The health of Californians is vital to the health of California: our workforce, our economy, our healthcare costs, and our children’s future all depend on people living in healthy, thriving communities. Every decision we make impacts our health—from transit to education to new technology investments—and we must commit as a state to ensuring that every policy and decision we make will better the health of Californians. The momentum is starting to build:

In Richmond, community advocates in this heavily industrial city worked closely with redevelopment and public health staff to improve local air quality, documenting the effects of diesel truck traffic in residential neighborhoods and mapping new routes for the polluting vehicles.

In San Jose, when residents urged the local redevelopment agency to pay more attention to neighborhood safety, a strong community coalition was born—generating a host of successful proposals, including simply building a sidewalk to help make a crime-ridden playground more safe and accessible.

In San Diego, a federally-funded Beacon Community is launching a program that aims to better heart attack and stroke outcomes by empowering patients to engage in their own health management through online and cell phone technology.

Californians need leaders committed to protecting and improving everyone’s health. The recommendations and core principles in this document reflect the shared thinking of the signatories, leaders from organizations across California focused on public health and health care access and quality.

**Action is needed now—The health of all Californians depends on it!**
Endorsements

American Lung Association in California
Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership
Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum
Berkeley Media Studies Group
California Black Women’s Health Project
California Center for Public Health Advocacy
California Food Policy Advocates
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
California Public Health Association—North
Center for Civic Partnerships
Center for Health Improvement
Children Now
County Health Executives Association of California
Harm Reduction Coalition
Human Impact Partners
Insure the Uninsured Project
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
Latino Health Access
Lifelong Medical Care
Local Government Commission
Partnership for the Public’s Health
PolicyLink
Prevention Institute
Public Health Institute
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention
St. John’s Well Child and Family Centers

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