

**RESOLUTION OF THE SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT HONORING NORM COVELL ON THE OCCASION
OF HIS RETIREMENT**

WHEREAS, Norm Covell was appointed Air Pollution Control Officer for Sacramento County in February 1984, after 20 years of service in Fresno County, including Assistant APCO and Assistant Director of Environmental Health; and

WHEREAS, Norm has served with integrity, distinction and demonstrated exemplary leadership at the local, regional, state, national and international level in the fields of public health and air quality; and

WHEREAS, Norm, working with Assemblymember Lloyd Connelly and community leaders, got state legislation passed that created the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District in 1988, and also established Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) Surcharge funding for innovative mobile source and community education programs; and

WHEREAS, through Norm's efforts in working with other community leaders, the Sacramento Air District was able to secure a portion of Sacramento Countywide Measure A Sales Tax revenue to help mitigate the air quality impacts of local transportation projects; and

WHEREAS, Norm has served as the Governor's appointee through four administrations to the Statewide Inspection and Maintenance Committee, which oversees the California Smog Check Program, to maximize the effectiveness of this program; and

WHEREAS, Norm's leadership was instrumental in bringing the entire County of Sacramento into the Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance Program and requiring the Bay Area to implement the advanced program to curb transport emissions into the Sacramento air basin; and

WHEREAS, Norm has worked with the governments and citizens of Vietnam, Mexico, Romania, Poland and Guatemala to educate these countries about the importance and process of air quality monitoring and facilitated the transfer of surplus air monitoring equipment from the United States to these countries; and

WHEREAS, Norm has served as both the President and Secretary of the Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials (ALAPCO), a national organization, and led the effort to develop Clean Air World, an international website that provides air quality information and provides links to air quality organizations throughout the world, providing opportunities to share ideas and exchange information about the latest air quality improvement strategies; and

WHEREAS, Norm has served as President of the California Air Pollution Control Officers' Association (CAPCOA) three times, a testament to his knowledge of state and federal air quality issues, respect and understanding of disparate viewpoints, and organizational skills; and

WHEREAS, through Norm's leadership and focus, the Sacramento Air District pioneered the use of market-based incentive programs to replace and retrofit dirty on-road and off-road engines with cleaner alternatives, new catalyst technology and less-polluting fuels. These mobile source programs served as the model for the statewide Moyer program and Clean School Bus Program; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the success of these mobile source programs, the Sacramento region was able to secure more than \$50 million in state and federal funding for the Sacramento/San Joaquin Emergency Clean Air and Transportation Program (SECAT); and

WHEREAS, through Norm's leadership and cooperative efforts with the business, regulated and environmental communities resulted in such innovative efforts as the Clean Fuels Forum, the School Bus Consortium and Mow Down Air Pollution; and

WHEREAS, Norm's leadership led to the development of innovative programs to improve the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of regulatory programs, including the Mutual Settlement Program and the Consolidated Service Station Inspection Program; and

WHEREAS, Norm's vision educating citizens about air quality has led to the development of one of the premier Community Education Offices in the nation, whose innovative, award-winning programs include Spare The Air, Smog City, AirAlert and Save Planet Polluto; and

WHEREAS, Norm's leadership has resulted in continued air quality improvements in our region despite the fact that during his 20-year tenure as APCO Sacramento County's population increased 51% and its vehicle miles traveled (VMT) increased 141%; and

WHEREAS, Norm, working with community leaders including the American Lung Association of Sacramento-Emigrant Trails and the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, created the Cleaner Air Partnership, which provides a venue for community, environmental and business leaders to work together to address Sacramento's air quality challenge; and

WHEREAS, Norm led the Sacramento Air District through its transition from a Sacramento County agency to an independent air quality district with a Board that included representatives from incorporated cities; and

WHEREAS, Norm guided the Sacramento Air District from a suburban location to its current downtown location, increasing the employee alternative commute mode use from 35% to 75%; and

WHEREAS, Norm's leadership resulted in the purchase of the building at 777 12th Street, which will help provide for the long-term financial security of the Sacramento Air District; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in appreciation for his 20 years of service to the citizens of Sacramento, the building at 777 12th Street will heretofore be known as the "Norm Covell Building"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District recognizes and honors Norm Covell on the occasion of his well-deserved retirement after 40 years of dedicated public service.

Approved and adopted this twenty-second day of July, 2004.

Illa Collin, Chair

Jeff Starsky, Vice Chair

Roger Dickinson

Lauren Hammond

Muriel Johnson

David Jones

Roger Niello

Don Nottoli

Sandra Sheedy

Lynda Holt, Clerk of the Board