



Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Initiatives

Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles, West Commerce Community Steering Committee Meeting #1 Agenda

Wednesday, November 28th, 2018 — 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Resurrection Church – 3324 Opal St., Los Angeles, CA 90023

Time	Item	Presenter	Why is this important?
5:45 pm	Doors open	Reception table	
6:00 pm	Welcome and Introductions	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i> Committee Members	
6:10 pm	AB 617 Program Overview, Community Steering Committee Role and Expectations	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i>	To know what we are working on, the timeline, and what we are expected to do.
	Air Pollution Background	Philip Fine <i>(Deputy Executive Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i>	To be able to use the same words (terms) in our discussions, to understand air pollution and the process that we go through to clean the air and to help identify air pollution sources is in this community.
6:25 pm	Air Quality Concerns Mapping Activity	SCAQMD Staff, Committee Members, and Members of the Public	To help us understand this community's air quality concerns
7:00 pm	Community Boundaries	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i>	To help guide where we focus resources from the AB 617 program
7:10 pm	Clean Air Incentives	Mei Wang <i>(Program Supervisor, Science and Technology Advancement)</i> Dinh Quach <i>(California Air Resources Board)</i>	To show some of the work we are already doing in this community to help clean the air, and to let people know how to submit ideas on how to spend incentive money to make facilities cleaner.
	Steering Committee Charter and Considerations	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i> Committee Members	To talk about the CSC charter and other things to make this committee more effective.
7:35 pm	Public Comment		
	Next Steps	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i>	
8:00 pm	Adjourn		



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Affiliation	Representative (Primary ¹ , Secondary ²)	Participant in the Committee Meeting Discussion
Category: Agency, school, university, hospital		
City of Los Angeles	Irene Burga	Irene Burga
City of Commerce	Oralia Rebollo ¹ , Michelle Keshishian ²	Michelle Keshishian
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Cristin Mondy ¹ , Tiffany Romo ²	Matt Baca*
USC	Wendy Gutschow	Wendy Gutschow
AltaMed Health Services	Bernice Nunez Constant	Bernice Nunez Constant
White Memorial Medical Center	Brian Johnston	
Category: Elected Officials		
Asm. Cristina Garcia - District 58	Evelyn Nuño	Evelyn Nuño
Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council	Hector-Alessandro Negrete	Hector- Alessandro Negrete
Category: Business representative, business organization or labor organization		
Railroads – BNSF	Trini Jimenez ¹ , Marisa Blackshire ²	Trini Jimenez
Labor - SEIU 721	Maribel Castillon ¹ , Griselda Mariscal ²	Maribel Castillon
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	Kendal Asuncion ¹ , Olivia Lee ²	Kendal Asuncion
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce	Jennifer Lahoda	Jennifer Lahoda
Category: Community organization		
East LA Rising	Anna Araujo	Anna Araujo
Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church - ELA	H. Jose Garcia ¹ , Luis Reyes ²	H. Jose Garcia
Mothers of ELA	Teresa Marquez	Teresa Marquez
Resurrection Church	Father John Moretta	Father John Moretta
EYCEJ	Cindy Donis	Cindy Donis
COFEM	Anabella Bastida	Anabella Bastida
Legacy LA	Jacky Rodriguez	
Category: Active residents (not representing a community organization or a business)		
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Veronica Polanco	Veronica Polanco
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Nadine Diaz	
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Terry Cano	Terry Cano

Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Fabiola Rivas	
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	Rafael Yanez	Rafael Yanez
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	Rudy Perez ¹ , Carina Sanchez ²	Carina Sanchez
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	mark! Lopez ¹ , Laura Cortez ²	Laura Cortez
Active Resident - West Commerce	Jennifer Reyes	
Active Resident - West Commerce	Paulina Becerra	
Active Resident - West Commerce	Johncito Peraza	

* Matt Baca attended the first meeting to represent LADPH. The primary and secondary representatives who will attend future meetings are listed in the table.

** Joe Gonzalez will either serve as an alternate for Terry Cano or represent an organization TBD.

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Jo Kay Ghosh
 - a. Jo Kay described the SCAQMD, its jurisdiction, and what the agency does. She also discussed SCAQMD’s collaboration with other relevant agencies and authorities on the national, state, and local level. Jo Kay mentioned key elements of AB 617, specifically elements related to the Community Steering Committee. Key deadlines were shared.

- II. AB 617 Program Overview, Community Steering Committee Role and Expectations – Jo Kay Ghosh
 - a. Jo Kay discussed the key elements of AB 617, specifically elements related to the Community Steering Committee. Key deadlines were shared.

- III. Air Pollution Background – Philip Fine
 - a. Philip discussed the key types of air pollutants and how this program is primarily focused on the impact of local pollutants. He discussed current monitoring efforts and what types of monitoring technologies can be deployed. He also presented the existing air pollution data for Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles, and the West Commerce community based on the Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES) IV. The MATES IV study shows that air toxics cancer risk is mostly driven by diesel particulate matter from mobile sources, although other pollutants from both mobile and stationary sources are also important.

- IV. Air Quality Concerns Mapping Activity – SCAQMD Staff, Committee Members, and Members of the Public
 - a. Community members provided input to help SCAQMD staff understand the community’s air quality concerns using this mapping exercise. Wendy Gutschow (USC) requested that maps be made available for the public to view and provide comments.

- V. Community Boundaries – Jo Kay Ghosh
 - a. Jo Kay discussed the preliminary community boundaries, how they were developed, and what purpose they will serve. She then opened up the floor for suggestions.

- b. Rafael Yanez (Resident of East Los Angeles) commented on the high incidence of freeway and freeway interchange traffic. He mentioned that rail traffic coming from the Ports into the Commerce Railyard, as well as the related goods-movement truck traffic, is another area of concern. He mentioned that often these trucks take detours into residential communities to avoid bottlenecks on the freeway such as on Soto and Olympic Blvd. Rafael also mentioned that rendering plants have been an issue for decades, as well as the industry in Vernon when wind patterns blow pollutants into both communities to the north and the south of it. His suggestions included, encouraging AQMD to utilize what has been done in the Ports with clean trucks, idling trucks, incentive programs, as well as partner with the locomotive operations and bring their clean trains and clean engines into this community. A final suggestion was to use enforcement actions. Rafael lastly mentioned that there are a number of plating shops along Olympic that need to be improved.
- c. Terry Cano (Resident of Boyle Heights) asked if the city of Vernon is considered part of the impacted areas. Jo Kay responded that Vernon is not in the impacted area but is part of the emission study area.
- d. Father John Moretta (Resurrection Church) commented on the lack of presence from individuals from Vernon. He also mentioned that union representatives should be present in the meeting because workers are often most impacted. He asked if union representatives have been invited to be part of the discussion. Jo Kay responded that SCAQMD welcomes their participation and that there is one union representative present on the committee representing SEIU Local 721.
- e. Teresa Marquez (Mothers of ELA) requested SCAQMD to integrate studies that have already been done in the area. She mentioned the SCAQMD study on Soto Street, and asked that any new findings for this area be shared. She mentioned that Soto Street, along with Whittier, 4th Street, and Indiana, all have truck traffic, because these trucks are trying to avoid the traffic on the I-710. Teresa noted that there are many schools and residents along these streets, and there a current proposal to open a new school on Soto Street. She suggested actions to reduce traffic in these areas as well as a transition to clean trucks. Jo Kay responded that the incentive programs are something that can be implemented into the community plans.
- f. Carina Sanchez (Resident of East Los Angeles) mentioned that City Terrace area, where she lives, is an industrial area with many schools and residents. It is the area north of the 10 freeway and below the train tracks. She commented that this area should be included in the impacted study area.
- g. Laura Cortez (Resident of East Los Angeles) mentioned that the south part of East Los Angeles, the Ferguson and Olympic area, has industrial operations with parks, schools, and homes adjacent to it and should be included in the impacted area. She mentioned that a large detailed boundary map be made available before making any final decisions. Jo Kay responded that SCAQMD will be making the maps available online in an interactive format.
- h. Cindy Donis (EYCEJ) requested to include Vernon into the impacted study area as well as include the city of Bell in the emission study area.

- i. Hector-Alessandro Negrete (Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council) requested that the maps be made available to share with members of local organizations. He also suggested considering emissions south of the current border by Washington and Soto and Washington and General.
 - j. Rafael Yanez (Resident of East Los Angeles) suggested a partnership with the County of LA to conduct street sweeping, in compliance with Measure W, which was recently passed in Los Angeles County. He mentioned that street sweeping could help clean up particulate matter that has settled on the streets, which will help improve air quality and water pollution.
 - k. Irene Burga (City of Los Angeles) requested that Montebello to be included in the emissions study area due to the large amount of oil and gas production in that area.
 - l. Jennifer Lahoda (Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce) asked for clarification on what the colors on the map represent, and how the current impacted area boundary was designated. She suggested that the area south of Vernon should also be part of the emission study area. Jo Kay responded that what we mean by an emission study area is an area just outside of an impacted area that contains emissions sources. The area south of Vernon includes Maywood and Huntington Park, and that while SCAQMD recognizes that these communities are impacted by a lot emission sources, expanding the impacted study area to include this southern area would be out of the scope of the specific AB 617 community that was approved by CARB. In addition, resources would be diluted from the main impacted study area if the boundary was extended much further. Jennifer also inquired if CalEnviroScreen was the main tool used to determine boundaries. Jo Kay responded that CalEnviroScreen, along with other technical data and natural boundaries like freeways were used. Philip discussed the process of how the Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles, and West Commerce community was selected, and noted that SCAQMD identified more than 50 communities to be considered for this program. The SCAQMD recommended 4 communities for the first year of AB 617, and the California Air Resources Board approved 3 of these communities along with other communities throughout the state. Philip also mentioned that any emissions reductions in the current designated emission study area will have positive impacts on the neighboring communities.
 - m. Wendy Gutschow (USC) reiterated the desire to see the updated community boundaries before the next meeting so members can show it to their community members. Jo Kay mentioned that interactive maps will be made available online and boundaries will not be decided at this current meeting.
- VI. Clean Air Incentives – Mei Wang, Dinh Quach
- a. Mei and Dinh discussed the different incentive programs available to the community.
- VII. Steering Committee Charter and Considerations – Jo Kay Ghosh
- a. **CSC charter:** Jo Kay briefly discussed the purpose of the CSC Charter. Comments on the charter will be due December 21st, 2018.

- b. Kendal Asuncion (Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce) asked if the comments received on the community boundary during this meeting would be incorporated before the January meeting. Jo Kay responded that SCAQMD will try to incorporate them into a summary by the next meeting.
- c. Rafael Yanez (Resident of East Los Angeles) was surprised and disappointed that CARB didn't discuss mobile source incentives when mobile sources are a significant concern in this community. Jo Kay mentioned that mobile sources are a priority, and that incentive funds were spent entirely on mobile sources in the first year of the program (before the communities were designated) to achieve early emission reductions. For the current year, incentive funding can be spent on mobile source emission reductions, but CARB is working to expand the guidelines to also allow for stationary source incentives.
- d. **CSC bios:** Committee members agreed to posting bios online.
- a. **Meeting co-host:** Jo Kay mentioned that SCAQMD will like to have co-hosts for future meetings and she asked for volunteers. The following members volunteered to be co-hosts:
 - i. Hector Jose Garcia (Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church - ELA)
 - ii. Anna Araujo (East LA Rising)
 - iii. Terry Cano (Resident of Boyle Heights)
 - iv. Michelle Keshishian (City of Commerce)
 - v. Hector-Alessandro Negrete (Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council)
- e. **Technical Advisory Group:** Jo Kay announced that there will be Technical Advisory Group (TAG) formed to cover all three communities with meetings at the SCAQMD headquarters in Diamond Bar, with 2-3 CSC members from each community. Since there are more than 3 volunteers from this CSC, Jo Kay mentioned that she would follow up with this group to ask them to discuss among themselves who would represent this CSC on the TAG. The following CSC members volunteered to represent the Boyle Heights, East Los Angeles, and West Commerce community:
 - i. Hector Jose Garcia (Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church – ELA)
 - ii. Marisa Blackshire (BNSF)
 - iii. Rafael Yanez (Resident of East Los Angeles)
 - iv. Hector-Alessandro Negrete (Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council)
 - v. Terry Cano (Resident of Boyle Heights)
- f. **Agenda Requests:** Jo Kay solicited agenda items for future meetings from the committee members
 - i. Rafael Yanez (Resident of East Los Angeles) requested that mobile monitoring be discussed as well as funding sources.
 - ii. Terry Cano (Resident of Boyle Heights) asked if the committee will have an opportunity to add input on rulemaking, such as increasing the fines on companies and specifying how these monies should be used. Philip confirmed that such suggestions can be added into the community plans.

VIII. Public Comment

- a. Carlos Montes asked if this committee has any authority to recommend a school's placement. He mentioned that he lives in Boyle Heights, and that this is a polluted area and a charter school is set to open on 4th and Soto. Philip responded that this committee is an advisory group and doesn't have the authority to decide if the school gets placed in an area or not, but SCAQMD and other agencies have published guidance on the topic.
- b. Clara Solis mentioned the incentive programs for purchasing cleaner vehicles are still inaccessible to lower income families because the prices of the cars are high. Philip responded that lower income households could qualify for up to \$9500 in rebates toward a cleaner passenger car, which would in some cases cover the entire cost of the car.
- c. Michael Rincon (Physicians for Social Responsibility) asked if SCAQMD will be sharing information on permitted facilities, their histories, and compliance history. Jo Kay responded that we are preparing data on facilities in the area, including enforcement data, and that we can consider compliance inspections in our community plans. Philip further mentioned that SCAQMD can provide any specifics for a specific facility if needed.

IX. Next Steps – Jo Kay Ghosh

- a. Jo Kay mentioned that SCAQMD will continue to share results and summaries of all community concerns identified during the meeting, and that the next meeting will be in January.