To Whom it May Concern:

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition (SJVCCC) is proudly committed to supporting our local communities. We are invested in bridging opportunities that create additional quality jobs and ensuring sustainable regional growth and vitality through portfolio diversification.

California’s Central Valley region is experiencing rapid growth. And, while many of our communities have established an economic stronghold through prominent industries such as agriculture, energy, space, and high-tech, the region also faces unique challenges.

That is why the SJVCCC is proud to support the work plan proposed by Bakersfield College and the Kern Community College District (KCCD) in response to the California Workforce Development Board’s High Roads Training Partnership Regional Strategic Planning grant opportunity.

Together, KCCD and BC’s leadership has a strong understanding of regional needs, coupled with a proven ability to implement systems and solutions that generate increased equity. Their educational structure has the strength, momentum, and capacity to prepare our growing communities to be the future skilled and trained workforce that we will need.

The SJVCCC is a partnership of public and private agencies and businesses who want to improve air quality in California’s Central Valley and Eastern Kern County. The goal of our coalition is to clean the air by reducing petroleum use in the transportation sector throughout nine counties in central California. Our stakeholders develop public/private partnerships to promote alternative fuels and vehicles, fuel blends, fuel economy, hybrid vehicles, and idle reduction technologies. We seek to develop cooperative joint ventures, which will help businesses and member agencies comply with air and transportation regulations in a cost-effective manner, benefitting residents of disadvantaged communities throughout the Central Valley. Our coalition is part of the United States Department of Energy Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy’s Vehicle Technology program. The SJVCCC partnered with the KCCD on a California Energy Commission Workforce Investment Grant in 2012. We continue to manage the efforts of the San Joaquin Valley Electric Vehicle Partnership and the San Joaquin Valley Natural Gas Partnership initiated under that program, including offering EV Solar Car Curriculum training to high school teachers.

Project Clean Air is the umbrella nonprofit for the Central California Clean Cities Coalition.

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Cities Coalition supports this innovative and collaborative work focused on ensuring Kern County is prepared to attract and compete in a low-carbon neutral environment. We look forward to the future we can create together through active participation, visionary foresight, engaging discussions, economic diversification, and other innovative strategies that will move our region closer to our shared goals.

Sincerely,

Linda Urata, Coordinator