

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

For Agenda of: April 28, 2005

TO: Board of Directors
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

FROM: Larry Greene
Air Pollution Control Officer

SUBJECT: SMAQMD Project Review Principles
Continued from March 24, 2005

- Recommendations:**
1. Approve the attached Resolution requesting the Board of Directors to endorse the SMAQMD Project Review Principles.
 2. Chair of the Board of Directors sign the Project Review Principles at Attachment A.
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Previous Hearing

On March 24, 2005, your Board considered the recommendations listed above. After a short presentation by District staff, various Board members asked for clarification and made recommendations for textual changes to various principles. Direction was given to staff to make the requested changes and present the revised Principles as a consent item on the April 28, 2005, Board of Directors Agenda. Staff has added a purpose section, preceding the actual Principles, which states clearly that these Principles are to be utilized by District staff as guidelines when reviewing projects and that all of these Principles do not apply to each and every project. Additionally, all the Principles now contain the introductory verbs promote, encourage, support, etc.

Purpose

The attached Resolution requests the Board of Directors to endorse the SMAQMD Project Review Principles. The purpose is to establish the specific guidelines used by planning staff to evaluate land use projects for air quality impacts. The principles are consistent with the Smart Growth guidelines contained in the BLUEPRINT Project developed by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments.

The Project Review Principles establish the key guidelines used by planning staff in various categories including: land use; transportation & transportation demand management and energy. Use of these principles provides an objective means to determine air quality impacts and recommended measures to mitigate those impacts.

Background

At public hearings where land use projects are discussed and approved, the SMAQMD staff is often asked if the evaluation of projects and recommendations for mitigating impacts are staff proposals or endorsements by the Board of Directors. Having Project Review Principles which are endorsed by the Board will resolve that issue.

Intended Outcomes

Using standardized principles which are understood by the Board of Directors, city councils and County Board of Supervisors will promote long-term community building and will provide additional opportunities to create health benefits for residents of the Sacramento region. District staff will make formal presentations to planning agencies and decision-makers in the County and associated cities to ensure that the purpose of the principles is understood.

Recognizing that Sacramento is a serious ozone non-attainment area with an attainment date of 2013, having land use project review principles is a major tool which can be used to assist in the regional effort to reach attainment.
