

October 16, 2012  
Secretary Matthew Rodriquez  
Secretary for Environmental Protection, Cal/EPA  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: December Local Government Meeting for Cal/EPA California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool**

Dear Secretary Rodriquez,

Thank you for the extended time period for local government input regarding the California Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Health Screening Tool. Local Government continues to have ongoing concern about the development and implementation of the tool. We are concerned about the short deadlines for further development and release of the tool. There has been minimal outreach made to get significant local government input despite the extraordinary impact this tool will have on the local government community. Unfortunately, the time period was extended by less than a month and only one meeting was convened in Sacramento late on a Tuesday afternoon (the vast majority of city councils in the state convene on Tuesday nights).

This tool will have an extraordinary impact on local governments land use authority and the permitting process. There is an extremely low awareness level of what is being developed by EPA in this regard and our sincere hope is to assist you, in a true partnership, in seeking local government input in this process. This tool and its impacts are far too important to allow anything less.

We propose a local government organization meeting take place in order to address the significant and real impacts this tool will have. Our organizations will work on convening local government stakeholders and elected officials to share their input into this process. Because of the timing and overall short notice of the previous meetings, we propose holding this meeting in early December, to give attendees and stakeholders adequate time to review this tool and plan to attend this meeting.

We recognize that this unfortunately extends beyond the October 16 public comment period deadline and the proposed meeting of the CIPA Workgroup in November. However, we strongly feel that these comments must be included in the development and implementation of this tool and available for evaluation by the CIPA Workgroup as will all of the other public comments.

We respectfully request that you include sufficient local elected official input into the development of this tool, including this first phase of comments, and allow us to help your agency secure local elected input by holding this meeting in early December and delaying the meeting of the CIPA Workgroup so that they will be able to consider the additional input from local governments.

Sincerely,



*Kyra Emanuel's Ross, Legislative Representative*  
**League of California Cities**



*Glen Becerra, President*  
**Southern California Association of Governments**

*(continued on next page)*



*Steven Diels, Council Member, City of Redondo Beach; President*  
**Los Angeles Division of the League of California Cities**



*Lisa Bartlett, Council Member, City of Dana Point; President*  
**Association of California Cities - Orange County**



*Sam Olivito, Executive Director*  
**California Contract Cities Association**



*Karen Keene, Senior Legislative Representative*  
**California State Association of Counties**



*Mary Pitto, Regulatory Affairs Advocate*  
**Regional Council of Rural Counties**



*David Snow, AICP, Vice President*  
*Policy and Legislation*  
**American Planning Association, California Chapter**

*CC: Martha Guzman-Aceves, Governor's Office, Deputy Legislative Secretary*

*Arsenio Mataka, Cal/EPA, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs*

*Miriam Ingenito, Cal/EPA, Deputy Secretary for Environmental Policy and Community Programs*

*George Alexeeff, PhD, OEHHA, Director*

*Dr. John Faust, OEHHA, Staff Toxicologist*