

MEMORANDUM

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area

DT: March 24, 2011

TO: ABAG Executive Board

FM: Gerald Lahr, Energy Programs Manager

RE: Balance Foundation RFG Grant
- EV Streamlining Project

Project History. The RFG Settlement Fund, a court-administered fund set up to manage a \$5M court penalty against the Unocal corporation, issued an RFP in early 2011 to solicit proposals for projects that would promote clean transportation alternatives and reduce greenhouse gases. The Association of Bay Area Governments and the Balance Foundation were approached by the EV Communities Alliance to partner on the development of a grant to develop Fast Charge infrastructure connecting the Bay Area and Los Angeles along the I-5 corridor, to promote EV charger installation streamlining in Bay Area and Southern California jurisdictions, and to develop and disseminate guidelines for EV infrastructure deployment by local and regional agencies. ABAG was identified as providing overall project oversight, EV Communities Alliance was identified as project manager, and, due to eligibility rules, the Balance Foundation was the formal applicant and fiscal agent.

Following an initial review by the court-appointed administrator, ABAG was informed that RFG would not support the Fast Charge project, but ABAG was encouraged to supplement the budget for installation streamlining and EV-friendly policy guidelines in order to assist more jurisdictions to implement these project elements. A new project budget and scope were developed with final funding set at \$615,800.

On November 29, 2010 the court approved the Balance Foundation award, and on January 20, 2011 the Balance Foundation Board approved acceptance of the grant. The administration of the grant was subsequently assigned to ABAG.

Need for the Project: State and local government agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, and auto makers are increasingly concerned that residential EV Charger streamlining efforts are lagging throughout the state, with installation times for the most commonly specified (240 volt “Level 2”) EV Chargers requiring a month or more to complete – due to the necessity to obtain permits, schedule multiple inspections by both utilities and building inspectors, and certify that the work has been done to code. In addition, many local permitting officials are not familiar with EV charger requirements and may not be providing accurate and timely information to would-be EV consumers seeking information on code requirements. A study by Friends of the Earth in the Bay Area documented in detail that lack of information and problematic approval processes in many Bay Area cities and Counties. Experience in jurisdictions that have been working hard to address this problem – such as San

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2050 Oakland, California 94604-2050 (510) 464-7900 Fax:
(510) 464-8468 info@abag.ca.gov Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter 101 Eighth Street
Oakland, California 94607-4756

MEMORANDUM

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

Representing City and County Governments of the San Francisco Bay Area

Francisco – indicate that installation times can be accelerated *if* all key stakeholders – including local inspectors, utilities, auto dealers, and EV charger installers – work together to clarify hand-off procedures and to streamline the component parts of the EV charger “supply chain.”

Project Partners: Project partners include the following:

The EV Communities Alliance (EVCA) operates under 501c3 auspices, with a mission to the shift to electric transportation. Led by founder/Executive Director Richard Schorske, EVCA will act as project coordinator and will lead the installation streamlining effort in the Bay Area in collaboration with the Bay Area Climate Collaborative, and assist in the Southern California streamlining effort. EVCA will assist ABAG in the development of the proposed EV policy White Paper for the COGs and provide the grant evaluation services.

Clean Fuel Connection, Inc (CFCI) is the leading installer of EV infrastructure in California and one of the leading EVSE contractors nationwide. Founded in 1998 by CEO Enid Joffe, Clean Fuel Connection has installed more than 1500 EV chargers, from the original GM EV 1 program to the recent BMW Mini-E pilot program. Clean Fuel Connection will help to develop the EV-friendly public works guidelines and will lead installation streamlining efforts in Southern California.

Bay Area Climate Collaborative (BACC) is a cross-sector nonprofit organization working with the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and multiple cities and counties to coordinate work on the climate challenge in the region. It has developed EV-related fleet projects with MTC and other partners, and is also coordinating green building upgrades in numerous jurisdictions. BACC will partner with LightMoves Consulting—which has developed EV guidelines for the Puget Sound region and Sonoma County – to develop the RFG funded guidelines suitable for all jurisdictions in California.

Action: Authorize ABAG to execute all necessary agreements to implement and carry out the purposes of any funds awarded as a result of the RFG Settlement Grant issued to the Balance Foundation.

cc: Ezra Rapport, Executive Director