



July 19, 2022

The Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2438 (Friedman) - Transportation funding - Support

Dear Chair Portantino and Committee Members:

On behalf of the undersigned health and medical organizations, we are writing to express our support for Assembly Bill 2438 (AB 2438, Friedman), which would require that California's transportation investments align with California's clean air and climate standards. The transportation sector is the leading source of harmful air pollution and greenhouse gases in California and must be addressed by clear and consistent policies to reduce pollution and associated health impacts and disparities.

California is home to the most difficult air pollution challenges in the United States, and climate change impacts our clean air progress through more extreme heat, drought and wildfire smoke impacts. A recent report from the Strategic Growth Council found that there remains significant misalignment between State-funded transportation projects our climate standards. California's ability to reach climate standards (and clean air standards) is significantly impacted by continued investment in land use and transportation projects that increase our dependence on vehicle travel. We must focus transportation investments on projects and programs that increase affordable, clean mobility choices for all communities that clean our air and reduce greenhouse gases.

AB 2438 would support transportation investments that align with California climate standards by requiring state transportation funding guidelines to be updated to align with the Climate Action Plan for Transportation Infrastructure (CAPTI). The bill would also require relevant state agencies (CalSTA, Caltrans, CTC) to include CAPTI strategies in funding program guidelines by January 1, 2024, and ensure accountability and transparency measures for those programs and project selection.

We urge your support for AB 2438 to build the healthier, more equitable and more sustainable transportation system California deserves. Please contact Will Barrett with the American Lung Association with any questions at William.Barrett@lung.org.

Sincerely,

Will Barrett
Senior Director, Clean Air Advocacy
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