

Chapter 9

Public Process and Participation

- The 2022 AQMP development process has been a multi-agency effort, including the South Coast AQMD, CARB, SCAG, and the U.S. EPA.
- The AQMP was developed through a robust and transparent process. Specific outreach efforts included:
 - Convening the 2022 AQMP Advisory Group and a Scientific, Technical and Modeling Peer Review group;
 - Establishing six specialized working group meetings to address specific topics of interest within the draft AQMP;
 - Holding a Control Measures Workshop;
 - Holding regional public workshops and hearings;
 - Convening an Advisory Council for additional peer review; and
 - Release of White Papers to provide additional information on key topics in 2022 AQMP.
- Stakeholders for the 2022 AQMP include community members, businesses, trade associations, environmental organizations, health advocates, academia and local, regional, state and federal government entities.

In This Chapter

- **Introduction** 9-1
Overview of the public process for the development of the 2022 AQMP
- **Outreach Program** 9-1
The various avenues for communication and public outreach

Introduction

The development of the Draft 2022 Air Quality management Plan (AQMP) has been a regional multi-agency effort including the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD), California Air Resources Board (CARB), Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the United State Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and other entities. Staff also conducted a robust public outreach effort to engage the public and interested stakeholders, solicit feedback, and ensure transparency in the development of the Plan. The following describes specific outreach activities conducted by staff regarding the Draft 2022 AQMP.

Outreach Program

Government agencies like the South Coast AQMD must create an accurate public record of how they conduct the public's business. The 2022 AQMP outreach program approach aims to achieve multiple goals including ensuring greater transparency in the process, reaching a broader and more diverse audience, facilitating participation and engagement, and developing partnerships with stakeholder groups. The outreach program has been designed to inform the policy discussion by helping to ensure that all stakeholders have access to a common set of facts. Public awareness of the State and federal requirements and having appropriate background information are vital to engage in meaningful dialogue on the AQMP. The clean air goals in the 2022 AQMP will not be achieved solely by the actions of the South Coast AQMD. The

proposed control strategy will require participation from affected businesses, local communities, and multiple government agencies. It is therefore critical to inform and engage a wide range of stakeholders on the goals, requirements, approach, and potential impacts of the 2022 AQMP. Stakeholders for the 2022 AQMP include community members, businesses, trade associations, environmental organizations, health advocates, academia and local, regional, state and federal government entities. Table 9-1 lists specific stakeholder groups participating in the AQMP process. Meetings with specific stakeholder groups have been and will continue to be held to communicate the purpose and scope of the 2022 AQMP, discuss the concerns of the representatives, solicit recommendations for inclusion in the 2022 AQMP, and gather further outreach suggestions.



**TABLE 9-1
STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATING IN OUTREACH EFFORTS**

| Stakeholder Category | 2022 AQMP |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Public Agencies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CARB • California Energy Commission • California ISO • CalRecycle • U.S. EPA • U.S. Department of Transportation • U.S. Department of Energy |
| Local/Regional Government | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of Government/Associated Governments • SCAG • Transportation Commissions • Local Planning Departments • Building and Fire Departments • Tribal Governments • Local Cities |
| Special Districts | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Districts • Sanitation Districts • Water/Power Districts |
| Health Advocates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical Practitioners • Health Researchers • Health Providers |
| Community/Health/Environmental Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health Departments/Associations • Environmental Justice Organizations • Environmental Advocacy Groups • Faith-based Organizations • Labor Organizations |
| Academia | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities • National Laboratories |
| General Public | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents • Students • Interested Parties |

TABLE 9-1 (CONTINUED)
STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATING IN OUTREACH EFFORTS

| Stakeholder Category | 2022 AQMP |
|----------------------|--|
| Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Industry (Electricity, Petroleum Production and Refining, Natural Gas, Biofuels, Renewables, etc.) • Green Technologies • Goods Movement and Logistics (Warehousing, Trucking, Railroads, Ports/Shipping/Freight) • Dairy Operations • Printing/Coating Industry • Airport/Airline Operations • Engine Manufacturers • After-treatment Technologies • Building and Construction Industry/Realtors • Chambers of Commerce/Business Councils • Trade Associations • Small Businesses |

Interested stakeholders were notified in advance of all Advisory Group meetings, working group meetings, workshops and hearings, and were invited to participate in various activities designed to assist in enhancing communication and development of the 2022 AQMP. Outreach methods include presenting updates at regional councils of government (COGs) meetings, participation at conferences and seminars, face-to-face meetings as requested, and virtual meetings. In addition to meetings with specific stakeholders, topical workshops and focus groups have been held to address specific AQMP-related topics such as economics, incentives, energy, employment impacts, health benefits, modeling issues, climate/energy, transportation, environmental justice, specific control measures, and goods movement. A variety of formats and communication methods were utilized as part of the outreach program. The formats used for specific activities were tailored to the particular audience or venue where information was being presented and discussed. A Control Measures Workshop was also presented virtually to provide an overview of the control measures and strategies being developed for the 2022 AQMP and to solicit input from all stakeholders on control strategies. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and pursuant to California Governor’s Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 and Assembly Bill (AB) 361, South Coast AQMD Advisory Group meetings were conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. Upcoming regional workshops, regional hearings, and South Coast AQMD’s Governing Board meetings are anticipated to be hybrid format until further changes are introduced.

Advisory Group Meetings

Staff convened the 2022 AQMP Advisory Group to provide feedback and recommendations on the development of the plan, including development of policy and control strategies. The Advisory Group represents a diverse cross section of stakeholders, such as large and small businesses, government

agencies, environmental and community groups, and academia. The AQMP Advisory Group reviews the overall aspects of a draft air quality management plan and makes recommendations concerning emission inventories, modeling, control measures, and socioeconomic impacts, including:

- Review and provide comments on (a) studies relevant to advancing scientific and technical knowledge in support of AQMP preparation; (b) emissions inventory development and modeling approaches; (c) the development of new and revised control measures, including on-and off-road mobile sources; (d) socioeconomic data and evaluations;
- Foster coordinated approaches toward overall attainment strategies; and
- Assist in resolving key technical issues.

In addition, a Scientific, Technical, and Modeling Peer Review (STMPR) Advisory Group convened to make recommendations on air quality modeling, emissions inventory, and socioeconomic modeling and analysis. Both Advisory Groups met periodically, sometimes monthly, throughout the AQMP development process and those meetings have been open to the public. Table 9-2 lists the schedule for the Advisory Groups Meetings for the 2022 AQMP.

**TABLE 9-2
ADVISORY GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2022 AQMP**

| Date | Organization |
|------------|------------------------------|
| 10/19/2019 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 11/21/2019 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 4/16/2020 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 9/3/2020 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 1/27/2021 | STMPR Advisory Group Meeting |
| 2/3/2021 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 5/18/2021 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 8/19/2021 | STMPR Advisory Group Meeting |
| 8/27/2021 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 11/4/2021 | STMPR Advisory Group Meeting |
| 11/9/2021 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 1/28/2022 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |
| 3/16/2022 | STMPR Advisory Group Meeting |
| 3/24/2022 | AQMP Advisory Group Meeting |

Working Group Meetings

The South Coast AQMD established six specialized Working Groups which are open to all interested parties to support the development of the 2022 AQMP, shown in Figure 9-1.

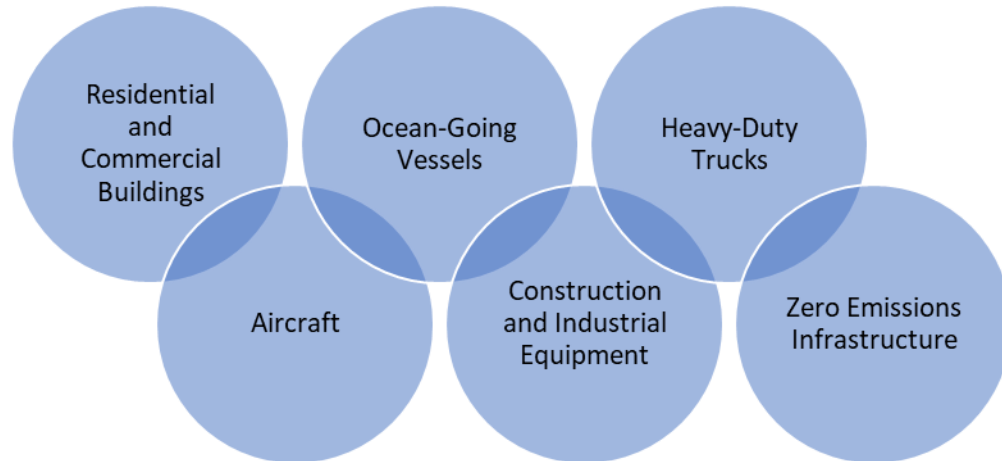


FIGURE 9-1
SOUTH COAST AQMD WORKING GROUPS FOR 2022 AQMP

The Working Groups include one stationary source Working Group (Residential and Commercial Buildings) and five mobile source Working Groups (Aircraft, Ocean-Going Vessels, Construction and Industrial Equipment, Heavy Duty Trucks, and Zero Emissions Infrastructure). These Working Groups conducted several in-depth public meetings throughout the AQMP development process in order to facilitate more specialized discussions. The Residential and Commercial Buildings Working Group has been developed to explore measures to further reduce NO_x emissions from residential and commercial appliances through replacement with zero emissions and low NO_x appliances. The five Mobile Source Working Groups focus on development of various mobile source measures outside of the South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction that require coordination with CARB and the U.S. EPA. Table 9-3 lists the schedule for the Working Group Meetings for the 2022 AQMP.

TABLE 9-3
WORKING GROUP MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2022 AQMP

| Date | Organization |
|------------|---|
| 12/11/2020 | Mobile Source Working Group |
| 12/17/2020 | Residential and Commercial Buildings Working Group Meeting |
| 1/26/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Heavy-Duty Trucks Meeting |
| 1/27/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Industrial Equipment Meeting |
| 2/3/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Ocean-Going Vessels Meeting |
| 2/4/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Aircraft Meeting |
| 2/26/2021 | Residential and Commercial Buildings Working Group Meeting |
| 3/24/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Heavy-Duty Trucks Meeting |
| 4/1/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Ocean-Going Vessels Meeting |
| 4/6/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Aircraft Meeting |
| 4/7/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Construction and Industrial Equipment Meeting |
| 5/6/2021 | Residential and Commercial Buildings Working Group Meeting |
| 6/2/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Ocean-Going Vessels Meeting |
| 6/3/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Heavy-Duty Trucks Meeting |
| 6/8/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Aircraft Meeting |
| 6/15/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Construction and Industrial Equipment Meeting |
| 6/17/2021 | Residential and Commercial Buildings Working Group Meeting |
| 8/18/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Aircraft Meeting |
| 8/24/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Ocean-Going Vessels Meeting |
| 9/9/2021 | Residential and Commercial Buildings Working Group Meeting |
| 9/24/2021 | Mobile Source Working Group for Zero Emissions Infrastructure |
| 2/4/2022 | Mobile Source Working Group for Zero Emissions Infrastructure |

Control Measures Workshop

Staff held a Control Measures Workshop on November 10, 2021 to provide an overview of the control measures and strategies being developed/considered for the 2022 AQMP and to solicit input from all stakeholders on control strategies. The South Coast AQMD proposes a total of 48 control measures for the 2022 AQMP. Thirty control measures target stationary sources and are categorized into NOx control measures, co-benefits from climate and energy programs, limited strategic VOC measures, and other measures. The NOx measures are further grouped by residential combustion, commercial equipment and large equipment. Many control measures focus on widespread deployment of zero emission and Low NOx technologies through a combination of regulatory approaches and incentives, and will require technology assessments to better understand where and when zero emission and low NOx technologies can be implemented. The remaining 18 control measures target mobile sources. They are facility-based mobile source measures, emission reductions from incentive programs, and partnerships with local, state, federal, and international entities. The 2022 AQMP includes measures identified in CARB's draft 2022 State Strategy for the State Implementation Plan and SCAG's transportation control measures.

White Papers

The South Coast AQMD staff prepared five white papers to provide technical background, a policy framework for the 2022 AQMP, and better integration of major planning issues such as air quality, transportation, infrastructure, climate, energy, and business considerations. These white papers were intended to assist the public, stakeholders, and the South Coast AQMD staff to better understand important facts and policies related to the development of the 2022 AQMP and are expected to be released in May 2022.

The five white papers focus on the following key topics of the 2022 AQMP:

- Federal Approach (Ocean-Going Vessels, Aircraft, Locomotives, Heavy-Duty Vehicles);
- Black Box;
- Buildings- Affordability;
- Climate Change and Decarbonization; and
- Infrastructure- Energy Outlook

South Coast AQMD Governing Board Meetings

Before the South Coast AQMD makes decisions that affect local residents and businesses, ideas and comments from the public must be considered. The opportunity to comment begins weeks prior in public workshops and ends with a public hearing by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, where the Governing Board may vote to adopt a rule or plan as proposed or with changes. Anyone can testify or present written comments. Holding public workshops, recording oral and written comments, responding to those comments, publishing proposed rules and related reports, holding public hearings and voting publicly are all based on set procedures. Documenting the process is necessary to ensure public participation, fairness and an accurate account to which interested parties can refer to in the future. The Governing Board usually meets at the South Coast AQMD's Diamond Bar headquarters on the first Friday of each month. However due to COVID-19 and pursuant to Assembly Bill (AB) 361, many meetings were

conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. In addition, select members from the South Coast AQMD Governing Board are also members of the Mobile Source and Stationary Source Committees that partake in decision-making influential to 2022 AQMP development. South Coast AQMD plans to release the final draft of the 2022 AQMP for Board consideration in summer 2022, to be incorporated into the 2015 8-hour 70 ppb ozone standard State Implementation Plans due to the U.S. EPA in 2022. Table 9-4 lists the schedule for the South Coast AQMD Governing Board, Mobile Source Committee, Stationary Source Committee, and all other AQMP-related meetings.

TABLE 9-4
SOUTH COAST AQMD AQMP-RELATED ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE FOR 2022 AQMP

| Date | Organization |
|------------|---|
| 4/8/2020 | South Coast AQMD Public Consultation Meeting of Reasonably Available Control Technology Demonstration of 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS |
| 6/5/2020 | South Coast AQMD Public Hearing on Reasonably Available Control Technology Demonstration and Emissions Statement Certification of 2015 8-hour Ozone NAAQS |
| 6/4/2021 | South Coast AQMD Public Hearing for Certification of Nonattainment New Source Review (NSR) and Clean Fuels for Boilers Certification |
| 11/10/2021 | Control Measures Workshop |
| 1/21/2022 | South Coast AQMD Mobile Source Committee |
| 1/21/2022 | South Coast AQMD Stationary Source Committee |
| 2/18/2022 | South Coast AQMD Mobile Source Committee |
| 2/18/2022 | South Coast AQMD Stationary Source Committee |
| 3/4/2022 | South Coast AQMD Governing Board Meeting |
| 3/18/2022 | South Coast AQMD Mobile Source Committee |
| 3/18/2022 | South Coast AQMD Stationary Source Committee |
| 4/15/2022 | South Coast AQMD Mobile Source Committee |
| 4/15/2022 | South Coast AQMD Stationary Source Committee |

Regional Public Workshops/Regional Public Hearings

Public workshops and public consultation meetings are held prior to taking a proposed new or amended rule or other significant action to the South Coast Governing Board for consideration to obtain feedback from the affected businesses and the public. Public workshops held weeks before the South Coast AQMD Governing Board meetings provide the opportunity to learn about the proposed rules and major policies. Written reports on rules or policies are also available before Board meetings. Several Regional Public Workshops are being held for the 2022 AQMP, shown in Table 9-5. Public hearings are also held to allow public input before Governing Board members vote on new rules, rule amendments, or plans. Regional Public Hearings for the 2022 AQMP are tentatively scheduled in August 2022.

TABLE 9-5
SOUTH COAST AQMD PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULE FOR 2022 AQMP

| Date | Organization |
|-----------|--|
| 5/25/2022 | 2022 AQMP Regional Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting #1 |
| 5/25/2022 | 2022 AQMP Regional Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting #2 |
| 5/26/2022 | 2022 AQMP Regional Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting for Coachella Valley |

Advisory Council

In addition to the feedback provided by the 2022 AQMP Advisory Group and the STMPR Advisory Group, the South Coast AQMD staff sought additional expert peer review of specific 2022 AQMP components. California Health and Safety Code §40471(b) requires an Advisory Council, appointed by the South Coast AQMD Governing Board and Board Advisory Groups, to undertake peer review of the Health Effects report in Appendix I of the 2022 AQMP. The mission of the Advisory Council is to review and provide comments on this Health Effects report that demonstrates analysis of air pollution health impacts in the South Coast Air Basin. The South Coast AQMD Advisory Council is composed of members from different South Coast AQMD advisory groups, where each advisory group nominates members or has volunteers participate in the Advisory Council. In addition, each Governing Board member may select one person to be a member of the Advisory Council. Figure 9-2 shows the Advisory Groups that participate in the Advisory Council for the 2022 AQMP.



FIGURE 9-2
SOUTH COAST AQMD ADVISORY GROUPS FOR 2022 AQMP