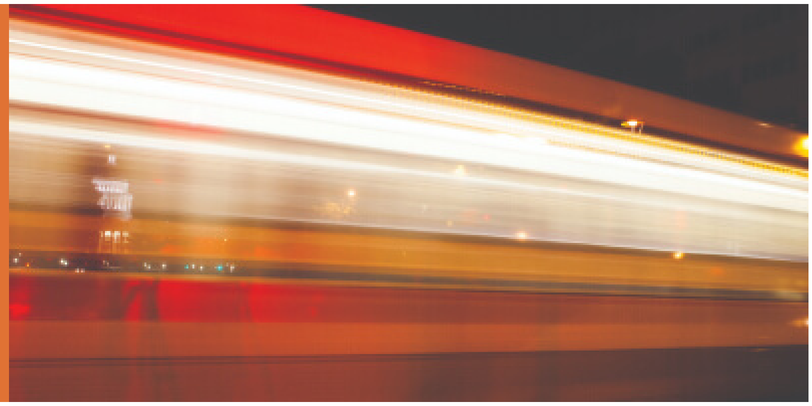
July 10, 2026

Action Alert



Act Now to Protect Climate Investments in Affordable Housing, Public Transit, and Clean Air Programs

California's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) has long been a cornerstone of the state's climate strategy, delivering critical investments in affordable housing near transit, public transit capital projects and operations, and community clean air programs. In 2026, those investments are under threat.

Following action by the California Air Resources Board to amend the state's Cap-and-Invest program, GGRF revenues could be reduced significantly, beginning this fiscal year, jeopardizing one-time funding commitments to the SB 125 - Zero-Emission Transit Capital Program (ZETCP) and annual funding commitments for "Tier 3" programs including the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC), the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program (TIRCP), the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program (LCTOP), and AB 617 community air protection efforts.

The California Transit Association is leading a broad coalition of housing, transportation, local government, environmental, labor, and disability rights organizations to urge state leaders to protect these commitments.

As the Governor and Legislature have committed to revisiting GGRF expenditures upon their return from summer recess on August 3, the time to act to ensure California does not backtrack on its climate, equity, affordability, and mobility goals is NOW.

We urge you to take the following actions in support of the Association's efforts:

1. **Meet with Your Legislative Delegation to Highlight the Importance of "Tier 3" programs.** We strongly encourage you to meet with your legislators in their district offices and/or invite them to your facilities to highlight the capital projects and operational improvements you have made with GGRF investments and urge them to fully fund GGRF commitments for the ZETCP and Tier 3 programs.

   As you connect with legislators, make the case that GGRF-funded programs deliver measurable benefits in communities across California: more affordable homes near transit, cleaner air in overburdened neighborhoods, expanded and improved transit service, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and greater transportation affordability for working families. Be sure to highlight what is at risk for your agency and the communities you serve if the ZETCP and Tier 3 programs are not protected.

2. **Urge Your Board Members to Contact Your State Legislators to Protect "Tier 3" programs.** We strongly encourage you to continue to activate your board members and leverage their relationships with legislators to urge the Legislature to fully fund GGRF commitments for the ZETCP and Tier 3 programs.

   To ensure consistent messaging across agencies, we strongly encourage you to use the Association's email script, which includes a click-through link to suggested talking points for use by your board members.

3. **Urge Your Local Labor Representatives to Contact Your State Legislators and Their State Conference Boards / Councils to Protect "Tier 3" programs.** We strongly encourage you to continue to activate your local labor representatives from both operations and in the construction trades, and ask that they leverage their relationships with legislators to urge the Legislature to fully fund GGRF commitments for the ZETCP and Tier 3 programs. To ensure consistent messaging across agencies, I strongly encourage you to use the Association's email script, which includes a click-through link to suggested talking points for use by your labor representatives.

4. **Help Us Grow Our Coalition.** We strongly encourage you to help us grow our coalition of supporters by connecting us with the impactful business, labor, and environmental organizations in your respective regions and urge them to join our effort. You can direct possible leads to **Executive Director Michael Pimentel** at michael@caltransit.org.

Need help with messaging? Emphasize that GGRF investments are not abstract budget line items - they fund real projects and services that reduce pollution, improve mobility, lower household transportation costs, support affordable housing production, and protect public health in communities that need these investments most.

For its part, the Association is urging Governor Newsom, Senate President pro Tempore Monique Limon, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas, and the Legislature to honor the state's commitments and preserve stable funding for programs that are central to California's climate and equity goals. The coalition has warned that proposed revenue reductions could put up to $1.65 billion in annual funding at risk, including funding for AHSC, TIRCP, LCTOP, and AB 617. In the coming weeks, we will launch a new task force to steer the Association's final engagement on GGRF funding as well as a new public affairs campaign to ensure our groundwork is supported by additional public pressure.

California cannot meet its climate goals or address affordability and air quality challenges by cutting the very programs designed to deliver those outcomes. ACT NOW!

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