



December 16, 2011

Commissioner Ron Morrison  
Williamson County - Precinct 4  
350 Exchange Blvd, Suite 100  
Hutto, TX 78634

Dear Commissioner Morrison,

The CLEAN AIR Force of Central Texas (CAF) and Williamson County have enjoyed a successful partnership in responding to the air quality planning and educational needs of our region. On behalf of our 37-member Board, we would like to express our deep appreciation of the County's continued professional and financial support of CAF. We are writing to request that Williamson County continue their support in 2012 in the amount of **\$20,000**. The County's much-valued contribution is combined with other resources across our five-county region to support CAF and enable us to continue our educational outreach and technical analysis programs in Central Texas.

In addition to offering the latest information and guidance on air quality issues to businesses, governments, schools and local citizens, CAF also oversees a number of programs that benefit the entire Central Texas community:

- Our **Ozone Alert Program** informs and educates Central Texans on days when our region's air quality is likely to reach unhealthy levels via a free email notification service serving over 46,000 Central Texans. For those without email, we provide notification through our Ozone Alert information telephone line at 343-SMOG (7664) and a live person can also be reached during business hours.
- Our **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Electric Lawnmower Discount Program** will begin again in the spring of 2012 and will offer citizens significant discounts on two types of cordless electric lawnmowers, as well as electric blowers and trimmers. Electric lawn equipment is much less polluting than gas-powered equipment, which helps keep our ozone levels down.
- Our **Clean School Bus Program** focuses on reducing children's exposure to harmful pollutants from school buses and has been successful in retrofitting over 760 school buses in 27 out of the 32 school districts in our region. This enables cleaner running buses and cleaner air for not only children, but also parents, bus drivers and teachers. We continue to work with local ISDs on retrofitting and replacing older school buses and implementing anti-idling programs.
- Through our **Clean Air Partners Program** we are actively enlisting businesses and governments to voluntarily reduce their ozone-forming emissions by at least 10% over a three-year period but many of our Partners go above and beyond that. There are currently over 60 partners representing over 110,000 area employees. In the past two years Partners have reduced well over one million pounds of ozone-forming emissions.
- The **High School Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest** program engages local youth in air quality research and education and highlights their work at press events, on city

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and county television stations, and on top-rated Time Warner Cable stations in Central Texas during Ozone Season to encourage positive air quality actions from the public.

- Our **Outreach and Education Program** ranges from press events to public workshops to booths at local events where we work with local citizens, businesses and governments in the cities and counties of our region to help reduce ozone-forming emissions and to fulfill our region's requirements under the O3 Flex Plan.

The CLEAN AIR Force has also recently been recognized with several community awards:

- Texas Nonprofit Excellence Award for "Best Collaboration"
- City of Austin's Environmental Awareness Award
- Austin Chamber's Greater Austin Business Award (finalist for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)
- Austin Business Journal's Going Green Award for Best Green Nonprofit
- TCEQ's Texas Environmental Excellence Award (finalist for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row)

These awards showcase our organization's ability to not only be a strong advocate for positive air quality measures both locally and statewide, but to also manage successful programs with measureable ozone emission reductions. By helping to reduce ozone emissions, the CLEAN AIR Force has helped win one of our region's most significant air quality battles: staying in attainment of our most challenging ozone standard to date. Our programs could not be accomplished without Williamson County's financial support. We greatly value our long-term relationship with Williamson County and look forward to partnering with you on future air quality improvement projects.

Kindest Regards,



Deanna Altenhoff  
Executive Director

Enclosure: 2012 Invoice

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