



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE BAY AREA  
An Inter-League Organization of the San Francisco Bay Area



August 26, 2008

Senator Darrell Steinberg  
State Capitol, Room 4035  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 375 (Steinberg) - SUPPORT**

The League of Women Voters of the Bay Area is pleased that your landmark bill SB 375 (Transportation Planning: Travel Demand Models) has passed the State Assembly. We look forward to its passage in the State Senate.

The League supports land use development patterns that facilitate the use of transit and other alternatives to single occupant vehicles. We have consistently favored the integration of transportation planning with sound land use policies, particularly those that encourage infill development using existing infrastructure, that meets the need for affordable housing, and that protects vital natural resources and agricultural lands.

This bill integrates and aligns planning for housing, land use, and transportation with targets for greenhouse gas emission reductions in the 17 Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) in the state. SB 375 provides for:

- California Transportation Commission to set targets for greenhouse gas emissions, based on travel demand models, for these MPOs
- Regional entities to establish sustainable communities strategies that identify areas to sufficiently house all the population of the region, a transportation network to serve regional needs especially with equity and accessibility for those who depend on transit, and designation of priority zones located near transit stations,
- Regional Housing Needs Allocation to be coordinated with, and on the same time frame as, the Regional Transportation Plans, and then provide incentives and certain CEQA relief for transit priority projects and other affordable in-fill housing.

We believe the use of travel demand models and the measures for integrating transportation, housing and air quality planning will effectively meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction targets contained in AB 32. We hope all Bay Area Senators will support SB 375.

Sincerely,

Marion Taylor  
Vice President, Program/Action  
510-532-5797

Copy: State Senators from the Bay Area (Districts 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13).