

## **AB 617 Community Air Protection Program Steering Committee Meeting Notes**

**08/27/2019**

**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**

**Perkins Elementary School (1770 Main Street, San Diego, CA 92113)**

### **Opening Remarks**

#### **○ Jon Adams**

- Jon proposed changes to the order of the Agenda items.
- We attended a CAPCOA meeting on 8/26/19 where AB 617 updates were provided.
- A request for professional facilitator to run meetings and provide English/Spanish translation services is out for new bids. This second solicitation was required as the company who had an acceptable bid lost their bilingual facilitator to another entity.
- On September 11<sup>th</sup> the Board of Supervisors will hear our request to utilize license plate reading software to analyze previously collected images.
- There were previous comments/concerns about data not being collected before 6am and after 5 pm. Nighttime data collection would have required more expensive equipment (e.g., infrared cameras) and possibly permits. This first effort will provide useful information.

#### **○ Compliance update**

**Mahiany Luther - Chief of Compliance**

- Introduced Tim Wolff. He manages mobile source program, responsible for off-road and on-road inspections.
- Compliance actions have been posted on AB617 website which also shows stationary source inspections.

✓ No questions were asked at this time

#### **○ Monitoring update**

**Bill Brick - Chief of Monitoring and Technical Services**

- Introduce Annie Rosen-Assistant Chemist
- Equipment is arriving at the APCD. Sherman Heights is nearing full operational status.

✓ No questions were asked at this time.

#### **○ Engineering update**

**Jim Swaney - Chief of Engineering**

- State is developing new emissions inventory rule that came out in July. CARB is delaying the implementation of inventorying most sources until next year. Workshops should be planned for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of this year.
- Workshops held August 15<sup>th</sup> for the Air Toxics “Hot Spots” Annual Report and for possible changes to the program’s cancer risk reduction threshold. As many as 10 facilities could be impacted by this. Another workshop for the possible changes will be held in early late October/early November.
- Question: 10 facilities will be impacted with Portside Communities. Anywhere else in the County?  
✓ Answer: 4 of the 10 facilities are in the Portside Community.
- **Incentives update**  
**Kathy Keehan - Supervisor of Mobile Incentives**
  - Opened Incentive program on August 7, 2019
  - Currently there are 17 applications requesting grants for \$1 million
  - 106 applications in process
  - Deadline to apply 9/20/2019 at 5 p.m.
- ✓ No questions were asked at this time.
- **Public Comments:**
  - Philomena Marino: Request a correction from 7/23/19 Steering Committee Notes. Correction should be noted as there are 3 best peak times for student workers to monitor: 6 a.m.- 8a.m., 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 4p.m.
- Approval of 7/23/19 Meeting Notes and tonight’s agenda
  - Meeting notes and agenda were approved

### **Committee Discussion on the Nomination of the Portside Communities for a Community Emissions Reduction Program (CERP)**

Nominations for the Community Emission Reduction Program (CERP) are due in early September. CARB staff will review the nominations and make recommendations. The CARB Board will approve communities in December 2019. If we are approved by CARB, we will have one year to create an emissions reduction plan.

The APCD is in support of submitting a nomination for a CERP for the Portside Communities.

If we are approved as a CERP, money can be used to reduce stationary, mobile, and area sources. We expect that the Portside Communities will get priority, along with the Richmond community (another Monitoring community) for designations as a CERP.

#### Public Concerns/Questions

- Question from Jack Monger: If there is no application in September what does that mean for the next opportunity to apply?  
✓ Jon Adams: Next opportunity would be in Year 3 of AB 617 (September 2020).
- Question from Jack Monger: When you talk about having a solid, generalized understanding of where emission reductions are needed, you mean at the current time, and do you have a sense of where we would be focusing because I don't believe we have enough information at this time to nominate the community for a CERP?  
✓ Jon Adams: I would say we have a much better understanding especially with the Aclima data. We have a year to do the plan. We are developing tools to better understand air pollution sources, traffic routing issues, etc. We will know a lot more in coming months while we develop a CERP. But if we don't nominate now, we will have to wait another year. Legislative language implies that additional money for emissions reductions will be available if we become a CERP.
- Question from AC Dumaual: Could you speak about once this plan is active? There are very specific goals that must be met. Please elaborate.  
✓ Jon Adams: CARB is going to want to see a document that is very specific on how emissions are going to be reduced. CARB wants us to work closely with community and the Steering Committee to determine air sources and exposures. There are 3 main categories from an air pollution standpoint: stationary, mobile, and area. We have very specific inspection techniques that we use. There is, however, more freedom on the emission reductions side. We can also consider exposure reductions such as filtration.  
✓
- Joy Williams: I wanted to echo statements that there are many approaches to reducing emissions and approaches to reducing exposure to emissions. With this funding its much broader doesn't have to be just equipment. Could be land-use planning strategies, like truck routes, working with cities and the Port and those jurisdictions that can just go beyond buying equipment. More information is better and going ahead with Aclima is exciting. AB 617 didn't intend the emission reduction planning would be tightly coupled with the air monitoring data. There is a lot of information to start with and there are a lot of action items to move forward on. I support going ahead with a CERP nomination.  
✓ Jon Adams: we are going to inventory all facilities in the Community and expect to have that done in April 2020. That will be 8 months in advance of when the CERP has to be submitted to CARB.
- Hypothetical Question from Shaila Serpas: Say we discover emissions are high in a certain industrial area and there is a company that is not engaged in the process. What kind of leverage does the Committee have in terms of additional resources?

- ✓ Jon Adams: Stationary sources need to be following all rules and regulations. They have operating permits and conditions that they must to comply with to continue operations. If they comply with all their rules, which also includes not causing a public nuisance, then the business doesn't have to do more than that. In talking to industry reps, they are in support of AB 617 and I believe that they will step forward and be part of the solution.
- Question from Ken Johansson: is there going to be some health risk assessment component once there is quantitative data from the air monitoring? Will there be an educational component to the emission reduction program which may not result in a quantitative decrease but provides qualitative information to the community as far as hot spots and the mitigation it takes to avoid exposure?
  - ✓ Jon Adams: There is one requirement from the California Air Resources Board of AB 617, which requires that all information that is collected will be available in one location. We are going to do health risk assessments as well. This information will be available to the public on the District's website 24/7. We will also conduct a cumulative health risk assessment. These will be topics going forward in 2020. Jon spoke to Ashley Trimonti of the City of San Diego and she was supportive of this CERP and supportive of the City of San Diego working together to help realize emission reductions.
- Suggestion from Jiapsi Gomez: Pleased to hear tonight how this process works. From the standpoint that we didn't really start until December (2018) and we have a lot more data about where emission reductions need to take place and where the first efforts should be focused. Knowing the progress that's been made from Aclima data, it seems reasonable that we should begin drafting the plan and we support nominating the community to be a CERP.
  - ✓ Jon Adams: It's going to take a lot of work. The CARB blueprint requires a lot of detail in the CERP and is more extensive than the blueprint for the Monitoring Plan. What I envision is that as monitoring issues taper off, it will allow us more time to work on the CERP. If we get selected for a CERP, it is our intention to develop a plan we work as a team, talking, collaborating, and accelerate emission reductions for the community.

A motion was made to nominate the Portside Communities for a CERP. The motion carried with an overwhelming majority.

#### **Discussion on Draft Steering Committee Charter**

- Sandy Naranjo led the discussion: Sandy wants more involvement with the community. Steering Committee involves both Portside and National City, but all meetings are in Barrio Logan. She feels that this limits community involvement and wants to have some of the meetings in National City so that residents from there can more easily participate. She wants to address that in Charter so meeting can be rotated. However, she is unsure if this would be a possibility since there might be a professional facilitator in the future.
  - ✓ Jon Adams: We are going to get a facilitator. We are fine with moving locations around. We can work on another location in West National City. It did take us a few months to finalize the arrangements to have the meetings at Perkins Elementary. Do we want to alternate

locations between Perkins and West National City? Any suggested venues? What would you like to see regarding the interactive portion of the charter?

- Sandy: She would also like to revisit the voting process. We should look at how other communities/CARB work together. Get more information on the CERP. She has questions on tenure, etc. Charter says 2-year terms. Other communities have additional community organizations, etc. She would like to get the Charter to address these issues.
  - ✓ Jon Adams: I will propose to go back and contact other districts that have CERPs. We can reach out to Melissa Niederreiter from CARB and get ideas. I will come back with proposal with more detail on how the CERP process will work. We must first be selected for a CERP. Would you want that developed by December so when we go into January, we are ready to go?
- Sandy: Yes, that will be good. How long is tenure?
  - ✓ Jon Adams: I believe the Charter is for terms of 2 years. We do look at the Charter every year for updates. So that can be done as well. The Committee is still open for residents. We need one more resident to give the majority to residents. We currently have 13 residents. The CARB blueprint expects us to have a simple majority of members who are residents.
- Sandy: That would be great to have more residents. I was looking at other committees and they have additional community-based organizations.
  - ✓ Jon Adams: We will come back at next meeting and see if we come up with more locations in West National City. If the committee is ok with it we can come back in December with a format for you to consider on how to move forward with a CERP and how it should be handled.

#### ○ **Aclima Presentation on Community Pollution Mapping Program**

Aclima staff presented their program that works on mobile devices. To access the program, go to:

[insights.aclima.io](https://insights.aclima.io)

On mobile devices, the program does an automatic translation if it senses Spanish as the primary language of the user.

Examples of the mapping program were provided to help explain the data shown. The scaling factor shown with the maps is relative to the maximum averaged value measured over the entire domain during the mobile monitoring project. For example, when Belvia Lane, Chula Vista was searched, this showed the location, as well as the mapping scale indicator at the far right (this therefore indicates the location of the maximum averaged value – the maximum average PM<sub>2.5</sub> value for the program was 33.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>).

The next example showed the results of a search for Perkins Elementary School. This showed the location on the map, an average value of 9.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, and the scale indicator located in a position roughly a third of the way from the far left (this indicates that the average PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration measured on the

streets outside of Perkins Elementary was in the lower third of the maximum concentration measured in the monitoring domain).

Further down on the application the user can find another map that allows the user to select additional pollutants. The pollutants, from left to right are: PM<sub>2.5</sub> (particulate matter that is 2.5 micrometers and less in diameter), O<sub>3</sub> (ozone), NO (nitric oxide), CO (carbon monoxide), CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide), and black carbon.

The application has buttons to share out to Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

There is also a link to state and federal air quality standards (see hyperlink labeled as: [California and National air quality standards](#) in the Detail section below the map).

Following the presentation there was a detailed question and answer session. A good many of the comments expressed by Committee members revolved around data display options (many wanted some method of displaying the air quality standard values, error bars, or different color-coding schemes. There was also a desire to have more information about the data available (e.g., data points for specific times of day, number of passes, statistical calculations such as standard deviation, etc.). The data displayed is a relative analysis (everything is relative to the range of values measured throughout the domain).

**Specific questions and answers are provided below:**

- Question: What is the standard?
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): Statistically, the relative analysis method captures the central tendencies within 30% (as compared to traditional, fixed-location monitoring). Depends on the pollutant.
- Concern: If we can have the federal standards and state standards. So, if a pollutant is a 5 but the state standard is a 7 then this standard is met. The blue and green color suggests there is no harm with the pollutant. Suggesting orange, yellow, and red for when not meeting standard.
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): We will capture all suggestions on the yellow poster board that is provided for our breakout session.
- AC: What are we looking at in terms of deviations? High traffic patterns will vary in different times and different days.
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): What we are trying to capture here is persistence.
- Philomena: Are you removing the lower and upper limits and removing outliers?
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): We have not removed any outliers. They are looking at the nature of the distribution.
- AC: I would like to see statistical analysis and how you came up with the 30%.
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): That is the average of all the measurements.
- Question: Is there a way to click on the number and it would give us the data points?
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): That is not in this tool.
- Question: Is there an average amount of counts (number of passes)?
  - ✓ Melissa (Aclima): Every location was passed at least at minimum of 20 times.

- Question: Last time of data and looked at the same location is was 2% lower (Perkins Elementary)
  - ✓ Aclima: Unsure of what street segment we showed last time. Going to go back to the group and find out what 100-meter segment around the park the tool is actually pulling from. Will do a better job about being consistent.

**Aclima acknowledged the comments and indicated that the display application is still a work in progress. They have been gathering comments from other users and are actively making changes to improve the program and address concerns.**

**Breakout session:**

The Steering Committee broke into different groups and went over the program on their mobile devices. Notes were taken on easel boards which were collected by Aclima. The comments received will be reviewed and considered for future improvements in the program. Photos of the easel boards are included on the AB 617 Steering Committee documents website.

The next meeting will be held at Perkins Elementary School location on Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned.