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California's climate goals are noble, but people across the state consistently say the same thing: we need solutions that are practical, affordable, and grounded in real-world readiness, not policies that outpace infrastructure or burden working families.

Here are the facts that matter to anyone who wants both clean air and a functioning, affordable economy:

- EV mandates outpace affordability. Even with incentives, electric vehicles remain far more expensive upfront, and the used-EV market is still limited. Most EV buyers today are higher-income households.
- Charging access is uneven. CARB's own reports show that many regions — especially rural, inland, and working-class communities — lack reliable charging infrastructure.
- Transit alternatives aren't viable for most Californians. Long commutes, irregular work hours, and limited transit coverage mean personal vehicles remain essential for millions.
- Raising gasoline costs acts as a regressive tax. When fuel prices rise, lower- and middle-income families pay a larger share of their income — widening the affordability gap.
- Proposed CARB regulations could add up to \$1 per gallon, according to multiple analyses, at a time when California already has the highest fuel prices in the country.
- California's energy transition must be realistic. A 2035 all-EV mandate without the infrastructure, grid capacity, or funding to support it risks creating more inequality,

California can strive towards clean energy without policies that unintentionally punish the people who can least absorb the cost.