

The Honorable Charles Duane Baker, Jr.
Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor
Room 280
Boston, MA 02113

November 7, 2016

RE: Support for Zero Emission Vehicles

Dear Governor Baker,

We, the undersigned, are writing to you today to express our support for smart and effective policies that will help put more zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) on the roads here in Massachusetts. Cleaning up our cars means giving our residents cleaner air to breathe, putting money back in their pockets and supporting local high-quality jobs.

ZEVs drastically cut down on our use of oil and improve our national security while producing little to no tailpipe emissions. Since the American Lung Association gave many cities in our region a failing or poor grade for our air quality in 2015, more ZEVs on the road means drastically improved air quality and less asthma attacks for our residents. Moreover, the average cost of fueling a car with electricity is significantly cheaper while being better for our health and environment. This means the money saved can be invested back into our communities and state.

Consumer demand for these vehicles is growing. In the first half of 2016, U.S. ZEV sales have increased about 20% over the first half of 2015. At the local level, we're committed to doing our part to accommodate this demand and accelerate ZEV adoption through a variety of programs such as growing our municipal ZEV fleets and installing public and workplace electric vehicle charging stations. Local programs coupled with state, regional and federal programs can go a long way towards accelerating the ZEV market. In particular, we look forward to working with your administration to achieve the goals of the Zero Emission Vehicle program, which calls for 302,000 ZEVs to be put on the road in Massachusetts by 2025.

Thanks to Massachusetts' adoption of this ZEV program, the future for electric vehicles in our state is bright – especially with the elimination of the travel loophole exemption that will require automakers to begin selling a growing percentage of ZEVs in our state and eight others starting in 2018. We urge you to support the California Air Resources Board to continue its strong ZEV policies that allow states like Massachusetts to continue leading the way on clean cars..

Respectfully,

Joseph Curtatone
Mayor, City of Somerville

Jon Mitchell
Mayor, City of New Bedford

Alex Morse
Mayor, City of Holyoke

Michelle Wu
President, Boston City Council

Matthew O'Malley
Councilor, City of Boston

Bill White
Alderman, City of Somerville

Mark Niedergang
Alderman, City of Somerville

Dennis Sullivan
Alderman, City of Somerville

MaryAnn Heuston
Alderman, City of Somerville

Vincent Piccirilli, Jr.
Council Vice President, Town of Watertown

Aaron Dushku
Councilor, Town of Watertown

Marc McGovern
Councilor, City of Cambridge

Jan Devereux
Councilor, City of Cambridge

Nadeem Mazen
Councilor, City of Cambridge

Steve Dondley
Councilor, City of Westfield

Ted Hess-Mahan
Councilor, City of Newton

Amy Sangiolo
Councilor, City of Newton

Susan Albright
Councilor, City of Newton

Victoria Danberg
Councilor, City of Newton

Alison Leary
Councilor, City of Newton

Emily Norton
Councilor, City of Newton

Barbara Brousal
Councilor, City of Newton

cc: California Air Resources Board