

**SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**

For Agenda of: October 28, 2004

To: Board of Directors
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality
Management District

From: Larry Greene, Air Pollution Control Officer

Subject: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO SPONSOR SIX "FIRST THURSDAY
DINNER PROGRAMS" JOINTLY WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COMMISSION.

Recommendations Staff recommends that the Board:

Approve and authorize the Chair to sign the attached Resolution authorizing
sponsorship for six "First Thursday Dinner" programs.

Background The Local Government Commission received start up funding for this
program from the Irvine Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson
Foundation and dinners have been held for over a year. These "First Thursday
Dinners" are designed to educate and stimulate leadership among local
elected officials to ensure more walkable and transit-oriented land use
patterns – strategies known to reduce VMT and air emissions. Each dinner
has a theme, such as "Concepts for Walkable Communities", or "Smart
Codes", and the presentations blend nationally recognized speakers with local
examples of successfully completed projects. There are always follow-up
discussions which are in themselves very valuable to attendees.
The initial funding has expired, and the Local Government Commission has
requested that the air districts in the region fund the next round of dinner
programs.

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Sponsorship level

- The Local Government Commission has requested that eight dinners be sponsored for the remainder of the year. SMAQMD is proposing to fund six dinners this year, with Yolo/Solano AQMD and Placer County AQMD funding the other two. Sponsorship is \$2,000 per event for a total of \$12,000 for SMAQMD and \$2,000 each for the other two districts. These districts were selected based on the attendance at meetings and available funding from districts at this point in the year. If the program continues into 2005/2006, funding will be allocated at the \$8,000 (SMAQMD), \$4,000 from each other district (PCAPCD, YSAQMD).
- Continuing in-kind technical assistance will be provided by the Ca State Department of Health Services.

Timing

The first dinner under our sponsorship could occur in December 2004, if the program is approved by the Board.

Benefits to AQMD

- Since February 2003, over 50 mayors, city council members and county supervisors have been attending the dinners. They include elected officials from Solano, Yolo, El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter and Yuba Counties.
- In addition to supporting other initiatives at the district focused on using modern land use concepts to reduce VMT in the region, these meetings have resulted in some exciting projects as reported by the elected officials attending. These include a visionary plan for a compact mixed use development in Lincoln, a focus on Transit Oriented Development in Rancho Cordova and some exciting mixed use downtown plans in Marysville and Yuba City.

Funding

- Sufficient funds are budgeted in the District 2004/05 budget under Contingency Appropriation Funds, Account No. 79790100.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved as to form:

Larry Greene
Air Pollution Control Officer

Katherine Pittard
District Counsel