

Jeremiah Maller

Dear Chair Sanchez and Members of the Board,

My name is Jeremiah Maller. I am submitting this comment in my personal capacity as a California resident of 19 years, currently living in Berkeley. I urge CARB not to adopt the proposed Cap-and-Invest amendments in their current form.

I appreciate that CARB must consider affordability, jobs, and economic uncertainty. But affordability for ordinary Californians is not just a short-term bill credit. It also means being able to live near jobs, take reliable transit, spend less on driving, breathe cleaner air, and benefit from climate investments in the communities that need them most.

That is why I am deeply concerned that the proposed amendments could reduce funding for some of California's most important public-benefit programs, including Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities, the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program, the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program, and AB 617 community air protection. These programs are not side benefits. They are how California's climate policy becomes real in people's daily lives.

California should not weaken the integrity of Cap-and-Invest or sacrifice affordable housing, public transit, and community air protection in order to provide additional free allowances or compliance relief to large emitters. If the state wants to provide targeted bill relief or support industrial decarbonization, it should do so without undermining the cap or draining funds from programs that reduce emissions while improving affordability, mobility, and public health.

I respectfully urge the Board to reject the amendments in their current form and work with the Legislature, local governments, transit agencies, housing advocates, environmental justice organizations, and the public on a revised proposal that:

Protects continuous funding for transit, affordable housing, and community air protection.

Maintains the environmental integrity of the emissions cap.

Requires any industry incentive to produce real, additional, and verifiable emissions reductions.

For 19 years, I have watched California try to lead on climate in a way that also improves daily life.

Please do not weaken one of California's most important climate programs by sacrificing the investments that make it work for people.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Maller

Berkeley, CA

Submitted in personal capacity