



**Association of
Environmental
Professionals**

August 8, 2019

Assembly Member Laura Friedman
State Capitol, Room 2137
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1560 (Friedman) – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Friedman,

The Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) would like to express our support for AB 1560. California law allows for an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for residential, employment center, and mixed-use projects within a “major transit stop.” However current law excludes from this exemption some areas across the state that are well served by transit. AB 1560 revises the definition of “major transit stop” to include a bus rapid transit station, which is served by a local circulator or a local serving on-demand transit program.

AEP is supportive of legislation that promotes use of alternative transportation modes which reduce reliance on the automobile, including bus rapid transit systems, while simultaneously streamlining environmental review. This bill is supportive of AEP’s adopted Legislative Program to “[p]romote sustainable practices that minimize our “ecological footprint” and conserve finite resources for future generations.” AEP would like to express our appreciation of your efforts on this issue.

AEP is a non-profit organization of California’s environmental professionals. AEP members are involved in every stage of the evaluation, analysis, assessment, and litigation of projects subject to CEQA. For over thirty years, AEP has dedicated itself to improving the technical expertise and professional qualifications of its membership, as well as educating the public on the value of California’s laws protecting the environment, managing our natural resources, and promoting responsible land use and urban growth. AEP’s membership is broad and diverse, incorporating representatives from public agencies, the private sector and non-governmental organizations.

Thank you for your consideration of our support. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our lobbyist, Mr. Matt Klopfenstein at (916) 930-0796 or matt@caladvisorsllc.com.

Sincerely,

William Halligan, Esq.
State President, Association of Environmental Professionals

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