

South Sacramento/Florin Community Air Protection Steering Committee Meeting Summary

Monday, October 28, 2024

6:00pm – 8:30pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting (online via Zoom, and in-person at La Familia Maple Neighborhood Center, 3301 37th Ave, Sacramento, CA 95824)

SC Members	Member Application/Organization
Vincent Valdez (Co-Lead)	United Latinos
Stephanie Williams (Co-Lead)	Resident
Steven Street	Dignity Health Methodist Hospital
Morgan Brown	Resident, Color the Block
Bishop Chris Baker	Resident
Rhonda Henderson	Resident, North Laguna Creek Valley Hi Community Association
Barry Boyd	Sacramento Environmental Justice Coalition (SacEJC)
Roberto Rizo	Resident
Tido Thac Hoang	Vietnamese American Community of Sacramento (VACOS)
Laurie Walker	Resident
Jamallah Green	Resident
Richard Falcon	United Latinos
Laurie Walker	Resident
Richard Lincoln	Southgate Recreation and Park District
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD)	
Sarra Falakfarsa	SMAQMD
David Yang	SMAQMD
Lia Kollen	SMAQMD
Mark Loutzenhiser	SMAQMD
Jaime Lemus	SMAQMD
Andrew Nguyen-Manh	SMAQMD
Angela Thompson	SMAQMD
Cody Hess	SMAQMD
California Air Resources Board (CARB)	
Kevin Olp	CARB
Adriana Smith	CARB
Dominique Smith	CARB
Facilitators/Consultants	
Nicolas Townes	Kearns & West
Brita Romans	Kearns & West
Public***	
Jose Saldana	Resident
Maximillian Rosa	Director of Sustainability, Sierra Service Project
Adrian Rehn	Valley Vision
Jennifer Holden	Meadowview Neighborhood Association
Herman Barahona	Sacramento Environmental Justice Coalition (SacEJC)
Joelle Toney	Community member

***This list shows only the public members who provided verbal or written comments or introduced themselves verbally at the beginning. This list only includes some public members who attended the meeting because it was conducted in a hybrid format, and no sign-in sheet was available to online participants. Note: All presentations and meeting materials are available on the District website at <https://www.airquality.org/Air-Quality-Health/Community-Air-Protection/Community-Meetings>

Full meeting video recording available at:

- English Recording:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9KoLa-agEI>
- Spanish Recording:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8tc5nYFEprU>

Meeting PowerPoint Presentation

- English/Spanish PowerPoint:
<https://www.airquality.org/AB617/Documents/October%2028%202024%20Meeting%20Presentation.pdf>

Meeting Summary

Meeting started at 6:05pm

*This meeting had simultaneous Spanish interpretation for in-person and virtual attendees. Accommodating the language needs with simultaneous interpretation required all attendees to speak slowly and loudly to provide time for the interpreter to translate and ensure their speech was detected by the microphone. **Public Comments listed below are not intended to be complete; if included below, comments are paraphrased or summarized. For all comments and full context, please review the meeting video recording.***

Introductions

Stephanie Williams and Vincent Valdez opened the meeting at 6:05pm. The interpreter provided in-language interpretation instructions. Nicolas reviewed the agenda and Stephanie conducted roll call for the Steering Committee, Air District, and CARB. Nicolas invited the public to do introductions and share any community events. These are listed below:

- Native Plant Gardening at Safe Harbor Sustainable Eco Housing, on Saturday, Nov 2nd
- Native Plant Gardening at Rainbow Mini Park (42nd and MLK) on Sunday, November 10th, Morgan also invited the Air District to attend and table to meet local community members.
- Mushroom cultivation workshops on Saturday November 9th and Saturday November 16th – contact Maximillian Rosa for location and time info.
- United Latinos tabling and sharing information in honor of Dia de Los Muertos at the Latino Center of Art and Culture on November 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

Administrative Items

Actions:

- 2a. Approved September 2024 meeting summary.
 - Approved and accepted.

Discussion:

2b. New steering committee member application information for next meeting

- Stephanie announced that a new member application, item 2b, will be voted on at the November meeting, and reminded participants of the protocol for new member application voting.

2c. Membership participation

- Vincent provided an update on non-participating members in Steering Committee meetings and noted that one non-participating member has been unable to attend due to physical limitations. Vincent noted that the co-leads will connect with this member to create a plan moving forward, and that non-participating members may consider resigning.

Action item #1 – Partnering with Valley Vision on a Community Air Grant

Discussion:

- Adrian presented the potential partnership with Valley Vision on a Community Air Grant.
- There was a question about data review and prioritization of actions, Adrian noted that a community survey was sent out to determine priorities.
- There was a question about what the technical assistance would be and what partnership in outreach would look like. Adrian referred participants to the draft budget in the packet noting the dollars going to the CSC to complete proposed activities. Attention was drawn to the proposed stipend program, and Adrian noted project structure.
- There was a question about where the data is, Adrian responded that all data is online and publicly available.
- A committee member asked what the purpose of projects being funded is and Adrian responded that all projects are emissions-reduction programs with the goal of improving air quality.
- A committee member stated that the SC could learn from working with Valley Vision regarding outreach.

Public comment:

- Appreciative of the materials being provided, asked the reason for 40% of the budget going to administrative items and less than 20% of the budget going to community stipends and workshops, asked for Valley Vision's past actions and what type of funding this has resulted in for the diversity and how people show up in the community meetings that Valley Vision has done.

Action:

- The steering committee approved the motion.

Action item #2 – SacEJC Request for Support on Community Air Grant

Discussion:

- Herman Barahona presented on behalf of the Sacramento Environmental Justice Coalition, announced that SacEJC is submitting a technical assistance grant to address health impacts from diesel truck emissions. He noted that there isn't community science to monitor emissions at a local level to gather baseline info to create actionable next steps. He noted various organizations in Sacramento who have signed on in support and asked for the SC to sign on a letter of support.
- There was a question about if the steering committee can support in the effort, and Herman answered that is welcome and if the SC is interested in supporting the execution, then they should note that in the letter of support.
- There was a question about the science monitoring, Herman answered that PM 2.5, black carbon, and NO_x monitoring data would be done near the depots and put into a computerized system where a technician and professional would translate data into plain language for the public.
- There was a question about coordination between potential grants coordination and, CARB clarified that CARB will be giving out \$60 million in grants this cycle and CARB will consider the various components of proposed grants to be sure there is not overlap.

Public comment:

- There was a comment in support of the community air grant, and asked about how they would prevent duplicative efforts.
- There was another comment in support and encouraged the committee to include a letter of support indicating their supportive actions to bolster the application.
- A public comment was made by Mangan Park Community Association in support of the motion.

Action:

- The Steering Committee approved the motion. Barry Boyd abstained from the vote as a representative of SacEJC on the Steering Committee.

Action item #3 - Recommend New SC Member Applications

4a. Applicant Sarina Rodriguez

Discussion:

- Stephanie reminded everyone that this application was presented at the last meeting, and that we had limited time to discuss it then.

Action:

- The Steering Committee approved the motion.

Discussion items

4a. Data Presentation

- Phase III monitoring launched April 2023, and Lia reviewed various contaminant levels at Fern Bacon Middle School in relation to other Sacramento County monitoring sites, including PM2.5, black carbon, coarse particulate matter (PM10), ozone, and air toxics.
- Lia reviewed that 60 different toxic air contaminants were measured, and acrolein measured at levels with possible noncancer health impacts, but below California statewide averages.
- Diesel particulate matter is the majority of cancer risk based on CARB modeling but cannot be directly measured. She noted that the District is assessing how to estimate it better since it cannot be measured directly.
- Lia also noted that acetaldehyde, formaldehyde and benzene were higher than statewide averages.
- David noted that Fern Bacon Middle School is set to start undergoing construction and the Steering Committee will need to determine a new monitoring location for the Portable Air Monitoring Laboratory.

Committee discussion

- A Steering Committee member asked if any data points or dates were removed due to wildfire or any other reason. Lia answered that no dates were removed, and the data has gone through validation by air monitoring staff. The validated data will be posted on the website. Data would be invalidated due to an instrument's failure to read correctly, but no other extenuating circumstances would cause data to be removed.
- What are the sources, generally, of formaldehyde, benzene, butadiene? It was answered that general sources come from organic combustion, such as wildfires, residential smoke, industrial sources, tobacco smoke, and stationary sources. Benzene is associated with gasoline stations and vehicle exhaust.
- There was a question about which side of the highway the air monitor near I-5 is on, due to pollutants blowing in from a certain direction. The air monitor was answered to be on the east side of the freeway.
- There was a question about when there will be an opportunity to correlate data with released Sonoma Technologies mobile monitoring data, as well as any data collected by the county. The answer was that the District is looking to correlate data as much as possible.

4b. CERP subcommittee's recommendations for new air monitoring locations

Discussion:

- CERP subcommittee has discussed putting an air monitor at city corporation yard, an industrial complex with fueling station, next to Sacramento airport, lawn equipment and maintenance, and a prime location for many contaminants entering our community, or at the truck stop at the corner of Mack Rd and Stockton Blvd.
- The CERP subcommittee is looking for recommendations about monitoring locations.
- There was a question from a SC member about how long should monitors stay at those locations,

and it was answered that we have funding for those locations until the end of 2025.

- A main question that came up during SC discussion was ‘what is the reason why these monitors would go in these specific locations?’ It was emphasized that there should be tangible rationale as to why the specific locations are chosen - whether because of specific contaminants believed to be in those areas due to industry or other suspected sources, or because of specific known community health impacts in the area and wanting to better understand potential sources.

Public comment:

- There was a comment about concerns about the city lot and wanted to recommend somewhere in Woodbine because of PM10 concerns. It was stated that all that dust from mechanic shops is blowing outside and there are coal trains coming through that are not closed. The comment suggest Southgate veterinary clinic, adjacent to smog shops and trains, as a proposed monitoring location.
- There was a comment about the data presentation on how comparing data to the worst areas in the region is not effective and that we should be looking at places that have improved air quality so that we have a goal to work towards. When you give an average for an entire year, it is difficult to understand the seasonality of this data. The comment recommends presenting an average that takes out the outliers so that we can see total data without the outliers impacting total and/or collecting and presenting data on seasonal averages.
- There was comment that as a resident very close to corporation yards, they are very concerned about city corporation yard. The comment stated that the neighborhood (Mangan Park) has a very abnormal rate of asthma. It was noted that there should be a discussion about which particulates to go after and that the corporation yards have a higher level of lead than the other area studied. The comment also agreed that averages mush everything together- they are not a good way to view the whole situation.

Further SC discussion

- Steering Committee members asked again, “What are we monitoring for? Before we choose a new location, think about the purpose of that monitoring - do we want to track particulates?”
- There was a recommendation from a SC member to vote on placement of Portable Air Monitoring Laboratory, have a month to do outreach while everyone proposes ideas, and vote at next meeting.
- It was proposed by a SC member that the community is making recommendations, and that the SC should listen.
- CARB offered to provide maps, profiles and inventory data about potential locations so that the SC can vote next month.

Outreach Subcommittee Updates

- The Outreach Subcommittee provided the update that this month they helped with Valley Vision proposal.
- Roberto Rizo announced that he will be reaching out to elected officials within the Steering Committee border districts to obtain letters of support for the Valley Vision collaboration on a Community Air Grant.
- It was shared that at the Clean Air Celebration at Rainbow Park on Sept. 29, lots of produce was harvested and given out to community members.
- It was shared that the Air District should consult with the Steering Committee to determine which events to go attend and meet the community at rather than creating its own events.

CERP Subcommittee Updates

- Co-Lead Vincent met with a counselor at City College to discuss an AB 617 Intern and confirmed a pay rate of \$25/hour at four hours per week.
 - SC member Morgan Brown offered to assist with the Intern program development and recruitment and will discuss further with Vincent about pay/unpaid.
 - The internship would be paid for with subcommittee funds, per Rhonda.
- It was noted that the CERP subcommittee meets every first Tuesday of the month.

District Updates

- No updates from the District.

New Business and Upcoming Meeting Topics

- Stephanie announced that nominations will be made and taken in November and nominations will be voted on in December for new co-leads to take effect in January of 2025.
- Sarra announced new meeting locations for November 18 and December 16 meetings, Digital Cafe and Lounge located at Florin Square, noting that the room set-up would be different and that we may need to be more flexible about the format. Stephanie asked the Steering Committee members if anyone had any concerns and there were none.

Public Comments

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- There was a comment that expressed disappointment in the attempted forcing of a vote for monitoring locations. There were no discussions on finding locations in this meeting. Lead was brought up several times and it was determined that the airport or shut-down gun range, and focusing on lead will not lead to any actionable items. The CSC is voting on things half-informed.
- There was a comment that expressed appreciation for the letter of commitment that was voted on. Valley Vision will send the district the full package after submittal.
- There was a comment that emphasized how important it is to get community input, flagged another CARB community grant coming up in Spring 2025, and notified everyone that he would be reaching out to committee members and district staff to collaborate in the future.
- There was a comment that reminded folks of historic things happening to what kind of investments being made and expressing hope for better health outcomes in the community.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30