Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Air Quality Division  
Implementation Grants Section, MC-204  
P.O. Box 13087  
Austin, TX 78711-3087

Re: Comments pertaining to the use of the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Funds in Texas and the development of a state Beneficiary, Mitigation Plan

May 16, 2018

Dear Commissioner Niermann,

As one of the state’s largest metropolitan stakeholders, The City of San Antonio (CoSA) supports initiatives that improve air quality to protect public and environmental health. We appreciate the opportunity to submit comments in reference to the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust (EMT.)

CoSA has a robust history of working with area partners to advance alternative transportation options that reduce air pollution through infrastructure improvements, outreach and education, and policy. Elected leadership considers this a priority for our increasingly congested city.

Recently, the Office of Sustainability launched the award-winning “Breathe Today, SA Tomorrow” campaign, with the goal of greater community awareness about the need for cleaner air and the ways individuals and businesses can help improve it. The City is also establishing a plan to convert its municipal fleet to plug-in electric vehicles and working with CPS Energy utility to update and expand the current public electric vehicle charging station network.

We support the Alamo Area Council of Government’s recommendations dated March 28, 2018 and are pleased to work with TCEQ on further reducing emissions so that present and future residents may live in a clean and healthy San Antonio.

Honorable Ron Nirenberg, Mayor  
Office of the Mayor

Douglas Melnick  
Chief Sustainability Officer