



February 19, 2026

The Honorable Dr. Corey Jackson
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0060

RE: AB 72 (Jackson) – Electric Vehicle Economic Opportunity Zone, County of Riverside Notice of Support- City of Hemet

Dear Assemblymember Jackson:

On behalf of the City of Hemet, I am writing to express our strong support for AB 72, which would establish an Electric Vehicle Economic Opportunity Zone (EVEOZ) in Riverside County.

As California advances toward its statutory goal of 100 percent zero-emission passenger vehicle sales by 2035, it is essential that the economic benefits of this transition, particularly workforce development, job creation, and educational opportunities, are equitably distributed. AB 72 provides a thoughtful framework to ensure that communities in the Inland Empire are positioned to participate meaningfully in California's clean transportation economy.

Hemet and the broader Riverside County region are well suited to serve as a hub for electric vehicle manufacturing, workforce training, and related innovation. The Inland Empire continues to experience rapid population growth while facing persistent challenges related to income disparities, workforce diversification, and air quality impacts from transportation and goods movement. AB 72 directly addresses these challenges by fostering partnerships among educational institutions, electric vehicle manufacturers, workforce organizations, and financial institutions to expand access to training and high-quality jobs in emerging clean transportation industries.

Establishing an Electric Vehicle Economic Opportunity Zone in Riverside County would help create clear pathways for local residents to obtain in-demand skills, support the transition of internal combustion engine-related businesses toward electric vehicle technologies, and strengthen the regional economy while advancing statewide climate goals. For cities like Hemet, this approach aligns economic development with environmental stewardship and long-term workforce resilience.

For these reasons, the City of Hemet is pleased to support AB 72 and appreciates your leadership in advancing policies that promote equitable economic opportunity, environmental sustainability, and regional collaboration.

Sincerely,

Linda Krupa
Mayor

Cc. Jesse Ramirez, Riverside County Regional Public Affairs Manager, jramirez@cacities.org
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