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Subject: March 10, 2009 meeting

Mark....I'm Jim Helmer, Director of Transportation for the City of San Jose. I heard Fred Keeley and Ruben Barrales present to Silicon Valley leaders today. I'm deeply involved with clean technology in the surface transportation arena, not as an automobile mfg, or a user per se, but as a DOT Director building the infrastructure in the State's 3rd largest City necessary for consumers to want to buy electrics or plug-in hybrids. San Jose is leading the way with companies such as Tesla, Coulomb, Relume and PG&E to develop new systems and opportunities.

I say this because everything we do as local agencies, coupled with mandates placed on the automobile mfgs. to build more fuel-efficient cars will continue to erode our State's Gas Tax....we must develop a more sustainable and "consistent" tax model for California motorists so all will pay their share and local and state agencies collect the revenue we need to continue to modernize our transportation infrastructure. We would like the opportunity to present information or testify at the March 10 meeting. Fred, suggested I contact you directly. Thanks Jim Helmer