June 17, 2020

RE: SUPPORT for Santa Fe, NM Electric Vehicle and Charging Infrastructure Funding

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Muñoz, Ranking Member Neville and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Electrification Coalition (EC), we urge you to support maintaining the City of Santa Fe’s 2020 capital outlay allocation of $750,000 for electric vehicles and charging station infrastructure under Section 35, item 391. We strongly support Santa Fe’s efforts to transition their fleet to electric vehicles.

Transitioning our nation’s fleets to electric vehicles is critical to changing the future of transportation in the U.S. As our nation’s transportation system is almost entirely reliant on oil as its sole transportation fuel, the rapid transition to electric vehicles will reduce the economic and national security threats posed by our oil dependence. We recognize that the current economic conditions are making for some tough choices; however, as a budget matter, the effort will significantly lower the operating costs of city fleets. In addition, it will serve to reduce transportation emissions, and improve air quality and public health.

Through the Climate Mayors EV Purchasing Collaborative, the EC is working in collaboration with Bloomberg Philanthropies to help Santa Fe and many other cities across the country transition their fleet’s vehicles to electric and implement innovative policy and strategies aimed at increasing EV adoption and fleet procurement.

These funds from the state will support more than 20 new electric vehicles and help the city reach its goal of a fully electric fleet by 2025. Santa Fe has already begun its electrification efforts using local funding; however, this additional funding is needed in order to help the city continue to improve air quality for residents and reach their sustainability goals.

We hope that the state will maintain Santa Fe’s allocation, even during these times of budget uncertainty, to help the city reach its ambitious climate goals and ultimately save money.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Prochazka
National Director - Electrification Coalition
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