



**Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition**  
**P.O. Box 13357**  
**Berkeley CA 94712**  
**[www.bfbc.org](http://www.bfbc.org)**

June 24, 2009

Mayor Tom Bates  
Berkeley City Council

Re: Support for Tax Relief Action to Cut Commuter Carbon Ordinance

Mayor Tom Bates and Berkeley City Council

The Bicycle-Friendly Berkeley Coalition strongly endorses the Tax Relief Action to Cut Carbon Ordinance and urges you to adopt this ordinance as city policy.

We have seen the benefits of the City's Eco-Pass and UC Berkeley's student bus pass. The TRACCC is the next logical step toward expanding transit incentives to all employees. And it will reduce traffic congestion and improving traffic safety in the City of Berkeley. We of course support the new Federal tax law providing a bicycle commuter benefit. This Federal Law may soon be amended to increase the monthly limit from \$20. Thus, the TRACCC should require that Berkeley employers offer the bicycle commuter benefit to their employees to the maximum amount allowed under Federal Law.

Staff is correct that the proposed Ordinance is consistent with the City's General Plan, which calls for the City to encourage the participation of major local employers in transit programs. The proposed Ordinance is also consistent with the goals of the City's Climate Action Plan. Because of this, the Ordinance really is a win-win for employers and employees alike, and is a winner for better bicycling in Berkeley.

Sincerely,

Dave Campbell  
President  
[dcampbel@lmi.net](mailto:dcampbel@lmi.net)  
510.701.5971

*making Berkeley the Bay Area's most bicycle-friendly city*