

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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*Flex your power!
Be energy efficient!*

March 28, 2011

Mr. Stuart Cohen
Executive Director
TransForm
436 14th Street, Suite 600
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Cohen:

It has come to my attention that your organization has developed and piloted a program, called GreenTRIP, to incentivize the inclusion of auto trip reduction features in transit-oriented housing development projects. I understand that the program uses the Urban Emissions (URBEMIS) model, which was developed by the California Air Resources Board, to demonstrate the effectiveness of transportation demand and parking management strategies. The program further recognizes projects for the effectiveness of these trip reduction features by providing GreenTRIP certification, thereby giving an incentive for project sponsors to modify projects by adding these measures.

The GreenTRIP Program supports the Local Development - Intergovernmental Review policy of the California Department of Transportation (Department). Specifically, the Department's Deputy Directive 25 (DD 25) states that, "The Department seeks to reduce vehicle trips associated with proposed new local development and recommends appropriate mitigation measures for dealing with the remaining transportation impacts of such development. The Department works to ensure that local land use planning and development decisions include the provision of transportation choices, including transit, intercity rail passenger service, air service, walking, and biking, when appropriate." The GreenTRIP certification program objectives align well with the Department's goals of reducing auto trips associated with new local development and providing transportation choices.

In reviewing local transit-oriented housing development proposals, the Department plans to notify project sponsors and municipalities of the availability of GreenTRIP certification as a means of reducing vehicle trip generation and impacts on the State Highway System. The continuation of funding for the GreenTRIP program is important for providing this option of participating in the program and would help to support the Department's goals of reducing auto trips and providing transportation choices in the future.

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Should you have questions regarding this letter, please contact Jean Finney, Office Chief, Transit and Community Planning, at (510) 286-6196.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lee D. Taubeneck". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and 'T'.

LEE TAUBENECK, M.S., P.E.
Deputy District Director, Transportation Planning and Local Assistance