

DRAFT as of 3/4/2025

For Climate Safe Infrastructure Coalition Discussion and Distribution

Climate Safe Infrastructure Coalition

**California's Cap & Trade Program Should Prioritize Investments in Infrastructure
Projects that Maximize Emissions Reductions, Enhance Climate Safety and Support
Middle-Class Jobs**

California's Cap & Trade program is set to expire in 2030. As lawmakers consider reauthorizing this program, they should prioritize proven investments in physical and natural infrastructure that will reduce the greatest amount of greenhouse gas emissions; that make us safer and more resilient to the impacts of climate change; and investments that create good paying middle-class jobs. Climate change and extreme weather are here. We need an *improved* Cap & Trade program that focuses on effectiveness, accountability and affordability.

The Climate Safe Infrastructure Coalition supports improving the Cap & Trade program by investing in the following:

State Supported Transit and Rail Infrastructure

- Expand a more focused Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program to fund transit projects across the state. Increased dedicated allocation to capital projects of regional significance with funds to be used for connectivity and bookend projects including:
 - High Speed Rail, Caltrain, Metrolink, Salesforce Transit Center, Diridon Station, LA Union Station, Fresno Station, Anaheim Regional Transportation Intermodal Center, ACE Train, SMART, San Joaquin Regional Rail
- Increased operations funding commitment to support the recovery, stabilization, and growth of transit and rail service statewide.

State Wildfire Resilience Infrastructure

- Significant allocation to high wildfire risk counties to fund:
 - Firefighting capital infrastructure and personnel
 - Statewide wildfire fuel mitigation funding
 - Public Safety emergency water supply infrastructure
 - Funding to expand local fire evacuation routes

Local Land Use Infrastructure to Support High Density and Infill Development

- Continuous allocation to local, rural and regional governments to support projects consistent with a sustainable communities strategy
 - Funding for local infrastructure around Transit Oriented Development
 - Conversion of underutilized urban office and commercial into housing
 - Continued funding for affordable housing and sustainable communities' and transformative climate communities efforts

Climate Adaptation and Sea Level Rise Infrastructure to Keep Californians Safe

- Continuous allocation for projects related to climate adaptation, including:
 - Annual allocation for levee improvements and catastrophic flooding prevention
 - Relocate or replace existing transportation and other critical infrastructure threatened by sea level rise such as Highway 37 and Highway 1
 - Funding to protect costal airports including LAX, SFO and SAN
 - Municipal waste and recycling infrastructure

Clean Local Transportation Infrastructure

- Annual funding for local government to safely implement green transportation infrastructure
 - Hydrogen and EV charging infrastructure
 - Support for local Active Transportation Infrastructure
 - Funding for local government and transit clean fleet compliance
 - Develop network of regional VMT mitigation banks to offset local transportation project costs