



American Planning Association  
**California Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities for All*

June 26, 2025

The Honorable Scott Wiener  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Room 8620  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: SB 71 (Wiener) CEQA: exemptions: environmental leadership transit projects – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Wiener:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to **support** your SB 71, which would remove the January 1, 2030 sunset on existing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions for various transportation plans and projects. The bill also expands these exemptions to other types of cleaner transportation plans and projects, though under specified sunset dates.

APA California is a non-profit organization made up of practicing planners, citizens and public officials committed to advancing the practice of local, regional, and statewide planning throughout urban, suburban, and rural California. As adopted in APA California's Legislative Platform, *Plan California*, our organization is supportive of policies to support high-quality public transit, pedestrian, and bikeway systems that efficiently serve the needs of transit-dependent and/or car-free residents.

Our organization was pleased to support your past efforts on this issue (SB 288, Wiener, Chapter 200, Statutes of 202, and SB 922 Wiener, Chapter 987, Statutes of 2022) and appreciate that SB 71 removes the sunset for those types of projects, which absent this change, would eventually go away. Also important, SB 71 provides additional exemption opportunities for many other important transportation projects and plans, which are all critical to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our communities, particularly those from the transportation sector.

We appreciate your efforts on this important issue and for the reasons outlined above, APA California is pleased to support SB 71. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren De Valencia, Stefan/George Associates, APA California's lobbyist, at 916 443-5301, [lauren@stefangeorge.com](mailto:lauren@stefangeorge.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Reuben Duarte'.

Reuben Duarte  
Vice President Policy and Legislation  
APA California

cc: Assembly Natural Resources Committee  
The Governor's Office  
The Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation

1121 L Street, Suite 606, Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.443.5301