

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 9, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Schumer:

We are writing to express our concerns with the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal and the amount of dedicated funding towards electric vehicle charging infrastructure that falls far short of the needed level of investment. If we are to make the rapid transition to a zero-emission and zero pollution future, we must seize this once-in-a-generation opportunity to go big, go bold, and build the infrastructure that will take us into the 21st Century through an \$85 billion investment to support a fully electrified transportation sector.

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the transportation sector has become the single most significant source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. It is also a major contributor to local air pollution, such as ozone and particulate matter, that disproportionately impacts low-income communities and communities of color, leading to dangerous health conditions that we have seen amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic. Decarbonizing the transportation sector is therefore a critical piece of how we tackle the climate crisis and address the disparities in air pollution that have burdened disadvantaged and underserved communities. However, a rapid and extensive build-out of electric vehicle charging infrastructure supported by the Federal Government is crucial if consumers are to adopt zero-emission vehicles at the scale and pace needed to stave off climate catastrophe and ensure an equitable transition.

By making an \$85 billion investment in zero-emission charging infrastructure that will last decades, we can employ tens of thousands of Americans, all while supporting the massive adoption of clean transportation options. Funding electric vehicle infrastructure, including charging for electric vehicles and equipment of all types and sizes, will be useful to individuals, businesses, and governments, alike, across the nation. In addition to supporting the deployment of charging stations, this scale of investment will help add utility electrical capacity to enable robust charging, increasing the supply of renewable energy, and build grid resilience in the face of climate change. Such an investment also reflects the Biden-Harris Administration's *Build Back Better* proposal, including their goal for the deployment of 500,000 new electric vehicle charging stations.

As we make this transition to a zero-emission vehicle future, equity must be front and center in how we build out a nationwide charging network. Our current transportation sector is inequitable and unjust, and we cannot allow ourselves to repeat the mistakes of our past. Unless we are intentional in our actions, the communities that have the most to gain from an electrified

transportation sector will also be among the last and least to partake in its benefits. It is therefore critical that we harness this once in a generation moment to increase deployment of electric vehicle charging stations in and around locations that will have a direct benefit to disadvantaged communities, including on-street and public parking, multi-unit dwellings, public and affordable housing, public parks, public buildings, places of work, commuter transit hubs, and more. In addition to supporting personal vehicles, these charging stations will also help incentivize electric car-sharing and rideshare programs in areas that have received underinvestment in public transit and last-mile options. With these considerations top of mind, an \$85 billion investment in zero-emission charging infrastructure, paired with the necessary investments in public transit, will allow us to start addressing the inequities that plague our current dirty transportation system.

To deliver electric vehicle charging investments at the scale our communities and the climate crisis require, the House must have the opportunity to build on the Senate's infrastructure proposals. House leaders should be given the opportunity to shape the topline investment numbers on behalf of the constituents we represent. By working together, the House and Senate can deliver an outcomes-focused infrastructure plan that contains meaningful investments in electric vehicle charging infrastructure to support a stronger, pollution free, and equitable tomorrow.

Thank you for your attention on this important matter and we look forward to working with you on ensuring a robust investment in electric vehicle charging infrastructure as negotiations on an infrastructure and reconciliation package move forward.

Sincerely,

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Nanette Barragán
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Brenda L. Lawrence
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Dina Titus
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Stephen F. Lynch
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