



**STAFF REPORT**  
Board Meeting of October 23, 2024

**AGENDA ITEM:** 4-G

**PREPARED BY:** Dylan Stone, Principal Regional Planner

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**SUBJECT:**

San Joaquin Valley Metropolitan Planning Organizations Letter to California Air Resources Board Regarding Sustainable Communities Strategy Guidelines and Senate Bill 375 Framework

**Enclosure:** Yes

**Action:** Information and Discussion Only

**SUMMARY:**

The eight metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) of the San Joaquin Valley have submitted a letter requesting a partnership with the California Air Resources Board (CARB), California Transportation Commission (CTC), Caltrans, and the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to holistically review the SB 375 framework to improve how state and regional agencies collaborate to deliver multiple housing, climate, and transportation goals.

The San Joaquin Valley MPOs serve a region with eight counties and 63 cities, whose collective population numbers more than 4.3 million residents. Those counties – Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare – are home to some of the most disadvantaged communities in the state and share an air basin challenged by weather and topography that creates an ideal setting for extreme air pollution. Our MPOs are sensitive to the need for greenhouse gas reduction and are committed to SB 375’s intent.

The letter represents a collective submission of comments by the San Joaquin Valley MPOs for both proposed amendments to the SCS guidelines (comments requested by CARB by Aug. 30) and the request for information related to the target setting (preliminary data questionnaire requested by CARB by Oct. 30).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

No fiscal impact to the approved 2024-25 Overall Work Program and Budget.