

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 2, 2014

AGENDA NO. 11

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the March 2014 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings, Business Assistance, and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Government.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

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Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for March 2014. The report includes four major areas: Environmental Justice Update; Community Events/Public Meetings (including the Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services, Communications Center, and Public Information Center); Business Assistance; and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Governments.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE

The following are key environmental justice-related activities in which staff participated during the month of March. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

March 13

- Staff met with representatives from the First 5 Riverside County Children and Family Commission and provided information on SCAQMD and upcoming programs.
- Staff participated in the Children's Hospital of Orange County's planning meeting for their upcoming Air Power Games and provided informational materials to attendees.

March 19

- Staff attended a public meeting hosted by the Department of Toxic Substances Control in Boyle Heights to discuss soil issues from a nearby battery recycling plant.
- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Taskforce meeting in Mecca. Staff informed participants about the Coachella Valley Town Hall meeting in April and the Lawn Mower Exchange Program.

March 26

- Staff participated in the Delhi Neighborhood Association meeting in Santa Ana, provided information on SCAQMD and discussed with attendees how to file air quality complaints.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that SCAQMD sponsors either alone or in partnership with others. Attendees typically receive the following information:

- Tips on reducing their exposure to smog and its health effects.
- Clean air technologies and their deployment.
- Invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events.
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD's rule and policy development.
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

The events that SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates include:

March 1

- Coachella Valley Wildflower Festival, National Monument Visitor Center, Palm Desert.
- Chino Youth Museum DairyAire 5K Fun Run Event, Chino.

March 8

- 35th Annual Los Angeles Environmental Education Fair, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia.

March 21

- 5th Annual Auto Club Speedway Mathematics & Science Day, Fontana.
- An Evening of Colors Event, Diamond Palace Restaurant, Diamond Bar.

March 22

- 12th Annual Chino Rotary Club's Corn Feed Run Event, Chino

March 26 & 27

- 2014 Orange County Water District's Children's Water Festival, University of California, Irvine.

March 27 & 28

- 2014 San Bernardino Associated Governments San Bernardino City/County Conference Meeting, Lake Arrowhead Resort.

March 29

- Redlands Sustainability Festival, University of Redlands.
- Youth Technology Conference, San Gabriel Valley Section of National Council of Negro Women, Mt. San Antonio College, Walnut.

March 30

- City of Rancho Mirage's Race To Be Ready Event, Rancho Mirage High School.

SPEAKERS BUREAU/VISITOR SERVICES

SCAQMD regularly receives requests for staff to speak on air quality-related issues from a wide variety of organizations, such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, community-based groups, schools, hospitals and health-based organizations. SCAQMD also hosts visitors from around the world who meet with staff on a wide range of air quality issues.

March 3

- Staff presented an overview presentation on SCAQMD and air quality, and displayed a hydrogen fuel cell vehicle to 46 students at Corona High School.

March 12

- Staff provided an overview presentation on SCAQMD, air quality and gave a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters, laboratory and display of alternative fuel cell vehicle to 12 students and staff from Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra.

March 26

- Staff provided an overview presentation on SCAQMD and air quality to three attendees at the Harbor Community Clinic in San Pedro.

- Staff provided an overview presentation on SCAQMD and air quality to 38 Girl Scouts in Girl Scout Troops 975 & 2995, at the Lemonade Stand Community Center in Lomita.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG® line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of March 2014 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,954
1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	1,601
After Hours Calls*	350
Spanish Line Calls	<u>41</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	4,946

* Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and after 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month of March 2014 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	40
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,092</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	1,132

Visitor Transactions	232
E-Mail Advisories Sent	21,416

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

SCAQMD notifies local businesses of proposed regulations so they can participate in the agency’s rule development process. SCAQMD also works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Staff provides personalized assistance to small businesses both over the telephone and via on-site consultation. The information is summarized below.

- Conducted two free on-site consultations
- Provided permit application assistance to 132 companies
- Issued 23 clearance letters

Types of business assisted:

Restaurants	Plating facilities	Printing facilities
Furniture manufacturers	Dry cleaners	Construction services
Auto body shops	CNG stations	Coatings manufactures
Food production		

OUTREACH TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Field visits and communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following cities:

Alhambra	Cudahy	La Habra	Orange
Agoura Hills	Culver City	La Habra Heights	Palm Desert
Aliso Viejo	Cypress	La Mirada	Palm Springs
Anaheim	Dana Point	La Palma	Palos Verdes Estates
Arcadia	Desert Hot Springs	La Puente	Paramount
Artesia	Diamond Bar	La Quinta	Pasadena
Avalon	Downey	La Verne	Perris
Azusa	Duarte	Laguna Beach	Pico Rivera
Baldwin Park	Eastvale	Laguna Hills	Placentia
Banning	El Monte	Laguna Niguel	Pomona
Beaumont	El Segundo	Laguna Woods	Rancho Cucamonga
Bell	Fontana	Lake Elsinore	Rancho Mirage
Bell Gardens	Fountain Valley	Lake Forest	Rancho Palos Verdes
Bellflower	Fullerton	Lakewood	Rancho Santa Margarita
Beverly Hills	Garden Grove	Lawndale	Redlands
Big Bear Lake	Gardena	Loma Linda	Redondo Beach
Bradbury	Glendale	Lomita	Rialto
Brea	Glendora	Long Beach	Riverside
Buena Park	Grand Terrace	Los Alamitos	Rolling Hills
Burbank	Hawaiian Gardens	Los Angeles	Rolling Hills Estates
Calabasas	Hawthorne	Lynwood	Rosemead
Calimesa	Hemet	Malibu	San Bernardino
Canyon Lake	Hermosa Beach	Manhattan Beach	San Clemente
Carson	Hidden Hills	Maywood	San Dimas
Cathedral City	Highland	Menifee	San Fernando
Cerritos	Huntington Beach	Mission Viejo	San Gabriel
Chino	Huntington Park	Monrovia	San Jacinto
Chino Hills	Indian Wells	Montclair	San Juan Capistrano
Claremont	Indio	Montebello	San Marino
Coachella	Industry	Monterey Park	Santa Ana
Colton	Inglewood	Moreno Valley	Santa Clarita
Commerce	Irvine	Murrieta	Santa Fe Springs
Compton	Irwindale	Newport Beach	Santa Monica
Corona	Jurupa Valley	Norco	Seal Beach
Costa Mesa	La Cañada Flintridge	Norwalk	Sierra Madre
Covina		Ontario	Signal Hill

South El Monte	Temple City	Villa Park	Westminster
South Gate	Torrance	Walnut	Whittier
South Pasadena	Tustin	West Covina	Wildomar
Stanton	Upland	West Hollywood	Yorba Linda
Temecula	Vernon	Westlake Village	Yucaipa

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following state and federal offices:

- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congressman Gary Miller
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Mark Wyland
- State Senator Holly J. Mitchell
- Assembly Member Jean Fuller
- Assembly Member Ted Gains
- Assembly Member Cristina Garcia
- Assembly Member Curt Hagman
- Assembly Member Loni Hancock
- Assembly Member Jerry Hill
- Assembly Member Ben Hueso
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Ricardo Lara
- Assembly Member Mark Leno
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member William Morning
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Fran Pavley
- Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva
- Assembly Member Lois Wolk

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following groups:

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
American Cancer Society, Riverside
American Cancer Society, San Gabriel Valley
Association of California Cities, Orange County
Banning Chamber of Commerce
Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
Calamesa Chamber of Commerce
Calamesa Senior Center
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
Coachella Valley Economic Partnership
Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Task Force
Dales Senior Center, Riverside

First 5 Riverside; Riverside County Children and Family Commission
Five Mountain Communities Government Affairs Council
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Harbor City Community Clinic
Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
Inland Action Economic Group, San Bernardino
League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division
League of California Cities, Orange County Division
Long Beach Harbor Department
Montebello Chamber of Commerce
Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
Moreno Valley Community Center
North Orange County Legislative Alliance
Orange County City Managers Association
Orange County Council of Governments
Orange County Transportation Authority
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce
Redlands Chamber of Commerce
Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
Riverside Community College
Riverside Public Library
Riverside County Transportation Commission
San Bernardino Associated Governments
San Bernardino County Department of Education
San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce
San Bernardino Valley College
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
Santa Fe Springs Chamber of Commerce
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
South Bay Environmental Service Center
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Torrance Chamber of Commerce
Upland Chamber of Commerce
United Nations Association of the USA, Pasadena/Foothill Chapter
Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce
Western Riverside County Council of Governments
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter, Hemet