asks that you prioritize the above investments as you reauthorize the Cap-and-Trade Program.

Sincerely,

NAME

TITLE

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY

cc Governor Gavin Newsom

Senate President Pro Tempore Mike McGuire

Speaker of the Assembly Robert Rivas

**LETTER SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Please send a copy of your letter to [your Legislator(s)](https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/) and CSAC’s letter account (legcoordinator@counties.org).