

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 4, 2015

AGENDA NO. 17

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the June and July 2015 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: an 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:jns:jf

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for June and July 2015. 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 SCAQMD staff participated during the months of June and July. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

June 4

- Staff assisted with the working group meeting for Proposed Rule (PR) 415 related to odors from rendering facilities by conducting outreach to stakeholders, community members, elected officials, and health and environmental organizations, as well as organizing and providing logistical support.

June 11

- Staff assisted with the Exide Technologies Advisory Group meeting with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) at Maywood Academy High School. Staff coordinated meeting logistics with DTSC and provided support during the meeting.

June 17

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Riverside County Health Coalition meeting and provided a timeline of upcoming community meeting update dates for the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan.
- SCAQMD and the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ) co-hosted a community meeting on “Children’s Health & Air Pollution” at Mira Loma Middle School in Jurupa Valley. The meeting was the inaugural SCAQMD Environmental Justice Community Partnership event that included presentations on two recent children’s health studies related to air pollution and an opportunity for attendees to ask a local medical expert about health issues impacted by air pollution.
- Staff led a group of SCAQMD interns on an environmental justice tour in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. The tour highlighted key air quality related issues impacting communities such as near-roadway pollutant exposure, land-use issues, and goods movement.

June 18

- Staff participated in the Healthy San Bernardino meeting providing updates on SCAQMD programs, and information on wildfire and smoke alerts due to the current fire in San Bernardino.

June 30

- Staff assisted with outreach and logistics for the PR 415 Public Consultation meeting related to odors from rendering facilities as well as provided support and assisted community members and stakeholders during the meeting.

July 22

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Riverside County Community Health Workshop in Moreno Valley and participated in discussions on air pollution and health issues related to the Riverside County community.

July 23

- Staff assisted with logistics and outreach for the Exide Technologies Advisory Group meeting held in Maywood, which provided advisory group members and residents an update on the clean-up of Exide Technologies in Vernon, as well as information on the testing and clean-up of residences.

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; and
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates at the following events:

June 5

- La Mirada High School Event
- Environmental Charter High School Earth Carnival, Lawndale

June 11

- 24th Annual Western Riverside Council of Governments General Assembly Meeting, Morongo Casino Resort & Spa, Cabazon

June 18

- SCAQMD Community meeting related to Hixson Metal Finishing, Hoag Conference Center, Newport Beach

June 25

- Coachella Valley Association of Governments General Assembly meeting, Desert Willow Golf Course, Palm Desert

July 18

- West Long Beach Garfield Elementary School Resource Fair, Garfield Elementary School, Long Beach
- American Cancer Society Relay for Life Event, South Gate Park, South Gate.

July 19

- Green Living Expo/Clean Air Car Show and Summer Concert in the Park, Garfield Park, South Pasadena

July 23

- Exide Technologies Advisory Group meeting held by SCAQMD and DTSC at Resurrection Church, Los Angeles

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.

June 4

- Thirty-five students from the Center for Process Studies at the Claremont School of Theology visited SCAQMD headquarters where they were provided with an overview on the agency and air quality and given a tour of the laboratory.
- Staff provided an overview on the agency and demonstrated how air quality impacts the community to 100 students at Today's Fresh Start Charter School in Los Angeles.

June 9-12

- Staff presented information on permitting enforcement and gave a tour of the facility to Dr. Min Zhao, a professor of dermatology at the UC Davis School of Medicine, while he was attending an AQMP Symposium held at SCAQMD Headquarters.

July 9

- Two representatives from the Taiwan Environmental Protection Agency in China visited SCAQMD headquarters and were provided an overview on the agency, air quality, and toured the laboratory.

July 15

- Six representatives from the Beijing Municipal Research Institute of Environmental Protection in China visited SCAQMD headquarters and toured the laboratory, and SCAQMD's air monitoring station site in Rubidoux.

July 24

- A member of the public from Orange County visited SCAQMD headquarters and was provided an overview on the agency, air quality, and toured the laboratory.
- Sixteen students from a California State University, Fullerton Graduate Health and Public Policy class visited SCAQMD headquarters and were provided an overview on the agency, as well as a tour of the laboratory and SCAQMD's clean alternative fuel vehicles.

July 31

- Two representatives from Congressman Ed Royce’s Office visited SCAQMD headquarters and were provided an overview on the agency, and the region’s local air quality issues as well as a tour of the laboratory and SCAQMD’s clean alternative fuel vehicles.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG[®] line, the Spanish line, and after hours calls to each of those lines. Calls received in the months of June and July 2015 were:

Calls to SCAQMD’s Main Line and the 1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	7,577
Calls to SCAQMD’s Spanish-language Line	<u>79</u>
Total Calls	7,656

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

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

Calls Received by PIC Staff	325
<u>Calls to Automated System</u>	<u>2,308</u>
Total Calls	2,633
Visitor Transactions	504
E-Mail Advisories Sent	2,677,042

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 three free on-site consultations
- Provided permit application assistance to 125 companies
- Issued 62 clearance letters

Types of businesses assisted

Architecture	Engineering	Manufacturers
Auto Body Shops	Food Production	Medical Facilities
Cabinet Manufacturer	Foundry	Metal Coatings/Processing Facilities
Coffee Roasting	Gas Stations	Recycling Facilities
Construction	Grocery	Restaurants
Dry Cleaners	Hotels	

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

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

Arcadia	Lake Elsinore	Rialto
Azusa	Laguna Woods	Riverside
Anaheim	La Cañada Flintridge	Rosemead
Alhambra	Los Angeles	San Bernardino
Aliso Viejo	Los Alamitos	San Gabriel
Banning	Maywood	San Marino
Beaumont	Menifee	San Jacinto
Bell	Mission Viejo	Stanton
Buena Park	Montebello	South Gate
Chino	Monterey Park	South Pasadena
Colton	Moreno Valley	Temecula
Corona	Murrieta	Tustin
Costa Mesa	Newport Beach	Villa Park
Commerce	Norco	West Covina
Duarte	Pasadena	Walnut
Fountain Valley	Perris	Wildomar
Hemet	Pomona	Yucaipa

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following State and Federal Offices:

- U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
- U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
- U.S. Congressman Xavier Becerra
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congressman Duncan Hunter
- U.S. Congressman Ed Royce
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- State Senator Joel Anderson

- State Senator Kevin De León
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Ricardo Lara
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Jeff Stone
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Anthony Rendon
- Assembly Member Miguel Santiago
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided updates or a presentation to the following governments and business organizations:

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
 Arcadia Chamber of Commerce
 Association of California Cities, Orange County
 Barrios Planners Incorporated, Los Angeles
 Big Bear Chamber of Commerce
 California Department of Transportation (Caltrans)
 California Regional Environmental Education Community
 Carson Chamber of Commerce
 Corona Chamber of Commerce
 Claremont Chamber of Commerce
 El Segundo Chamber of Commerce
 Five Mountain Communities Government Affairs Council, San Bernardino County
 Garden Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce
 Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce
 Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce
 Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
 Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce
 Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce
 Lawndale Chamber of Commerce
 LAX Coastal Chamber of Commerce

League of California Cities
 Los Angeles Regional Water Control Board
 Lomita Chamber of Commerce
 Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce
 Montclair Chamber of Commerce
 Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
 One LA Industrial Areas Foundation
 Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
 Quemetco, City of Industry
 Redlands Chamber of Commerce
 Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce
 Riverside County Fleet Services
 San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce
 San Bernardino Associated Governments
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
 San Pedro Chamber of Commerce
 South Bay Association Chamber of Commerce
 South Bay Area Chambers of Commerce
 South Bay Service Council
 South Bay Cities Council of Governments
 South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
 Southern California Association of Governments
 Southwest California Legislative Council

- Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Murrieta Chamber of Commerce
- Temecula Chamber of Commerce
- Lake Elsinore Chamber of Commerce
- Wildomar Chamber of Commerce
- Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce

 Torrance Chamber of Commerce
 U.S. Chambers of Commerce, Western Region Managers
 Western Riverside Council of Governments
 Western Riverside Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter
- Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter
- San Geronio Pass Chapter, Beaumont
- Southwest Chapter, Wildomar
- Northwest Chapter, Corona

 Wilmington Chamber of Commerce
 Yucaipa Valley Chamber of Commerce

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

American Lung Association, Inland Counties
Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Commerce
Eaton Canyon Nature Center, Pasadena
El Segundo Joslyn Community Center
Hermosa Beach Community Center
La Mirada High School
Manhattan Beach Joslyn Community Center
Manhattan Heights Community Center
Mothers of East Los Angeles
Resurrection Church, Los Angeles
Riverside County Health Coalition
Sierra Club, Pasadena
St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Maywood
University of Southern California
University of California, Riverside
Union de Vecinos, Los Angeles
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, Los Angeles County

- Bel-Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
- Brentwood Community Council
- Del Rey Neighborhood Council
- Mar Vista Community Council
- Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa
- Pacific Palisades Community Council
- Palms Neighborhood Council
- South Robertson Neighborhood Council
- Venice Neighborhood Council
- West LA Neighborhood Council
- Westside Neighborhood Council
- Westwood Community Council
- Westwood Neighborhood Council