

AB 617 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

4/20/2021

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

NOTES

[Click here for meeting materials](#)

Meeting Objectives

- Provide update on Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) timeline and public review draft
- Learn about the Maritime Clean Air Strategy (MCAS) Discussion Draft
- Provide update on AB 617 Incentive Funding projects

Meeting Action Items

- Approval of 3/16/2021 Meeting Notes and 4/20/2021 Agenda
- Received updates on CERP by SDAPCD and Steering Committee members, preliminary Health Modeling Analysis by CARB, and Incentive Funding by SDAPCD

Agenda

I. Welcoming Remarks (Daniela Simunovic, Co-Facilitator and Domingo Vigil, SDAPCD)

- a. Review Meeting Objectives & Agenda
- b. Roll call SC members
- c. General Updates
 - i. Draft CERP went out for public comment on 4.19.21
 - (A) Please spread word on respective comms channels
 - ii. Steering committee sign ups open for community representatives
 - iii. **Dinah Willer** will now be the official SDG&E rep for the SC

II. Approval of 3/16/2021 Meeting Notes and tonight's agenda (Chuy Flores, Co-Facilitator)

- a. **Motion** to approve March 2021 Meeting Notes and tonight's agenda with no changes by **Jack Monger**
 - i. Seconded by **Sara Giobbi**
- b. **MOTION PASSED unanimously**

III. CERP Goals and Brief Overview of Revised Phase II Strategies (Domingo Vigil, SDAPCD)

- a. **Link to presentation**
- b. Comments and Questions
 - i. **John Alvarado (Good Neighbor Project SD):** Is it possible to get a tax-deductible donation for installing ventilation systems to protect at risk demographics especially children and the elderly that are currently being impacted by poor air quality? Can this be done at the state or federal level?
 - (A) **Domingo Vigil:** One of the components of the CERP that will help address this question and concerns will be the incentives program. It will select the type of community benefit projects that need funding via AB 617. Advocating for an air ventilation system for residents could be a potential project to receive funding. We are currently working on an incentive program to provide air filtration systems to improve air quality indoors. Folks will be notified once it becomes available.
 - (B) **John Alvarado:** Asked on behalf of a Portside community resident whether or not it is safe for children to be sent back to school knowing now that this school is located in close proximity to the Port given where dangerous emissions are generated there? Also, for communities across the freeway, how safe is it for those children? Folks want to know how bad it really is. Also indicated interest in being a community representative to bring more awareness to his constituents.

- (C) **Daniela Simunovic:** Recommended John look into two vacancies for community representatives for the SC. Also recommended John attend the upcoming community workshops that will go into more detail what goals of the incentives programs are looking to achieve and addressing community concerns and input. First workshop will be April 27th from 5:00 - 6:30 PM and second will be next day on the 28th starting at 12:00 PM. Monica and I can reach out to get you registered.
- (D) **Domingo Vigil:** Recommended John seek out guidance from the Public Health Officer and school authorities regarding concerns of children returning to schools. There have also been a series of presentations during SC meetings featuring CARB representatives as well as representatives from the Office of Health and Hazard Assessment to talk about risks in the community. SC has also had presentations from physicians with regards to impacts on folks' health. SC will also continue to bring relevant information regarding public health forward as it becomes available.
- ii. **Jack Monger:** Asked for clarification on CERP goals regarding Goals having to go above what is required by regulations.
 - (A) **Domingo Vigil:** We want to be able to work with existing groups and organizations to push to get more air quality benefits to residents sooner rather than later.
 - (B) **Jack Monger:** Asked if this would mean that there would be a separate set of goals for the Portside areas compared to other communities in SD County and asked if that is possible?
 - (C) **Domingo Vigil:** It is possible in terms of setting goals because goals are not enforceable. We are asking regulating agencies for their commitment based on community need, not on enforcement. If we want to address equity issues, it is important to frame solutions based on community need because not all communities experience the same air pollution levels – some need more targeted reductions than others.
- iii. **Josephine Talamantez:** If goals are non-enforceable but AB 617 is law, how will the SC make the laws enforceable? It would be helpful to understand what is and is not enforceable, who is in charge of implementing those goals, and what steps can be taken to ensure they all become enforceable.
 - (A) **Domingo Vigil:** AB 617 does not talk about enforceability of goals; however, it does state there must be emission reductions as part of the CERP. We do have very specific rules that will be developed to get those reductions through agency mechanisms that are enforceable so there will be some action from the CERP. If a goal falls out of the regulatory authority of the APCD, the goal cannot be enforced so there needs to be a commitment made by that other agency to follow through on making enforceable mechanisms to ensure those target reductions are met. There is a chapter in the CERP regarding enforcement and this is also a topic that can be further explained in one of the upcoming workshops.

IV. Presentation and Discussion: Maritime Clean Air Strategy Discussion Draft (Port of SD)

- a. **Link to presentation**
- b. **Comments and Questions**
 - i. **David Flores (Office of Supervisor Vargas):** Supervisor Vargas is glad to see the MCAS work to reduce emissions moving forward. However, other port operations can be targeted to bring emission reductions sooner. MCAS should introduce an overall goal for reductions to project improvements in Public Health for respiratory and cardiovascular indicators to demonstrate how the Port will be addressing public health in EJ Communities. Recommendations for additional reduction goals for diesel trucks. The Board, APCD, and SANDAG develop additional targets above those in the MCAS in correlation with funding goal #3.
 - ii. **Emily (Office of Supervisor Nathan Fletcher):** Recognized the hard work conducted by the Port for this effort and emphasized how these strategies tie in with state goals such as

the Advanced Clean Fleets/Truck Rules.

- iii. **Janice Luna Reynoso:** Recommended that there be additional language addressing indigenous people that originally called these lands home as part of equity efforts as well as community engagement stakeholder specialist that would be able to support and promote ongoing EJ initiatives and grassroots campaigns going on in the community. Also recommended funding for outdoor excursion programs for the Portside communities that would allow youth the opportunity to venture out into less polluted areas including natural parks, camping trips, beach visits. Recommended a continued effort to fund the development of more recreational green spaces for the Portside communities, hosting stakeholder events inviting indigenous groups to meet with community and port staff to promote environmental stewardship and indigenous recognition, and other public education events for the Port to share their strides in reducing emissions + promote career pathways into EJ/Environmental conservation.
- iv. **Sandy Naranjo:** Although final comments were due today on the 20th, verbal comment for the upcoming May Board Meeting on the 11th can be left via voicemail and they will be played during the meeting.

V. AB 617 Incentive Funding Update (Kathy Keehan, SDAPCD)

- a. **Link to Presentation**
- b. Air Filtration Program update
- c. December 2020 application round review
- d. Comments and Questions:
 - i. **Sara Giobbi:** Asked for clarification regarding electric school buses and particulate matter (PM) reductions. Potential project sheet indicates that Diesel PM would be 0.
 - (A) **Kathy Keehan:** Explained that current school buses are already very clean. Diesel school busses have been required to install PM filters for a while so the potential reductions would be very small. Diesel to diesel project cost less due to more mature technology and more options and competition in that space.
 - ii. **David Salardino (CARB):** Shared that the hope is that there will be continued funding from CARB every year for this program; however, there is no guarantee as it is up to the State Legislature and the Governor's office.
 - iii. **Joy Williams:** In addition to reductions to Diesel and PM 2.5, proximity should also be another factor that is taken into consideration. For example, reductions in a school bus where sensitive receptors (children) are directly near the bus could potentially have a bigger impact than a marine vessel which is further out in the sea. Would the proposed charging infrastructure be available to other harbor craft as they begin to transition in the future?
 - (A) **Kathy Keehan:** Unclear whether that will be the case for the charging project. However, there will be efforts to make sure that infrastructure becomes available for the electric tugboat that is being funded.
 - iv. **Kathy Keehan:** There is more money than we have projects for this year. Businesses were hit hard from COVID-19 and the requirements for the funding make it difficult for some to take advantage of the program. Goal is to use remaining funding to look at potentially funding community-identified projects. There may be \$8-\$9M to allocate on community identified projects once CERP is adopted.

VI. Community Feedback on Air Toxics Risk Modeling (Vernon Hughes CARB)

- a. Summary of Previously Discussed Topics
 - i. Emissions Inventory
 - (A) How indicators are characterized
 - ii. Quantifying the relative contribution of different emission sources
 - iii. Identifying geographic areas with higher pollutant burdens
 - iv. Helping to identify strategies for reducing exposure and health risks
 - (A) Fill in monitoring stations

- v. CARB will be getting the emissions inventory for the Port and there will most likely be a few adjustments made regarding how the inventory is characterized to make sure the MCAS and modeling are consistent.
- b. Comments and Questions:
 - i. **Vernon Hughes (CARB):** Please submit any questions and comment to CARB through the APCD and CARB will continue to support the SC and look forward to putting together a Phase 1 workplan.

VII. Public Comments (Chuy Flores, Co-Facilitator)

- a. Reserved for comments on items not listed on the agenda
- b. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes
- c. **Joy Williams:** Shared that the monitoring taking place in the South Coast region and that levels of hexavalent chromium is detected very close to where it is emitted since it tends to drop off the further it travels from the source. For Portside, the major sources would include the shipyards. However, if the monitoring station for that is two miles away at Sherman Elementary, we may not capture accurate readings of that pollutant. Asked SC for their permission to reconsider finding a new site closer to where that pollutant is emitted.
 - i. **Sara Giobbi:** Asked for clarification since the CERP attributes that pollutant as originating from other sources.
 - ii. **Joy Williams:** The stationary sources that have a potential to be hotspots were located close to the Shipyards so that is why there is a push to move monitoring stations closer to the shipyards.
 - iii. **Sara Giobbi:** Recommended SC look at the historical hexavalent chromium studies conducted in Barrio Logan and National City to determine where those new potential monitor locations can be placed.
 - iv. **Domingo Vigil:** Open to continue to work with Sara and Joy to make sure CERP is accurately collecting data. District is open to continuing that conversation offline to develop a plan of action of where to place that new station and why. Next step would be to present to SC for approval and follow-through.
- d. **Sandy Naranjo:** Announced that Port of San Diego is hosting a workshop on the expansion of Pepper Park. National City residents and employees and guests are invited to attend. Workshop will be May 6, at 6:00 PM
 - i. [Zoom registration link](#)
- e. **Monica Melgoza:** District will be conducting an Air Toxics Hotspot workshop Thursday April 22nd at 5:00 PM to discuss the program, their required report, and take a deep dive into how they regulate equipment and stationary sources.
 - i. Asked for attendees to follow SD APCD's new Facebook page for additional information
(A) [Facebook Page link](#)
- f. **Jack Monger:** Shared that stationary sources like shipyards contribute less than 3% of toxic air emissions while the majority come from more mobile sources.
- g. **Daniela Simunovic:** Asked attendees to please spread the word and attend upcoming CERP Community Workshop on April 27th from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM and April 28th from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM.

VIII. Closing Remarks (Daniela Simunovic, Co-Facilitator and Domingo Vigil, SDAPCD)

- a. Committee feedback on meeting, future agenda topics
- b. **Daniela Simunovic:** Moving forward, Vernon Hughes, Liliana, and David from CARB will be participating as panelists to provide CARBs perspective and answer any questions but will not be official SC members.
- c. **Domingo Vigil:** Thanked everyone for their involvement in developing the CERP. The complete draft of the document is in English and the only portion available in Spanish at the moment is Chapter 7 and Executive Summary. Both of these areas in most need of revision. If there is anyone that would like any particular section of the CERP in Spanish for review, please reach out so it can be made available.

IX. Adjourn

Next scheduled meeting is 5/18/2021 Tentatively Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Portside Communities Steering Committee Attendance and Vote Sheet

Date: April 20, 2021

Name	Affiliation	Present	Primary/ Alternate	
1. Ashley Rosia-Tremonti	City of San Diego		P	
a. Christi Dadachanji	City of San Diego		A	
2. Jack Monger	Industry (IEA)	X	P	
a. Massie Hatch	Industry (Hatch Consulting)	X	A	
3. Sara Giobbi	Industry (NASSCO)	X	P	
a. Dennis DuBard	Industry (NASSCO)		A	
4. Sandy Naranjo	Port of San Diego	X	P	
a. Larry Hofreiter	Port of San Diego	X	A	
5. Elisa Arias	SANDAG	X	P	
a. Keri Robinson	SANDAG		A	
6. Joy Williams	Other Agencies (EHC)	X	P	
a. Jorge Gonzalez	Other Agencies (EHC)	X	A	
7. Martin Reeder	Other Agencies (National City)		P	
a. Chris Stanley	Other Agencies (National City)		A	
8. Roman Partida-Lopez	Other Agencies (The Greenlining Institute)		P	
9. Stephanie Yoon	Medical Expert	X	P	
a. Sabrina Perrino	Medical Expert		A	
10. Jose I. Marquez-Chavez	Other Agencies (CALTRANS)	X	P	
a. Diane Vermeulen	Other Agencies (CALTRANS)	X	A	
11. AC Dumaual	U.S. Navy	X	P	
a. Helen K. Haase	US Navy	X	A	
12. Dinah Willier	SDG&E	X	P	
a. Joseph Gabaldon	SDG&E		A	
13. Philomena Marino	Community		P	
14. Janice Reynoso	Mothers Out Front	X	P	
15. Ted Godshalk	Community	X	P	
16. Hilary Medina	Community		P	
17. Alicia Sanchez	Community	X	P	

Name	Affiliation	Present	Primary/ Alternate	
18.Margarita Moreno	Community	X	P	
19.Irma Ortiz	Community		P	
20.Vanessa Contreras	Community		P	
21.Salvador Razo Abrica	Union Representative	X	P	
22.Monserrat Hernandez	Community	X	P	
23.Silvia Calzada	Community	X	P	
24.Ashley Valentin Gonzalez	Community	X	P	
25.Josephine Talamantez	Community	X	P	
26. Maritza Garcia	Community	X	P	
	Hand Vote Aye			
	Hand Vote Nay			
	Hand Vote Abstain			
	Roll Call Vote Aye			
	Roll Call Vote Nay			
	Roll Call Vote Abstain			