

-ON LETTERHEAD-

April 5, 2022

The Honorable Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
Chair, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee
Via email

RE: AB 1814 (Grayson) – SUPPORT

Dear Committee Chair Eduardo Garcia,

The City of Carson is pleased to submit a letter of support for AB 1814 (Grayson), which would simply authorize Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) to submit applications to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to receive funding to administer transportation electrification programs in the communities they represent.

To decarbonize the transportation sector, California has established a goal of putting five million zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) on the road by 2030 and a requirement that all new passenger vehicles sold in California be zero-emission by 2035. But the state is behind in installing the more than 1.2 million public and shared chargers that are needed to achieve these objectives. If California is serious about meeting this our ZEV goals, we will need an all-hands-on deck.

CCAs, who represent more than 200 cities and counties and provide service to more than 11 million customers, are uniquely positioned to advance charging infrastructure in key areas of the state due to their inherent relationship with the communities they represent. The City of Carson is a member of Clean Power Alliance, a CCA stretching throughout Ventura and Los Angeles Counties. Unfortunately, state law does not provide the explicitly authority to enable CCAs to participate in the CPUC's transportation electrification (TE) program eliminating a valuable tool in the state's effort to decarbonize the electric sector.

AB 1814 simply, and rightly, removes this unnecessary barrier to more widespread EV adoption by allowing CCAs to submit applications to the CPUC and, if approved, to receive funding to deploy TE programs that cater to their community's specific needs. As it now stands, both investor-owned utilities (IOUs) and CCA customers pay fees to the state to fund TE programs, but only IOUs can access those state funds to design and administer the available programs. This current construct has resulted in communities paying into the program but receiving no benefit - including disadvantaged and low-income communities.

CCAs have a proven track record of not only successfully serving their communities with programs to meet their needs and priorities but in helping to achieve the state's climate

goals. This bill will simply expand on that, allowing CCAs to continue to play a bigger role in our fight against climate change.

For these reasons, The City of Carson, strongly supports AB 1814 and respectfully request your AYE vote. If you have questions, or wish to discuss our position, please do not hesitate to contact Reata Kulcsar, Sustainability Administrator – Utilities at (310) 952-1700 ext. 1312 or via email at rkulcsar@carsonca.gov.

Sincerely,

CC: Assemblymember Timothy Grayson
Members, Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy
Assemblymember Mike Gipson
Senator Steven Bradford