

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP

Advisory Group Members

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), Chair (Board Member) Supervisor Janice Rutherford, Vice Chair (Board Member) Councilmember, Ben Benoit, City of Wildomar (Board Member)

> Rhetta Alexander Dr. Monique Hernandez Manuel Arredondo Dr. Jill Johnston Dr. Lawrence Beeson Evelyn Knight Suzanne Bilodeau Humberto Lugo Paul Choe David McNeill Kerry Doi **Daniel Morales** Mary Figueroa **Donald Smith** Dr. Afif El-Hasan Rafael Yanez

Friday, February 26, 2021 ◆ 12:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20, (March 12, 2020) and N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), the Environment Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) meeting will only be conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. Please follow the instructions below to join the webinar meeting remotely.

ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION INSTRUCTIONS

Instructions provided at bottom of the agenda

Join Zoom Webinar Meeting - from PC or Laptop https://scaqmd.zoom.us/j/92579947526

Zoom Webinar ID: 925 7994 7526 (applies to all)

Teleconference Dial In +1 669 900 6833

One tap mobile +16699006833, 92579947526#

Audience will be able to provide public comment through telephone or Zoom connection during public comment periods.

PUBLIC COMMENT WILL STILL BE TAKEN

AGENDA

Members of the public may address this body concerning any agenda item before or during consideration of that item (Gov't. Code Section 54954.3(a)). If you wish to speak, raise your hand on Zoom or press Star 9 if participating by telephone. All agendas for regular meetings are posted at South Coast AQMD Headquarters, 21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, California, at least 72 hours in advance of the regular meeting. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes each.

CALL TO ORDER

INFORMATIONAL ITEM (Item 1):

1. Call to Order/Opening Remarks (*No Motion Required*)

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.) Chair

ACTION ITEMS (Items 2 and 3):

2. Approval of October 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes (*Motion Required*)
[Attachment 1]

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.) pgs. 5-8

3. Review of Follow-Up/Action Items
(No Motion Required)
Staff will review the follow-up/action items identified in the previous meeting.

Derrick J. Alatorre Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor Legislative, Public Affairs & Media

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Items 4 through 8):

4. EJAG Accomplishments 2020
(No Motion Required)
Staff will review EJAG's accomplishments throughout 2020.
(No Motion Required)
[Attachment 2]

Derrick J. Alatorre pgs. 9-10

5. Federal Legislative Updates
(No Motion Required)
Staff will provide an update on legislation impacting our region.

Lisa Tanaka O'Malley Senior Public Affairs Manager Legislative, Public Affairs & Media pgs. 11-14

6. **Update on Quemetco**(No Motion Required)
Staff will provide an update regarding Quemetco.

Thomas Liebel Sr. Air Quality Engineering Manager Engineering & Permitting pgs. 15-20

> Jack Cheng Sr. Enforcement Manager Compliance & Enforcement

7. Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update (No Motion Required)
Staff will provide an update on the Environmental Justice Community

Alicia Lizarraga Senior Public Information Specialist Legislative, Public Affairs & Media pgs. 21-26

8. Member Updates (No Motion Required)

Partnership.

All

OTHER MATTERS:

9. Other Business

Any member of this body, or its staff, on his or her own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, may ask a question for clarification, may make a brief announcement or report on his or her own activities, provide a reference to staff regarding factual information, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or may take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. (Govt. Code Section 54954.2)

10. Public Comment Period

At the end of the regular meeting agenda, an opportunity is provided for the public to speak on any subject within the Committee's authority that is not on the agenda. Speakers may be limited to three (3) minutes each.

11. Next Meeting Date – April 23, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Document Availability

All documents (i) constituting non-exempt public records, (ii) relating to an item on an agenda for a regular meeting, and (iii) having been distributed to at least a majority of the Committee after the agenda is posted, are available by contacting Jeanette Short at (909) 396-2942, or send the request to <u>ishort1@agmd.gov</u>.

Americans with Disabilities Act and Language Accessibility

Disability and language-related accommodations can be requested to allow participation in the Environmental Justice Advisory Group meeting. The agenda will be made available, upon request, in appropriate alternative formats to assist persons with a disability (Gov't Code Section 54954.2(a)). In addition, other documents may be requested in alternative formats and languages. Any disability or language-related accommodation must be requested as soon as practicable. Requests will be accommodated unless providing the accommodation would result in a fundamental alteration or undue burden to the South Coast AQMD. Please contact Jeanette Short at (909) 396-2942 from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, or send the request to jshort1@aqmd.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

<u>Instructions for Participating in a Virtual Meeting as an Attendee</u>

As an attendee, you will have the opportunity to virtually raise your hand and provide public comment.

Before joining the call, please silence your other communication devices such as your cell or desk phone. This will prevent any feedback or interruptions during the meeting.

Please note: During the meeting, all participants will be placed on Mute by the host. You will not be able to mute or unmute your lines manually.

After each agenda item, the Chairman will announce public comment.

A countdown timer will be displayed on the screen for each public comment.

If interpretation is needed, more time will be allotted.

Once you raise your hand to provide public comment, your name will be added to the speaker list. Your name will be called when it is your turn to comment. The host will then unmute your line.

- If you would like to make a public comment, please click on the "Raise Hand" button on the bottom of the screen.
- This will signal to the host that you would like to provide a public comment and you will be added to the list.

Directions for Video Zoom on a SMARTPHONE:

- If you would like to make a public comment, please click on the "Raise Hand" button on the bottom of your screen.
- This will signal to the host that you would like to provide a public comment and you will be added to the list.

Directions for <u>TELEPHONE</u> line only:

• If you would like to make public comment, please **dial** *9 on your keypad to signal that you would like to comment.





DRAFT

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council Member Ben Benoit, (Board Member)

Supervisor Janice Rutherford, EJAG Vice Chair (Board Member)

Manuel Arredondo, Coachella Valley School District, Retiree

Dr. Lawrence Beeson, Loma Linda University, School of Public Health

Kerry Doi, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment

Dr. Afif El-Hasan, American Lung Association

Mary Figueroa, Riverside Community College

Dr. Monique Hernandez, California State University, Los Angeles

Dr. Jill Johnston, University of Southern California

Humberto Lugo, Community Member

Rafael Yanez, Community Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Senator Vanessa Delgado (Ret.), EJAG Chair (Board Member)

Rhetta Alexander, Valley Interfaith Council

Suzanne Bilodeau, Knott's Berry Farm

Paul Choe, Korean Drycleaners & Laundry Association

David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy

Daniel Morales, National Alliance for Human Rights

Evelyn Knight, Long Beach Economic Development Commission

Donald Smith, 136th Street Block Club

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Abramowitz

Tricia Almiron

Scott Andrews

Nazlee Ghannadi

Melanie Holden

Moses Huerta

Patricia Hyatt

Josephine Lee

Terry Manies

Debra Mendelsohn

SOUTH COAST AQMD STAFF:

Jill Whynot, Chief Operating Officer Derrick Alatorre, Deputy Executive Officer/Public Advisor Teresa Barrera, Principal Deputy District Counsel Sarah Rees, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer Victor Yip, Assistant Deputy Executive Officer Philip Crabbe, Public Affairs Manager Debra Ashby, Senior Public Information Specialist Julie Franco, Senior Public Information Specialist Pavan Rami, Staff Specialist Ricardo Rivera, Senior Staff Specialist Alicia Lizarraga, Senior Public Information Specialist Jeanette N. Short, Senior Public Information Specialist Lindsay McElwain, Senior Administrative Secretary Aisha Reyes, Senior Administrative Secretary Brandee Keith, Secretary Danietra Brown, Career Development Intern

Agenda Item #1: Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Council Member Ben Benoit called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Ms. Jeanette Short read the housekeeping items for the virtual meeting and took roll call.

Agenda Item #2: Approval of August 28, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the minutes was temporarily delayed until additional members arrived to reach a quorum. With the arrival of Supervisor Janice Rutherford, a quorum was reached, and Council Member Benoit called for a motion on the August 28, 2020 meeting minutes. Dr. Lawrence Beeson moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Kerry Doi seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda Item #3: Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Ms. Alicia Lizarraga provided a response to the August 28, 2020 action items:

- *Action Item*: Staff to provide outreach efforts to facilities still using perchloroethylene, also known as PERC.
 - South Coast AQMD continues to reach out to the community on this issue. An email
 was sent to facilities, as well as a written letter, on September 4, 2020, and additional
 outreach continues.
- Action Item: Staff to request an update or presentation from the Compliance department regarding virtual inspections.
 - This item was presented at the EJAG meeting.

Agenda Item #4: Goals and Objectives for 2021

Ms. Lizarraga presented the 2021 Goals and Objectives. A quorum was not reached during this item and therefore approval was delayed until the arrival of Supervisor Rutherford. Mr. Rafael Yanez requested that the issue of Exide be re-added to the 2021 Goals and Objectives. Dr. Jill

Johnston requested Quemetco also be added. Mr. Yanez motioned to approve the 2021 Goals and Objectives with the stated additions. Council Member Benoit seconded the motion. The 2021 Goals and Objectives were approved, Dr. Afif El-Hassan voted by email.

Agenda Item #5: Update on AQMP Activities

Ms. Sarah Rees gave an update on South Coast AQMD's, Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) Activities.

Mr. Yanez commented on the importance of factors such as wildfire smoke or windblown dust, and the related heath effects, into the AQMP.

Mr. Mark Abramowitz asked how funding had been provided by South Coast AQMD. Ms. Rees replied that South Coast AQMD had provided some funding from its own budget but was still short and therefore turning to state and federal budgets to also provide funding.

Mr. Yanez asked for the three dates on which staff received irregular peak air quality readings, and Ms. Rees replied one had been in January 2017, while two were in late December of 2017.

Mr. Kerry Doi asked what the contributing factors might be regarding high particulate matter levels in Compton, and what contributes to the emissions inventory. Ms. Rees explained South Coast AQMD had not determined the cause of unique Compton data points in 2017.

Mr. Doi asked if the emissions inventory included potential factors such as fireworks, mobile sources, or wildfire incidents. Ms. Rees confirmed it did account for them. Mr. Doi asked if, moving forward, there would be any efforts to involve community education, and Ms. Rees confirmed there would be outreach and community engagement.

Mr. Moses Huerta from the public, asked if the monitors installed in Paramount might have detected air quality irregularities from Compton. Ms. Rees said she believed the Paramount monitors were designed to detect different air toxics, but not necessarily monitoring for fine particulate matter. She offered to review the data.

Mr. Yanez asked if road grinding and paving operations could affect air quality readings. Ms. Rees confirmed it could.

Mr. Yanez asked if South Coast AQMD included wildfire data in their report to California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Ms. Rees stated that to include wildfire data in the report to EPA, South Coast AQMD would have to submit an application to have such data considered as an "exceptional event," which EPA is unlikely to approve.

Dr. Lawrence Beeson asked what penalties were levied for illegal burning. Ms. Rees said activities violating South Coast AQMD regulations could be fined, but penalties levied by fire services were likely to be far steeper.

Mr. Huerta stated South Coast AQMD could work with other agencies for monitoring information during outstanding events. Ms. Rees confirmed we do currently work with other state agencies and even provide monitoring equipment to them.

Agenda Item #6: Virtual Inspections

Mr. Pavan Rami gave a presentation on virtual inspections.

Mr. Yanez asked when South Coast AQMD took over inspections for PERC program. Mr. Rami explained that South Coast AQMD performed the inspections but worked with California Air Resources Board to fully implement the program.

Agenda Item #7: Environmental Justice Community Partnership Update

Ms. Lizarraga provided an update on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership.

Mr. Huerta recommended the use of FaceTime to engage in community tours including monitoring sites and equipment.

Agenda Item #8: Member Updates

Ms. Mary Figueroa shared that a bus depot has been slated to be developed next to a residential community in the City of Riverside and near a new incoming elementary school. She recommended the group stay informed on the issue.

Agenda Item #9 - Other Business

There was no other business.

Agenda Item #10- Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item #11: Next Meeting Date

The next regular EJAG meeting is on Friday, January 29, 2021 at 12:00 pm.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:57 pm.



Environmental Justice Advisory Group 2020 Accomplishments

The mission of the Environmental Justice Advisory Group (EJAG) is to advise and assist South Coast AQMD in protecting and improving public health in South Coast AQMD's most impacted communities through the reduction and prevention of air pollution. The goals of EJAG are to:

- Advise South Coast AQMD on issues related to environmental justice (EJ)
- Create and sustain a positive and productive relationship between South Coast AQMD and community members
- Better inform South Coast AQMD about EJ issues
- Contribute to meaningful progress toward the achievement of environmental justice

EJAG members met quarterly in 2020 to receive updates and discuss environmental justice and air quality issues.

Key Items Addressed in 2020

- Environmental Justice Community Partnership Quarterly Updates: Staff provided a recap of the Environmental Justice Community Partnership (EJCP) programs that included the following:
 - a. EJ Programs
 - i. Clean Air Ranger Education Program (CARE) now Clean Air Program for Elementary Students (CAPES)
 - ii. Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM) Middle and High School Program
 - iii. Inter-Agency Task Force
 - iv. Environmental Justice Conference
 - v. Environmental Justice Bus Tour
 - vi. EJCP Advisory Council
- **Community Science Overview**: A brief overview was presented by EJAG member Rafael Yanez and in his presentation was the need to understand the issues, learn the science, and ask questions to be more engaged in the community.
- Small Business Assistance & Incentive Programs: Staff provided a presentation on South Coast AQMD's Small Business Assistance and Incentive Programs, including Fee Review Committee, permit and registration assistance, no fault on-site inspections, air quality permit checklist process and dry cleaner grant and other incentive programs. Also noted

was outreach efforts to dry cleaners that need to meet Rule 1421's upcoming deadline of December 31, 2020 to convert Perchloroethylene (PERC) dry cleaning machines to cleaner systems.

- **COVID-19 Impacts on Environmental Justice Communities Discussion:** EJAG member Dr. Monique Hernandez provided statistical data with science and research that communities faced during the pandemic and lead a robust discussion.
- Update on Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) Activities: An overview was presented to members on South Coast AQMD's activities regarding the Update on 2016 AQMP Implementation, South Coast PM2.5 Attainment Plan, Coachella Valley Ozone Extreme Area Plan and 2022 AQMP.
- **Virtual Inspections**: Staff provided a presentation regarding virtual inspections, wherein South Coast AQMD initiated its Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Update on Federal Legislation

Presentation for Environmental Justice Advisory Group

Lisa Tanaka Sr. Public Affairs Manager Legislative, Public Affairs & Media February 26, 2021



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Federal Legislation





TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE



Priority for Administration and Congress After COVID-Relief

Clean Corridors – Electric Charging & Hydrogen and Natural Gas Fueling Infrastructure (\$250M per year)

Climate Smart Ports new grant program to electrify port-related equipment and vehicles

(\$1B per year plus \$50M for new DERA Program)

Point-of-Sale Incentive for Medium- and Heavy-Duty Trucks

Additional provisions

3

ENERGY



Some elements were included in end-of-year Omnibus bill, but there will likely be more comprehensive measures in 117th Congress

Transportation Electrification

Energy Resilient Communities

Methane Monitoring at Energy & Storage Facilities, Weatherization, Solar, Climate Bank, Residential and Commercial Building Efficiency

FISCAL YEAR

2021 Appropriations (Omnibus) & 2022



Fiscal Year 2021

Targeted Airshed Grants

\$59M & prevented expansion of eligibility from 5 to 10 most impacted nonattainment areas DERA

\$90M & report language - 70% of awards in nonattainment areas

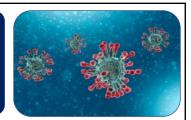
State & Local Assistance Grants (Section 103/105) \$229.5M Fiscal Year 2022



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COVID-19 RELIEF AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS



Fiscal Year 2020

CARES Act

Authorized "political subdivisions of a state" to access Federal Reserve Loan Guarantee programs

Last Version of House bill authorized State and Local government to transfer funds to Special Districts

Pending Fiscal Year 2021

Allow States and local government to transfer funds to special districts to assist with unplanned expenses and lost or delayed revenues; and \$100M for U.S. EPA for environmental justice and air quality issues

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES



Salton Sea
Public Health
and
Environmental
Protection Act
(Ruiz)

Environmental Justice for All (Grijalva and McEachin) Environmental
Justice
Mapping and
Data Collection
Act
(Markey and
Duckworth)

And more

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Thank you

Lisa Tanaka Sr. Public Affairs Manager Legislative, Public Affairs & Media 909-396-3327 / lomalley@aqmd.gov



Environmental Justice Advisory Group Update on Quemetco Engineering & Permitting

South Coast Air Quality Management District February 26, 2021

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Outline

- Brief Overview of Facility/Processes
- Recent Permitting Actions
- Proposed Future Permitting Actions
- CEQA Update

Overview of Facility/Processes

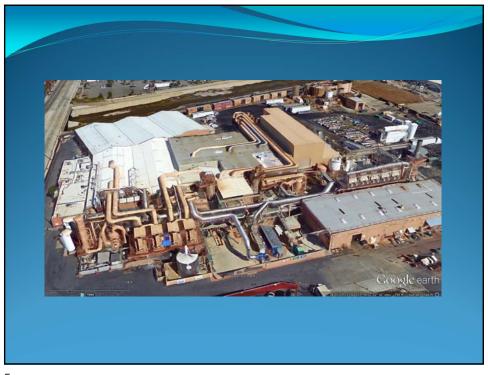
- Facility in operation since 1959
- Located at 720 S. 7th Ave., City of Industry
- Secondary Lead Smelter
- Recovers lead from used batteries and other lead bearing materials

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Overview of Facility/Processes

- Key activities include crushing, smelting, and refining
- Equipment includes battery crusher, feed dryer, reverberatory and slag furnaces, and refining kettles (pot furnaces)
- Operates several control devices including scrubbers, baghouses and a wet electrostatic precipitator (WESP)
- Key air pollutants of concern include arsenic and lead



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Recent Permitting Activity at Quemetco

- Replacement of existing older baghouse serving the feed dryer with a new state of the art baghouse
- Replacement, addition, and re-routing of enclosed baghouse dust conveyors
- Project resulted in no emissions increases and a probable decrease in emissions and fugitive lead dust
- Permits issued on January 8, 2021

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Proposed Future Permitting Actions

- Quemetco currently has a permit condition limiting furnace feed to 600 tons per day
- Currently idles some of the furnace operations several hours per day
- Quemetco is proposing to increase furnace feed by 25% to 750 tons per day and to use petroleum coke as a substitute smelting reagent to address market shortage of calcined coke

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Proposed Future Permitting Actions (cont'd)

- Permit evaluation is on-going
- Permit modification requires review of potential environmental impacts under CEQA
- South Coast AQMD is Lead Agency and will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

CEQA

- South Coast AQMD must certify the CEQA document for the Quemetco furnace feed increase before issuing the permits
- Notice of Preparation/Initial Study (NOPIS) released for public review period from 8/31/2018 to 10/25/2018
- 2 CEQA scoping meetings held on 9/13/2018 and 10/11/2018 at Hacienda Heights Community Center

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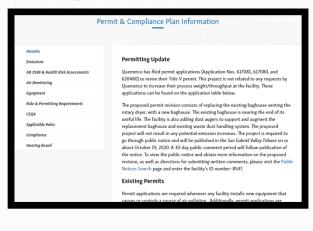
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CEQA (cont'd)

- DTSC is a Responsible Agency under CEQA and staff is coordinating review of the preliminary Draft EIR with DTSC
- Draft EIR will analyze the environmental impacts associated with the permit applications
- Draft EIR will be released for a public review period of at least 45 days
- Quemetco will need a permit from DTSC as well in order to increase furnace feed rate

Stay Informed

http://www.aqmd.gov/home/news-events/community-investigations/quemetco



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Questions?

• Permitting:

Thomas Liebel Senior Engineering Manager 909-396-2554 Tliebel@aqmd.gov

• CEQA:

Jillian Wong Planning & Rules Manager 909-396-3176 JWong@aqmd.gov



February 26, 2021

Environmental Justice Community Partnership

Program Update

Alicia Lizarraga Senior Public Affairs Specialist

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Environmental Justice Community Partnership (EJCP)

Overview:

- · Advisory Council Meetings
- Environmental Justice Inter-Agency Task Force Meetings
- Clean Air Program for Elementary Students (CAPES)
- · Annual Environmental Justice Conference
- · Annual Environmental Justice Student Bus Tour
- · Continued community engagement throughout all four counties
- · Continued engagement with EJ Stakeholders nationally





EJCP Advisory Council

The mission of the Advisory Council is to ensure that the EJCP programs address the air quality concerns of diverse communities throughout South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction. Members advise and assist South Coast AQMD staff on the development and implementation of EJCP programs.

2021 Meeting Dates

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Wednesday, June 2, 2021

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Wednesday, December 1, 2021



South Coast AQMD

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Inter-Agency Task Force

The Environmental Justice Inter-Agency Task Force creates opportunities for regular collaboration and communication between agencies that respond to environmental justice issues and address complaints by the general public.

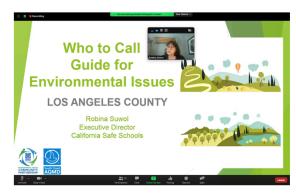
2021 Meeting Dates

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Wednesday, November 10, 2021







Inter-Agency Task Force 2021 Goals

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Implement an environmental agency staff training

2

Expand and distribute a public interagency referral directory 3

Create an internal interagency staff directory

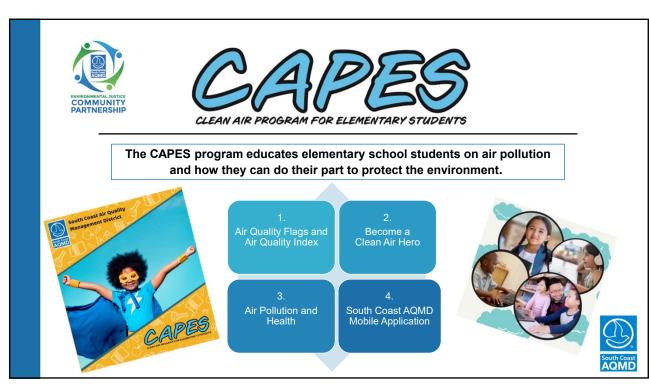
Partner with LA County Public Works to add additional services on their online Service Locator E

Create and distribute a list of resources and programs available to the community

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Develop and Host an Air Quality 101 Webinar for Public Agency Staff







6th Annual Environmental Justice *Virtual* Conference

A New Era of Environmental Justice - Our Community Survival Wednesday, October 28, 2020

Highlights

- Two Keynote Speakers
- · 6 Breakout Sessions
- Over 750 Participants
- Livestreamed on South Coast AQMD website, YouTube channel, and Facebook
- · Distinguished moderators and speakers

Plenary Sessions

• Black Lives Matter - Race and Environmental Justice





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6th Annual Environmental Justice *Virtual* Conference

A New Era of Environmental Justice - Our Community Survival





Environmental Justice Student Bus Tour



The EJ Student Bus Tour engages high school and university students in learning how air pollution affects environmental justice communities by visiting communities directly impacted by industrial facilities, ports, and transportation corridors.

2021 Bus Tour - San Bernardino County

Location

 Tour of environmental justice sites in San Bernardino County

Partnership

 San Bernardino Valley College and Community Leaders





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Environmental Justice Efforts



South Coast AQMD continues to engage with Environmental Justice Organizations and leaders throughout the region.

Other Examples of Efforts at South Coast AQMD

AB 617

Young Leaders Advisory Council

Why Healthy Air Matters (WHAM) Program







For more information, please visit: https://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp





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To Report Air Quality Concerns in Your Area

Call 1-800-CUT-SMOG



QUESTIONS



Please contact

Alicia Lizarraga 909-396-2311 arodriguez1@aqmd.gov

