

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 26, 2021

Contact: Jacob Bintliff: [jacob.bintliff@sfgov.org](mailto:jacob.bintliff@sfgov.org)

**San Francisco Supervisor Calls on State to Accelerate Electric Vehicle Transition in California**

*San Francisco Supervisor Rafael Mandelman introduced a resolution calling on the California Air Resources Board and State Legislature to take swift action to accelerate widespread electric vehicle adoption across California*

SAN FRANCISCO — Today District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman introduced a resolution urging the California Air Resources Board (CARB), State agencies and the State Legislature to take immediate action to support electric vehicle adoption across the state. The resolution calls for the swift implementation of Governor Newsom’s Executive Order requiring all personal vehicle sales to be zero emission by 2035, expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure and subsidy programs for low-income consumers, and providing funding to help transit operators switch to all electric fleets.

“The climate crisis is not going to wait,” said Mandelman, who authored San Francisco’s Climate Emergency Resolution and an ordinance requiring electric construction in new buildings starting this year, and was recently elected Chair of the County Transportation Authority Board. “We need major investments in electric vehicles and buses included in this year’s State budget and we need the State to adopt regulations phasing out fossil fuel vehicles as quickly as possible.”

Transportation is the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions in San Francisco, accounting for nearly half of all emissions. In 2018 the City adopted a Citywide Electric Vehicle Roadmap, which aims to have 100% of new passenger vehicle registrations, 10,000 medium- and heavy-duty commercial vehicles registrations, and two-thirds of incoming commuter vehicles to the City be electric by 2030.

“Electrifying vehicles is crucial to combating climate change and improving our lives in so many ways,” said Debbie Raphael, Director of the San Francisco Department of the Environment. “In San Francisco, our most vulnerable communities live in neighborhoods alongside highways and truck routes where air pollution is the worst, but hardest to address on a local level. While setting bold goals is a good start, we can’t do this work alone. Cities need state support and resources to ensure everyone benefits from a clean, healthy environment.”

In September, Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order requiring all in-state sales of new passenger cars, light-duty trucks, off-road vehicles and equipment to be zero emission by 2035, and for medium- and heavy-duty trucks to be zero emission by 2045. The order also

required the Air Resources Board to work with other State agencies to issue implementing regulations. Mandelman's resolution calls on the agencies to take action as quickly as possible.

"There is no way to fully address the climate crisis without also addressing transportation. If we want to leave behind a climate where future generations can thrive, we must now make a dramatic shift in how we power our vehicles, our homes, and our cities," said Phil Whitfield, Campaign Associate with CALPIRG's Transform Transportation campaign. "San Francisco and the State of California must continue to lead the country in addressing the unprecedented challenges that climate change presents."

Last week, the Governor also announced a \$1.5 billion electric vehicle package as part of his State budget proposal, including funding for a statewide charging network and subsidies for low-income consumers to make sure electric vehicles are more broadly accessible. The State has also set targets for electric buses. In 2018, CARB adopted the Innovative Clean Transit program that mandates public transit agencies transition to a 100 percent zero-emission bus fleet by 2040.

"Transit agencies are ready to do their part to achieve the state's Innovative Clean Transit rule, but can't do so without financial support," said Tilly Chang, Executive Director of the San Francisco County Transportation Authority. "State and federal resources are needed to help operators electrify their fleets and facilities as they endeavor to meet the regulatory timetables during this challenging time."

The resolution was introduced on January 26 and will be voted on by the Board of Supervisors at their February 2 meeting.

"With the Biden-Harris administration committed to installing 500,000 new charging stations nationwide by 2030, and the Governor's recent actions to accelerate the electric vehicle transition, the next couple of years present a special opportunity for San Francisco to steer away from fossil fuel vehicles once and for all, while boosting our economic recovery," said Mandelman. "This has to include funding for transit operators to convert to all electric bus fleets as well."

###