

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 8, 2016

AGENDA NO. 14

REPORT: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights May 2016 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.

Wayne Nastri
Acting Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for May 2016. 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 month of May 2016. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

May 5

- Staff hosted the Environmental Justice Community Partnership Workshop at Holman United Methodist Church in South Los Angeles, in partnership with Healthy African American Families. More than 80 local residents attended and actively participated in the discussions. Participants expressed their air quality concerns, and learned about SCAQMD's services and programs.

May 7

- Staff hosted the Environmental Justice Community Partnership Workshop at Toro Canyon Middle School in Thermal, in partnership with Comité Civico del Valle, IVAN, La Union Hace la Fuerza, and the Coachella Valley Unified School District Afterschool Program. More than 40 local residents and community leaders expressed their air quality concerns, and learned about SCAQMD's services and programs.

May 11

- Staff attended the AQMP Socioeconomic Assessment Environmental Justice Working Group meeting, and learned about the methodologies SCAQMD will use to define environmental justice communities. Staff will later use this information to strategize on programs and initiatives that focus on environmental justice.
- Staff participated in a conference call with I Heart Wilmington, a resident-led community group that focuses on creating positive change through voter registration, civic pride, and community engagement. Discussed potential opportunities for collaboration on the Environmental Justice Community Partnership.

May 18

- Staff met with San Bernardino Valley College (SBVC) to discuss the Environmental Justice Community Partnership program. SBVC agreed to become a partner with SCAQMD and will co-host an upcoming event.

May 19

- Staff attended the Inland Empire Asthma Coalition meeting in Riverside. Staff provided information on SCAQMD programs including funding opportunities for electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
- Staff represented SCAQMD at the San Bernardino Neighborhood Transformation Committee and provided information on funding for electric vehicle charging stations and other program opportunities.

May 26

- Staff attended a community meeting sponsored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis at the East Los Angeles Library to provide information on SCAQMD. Residents brought up concerns regarding Exide Technologies. SCAQMD Technical staff provided information including how to file a complaint.

May 27

- Staff participated in the Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Enforcement Taskforce meeting in Mecca. Staff provided a summary of the SCAQMD Environmental Justice Community Partnership workshop and gathered feedback from meeting attendees.

May 31

- Staff participated in a meeting with San Bernardino Valley College and Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, regarding the SCAQMD Environmental Justice Community Partnership workshop for San Bernardino county.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year SCAQMD staff engage with thousands of residents, providing valuable information about the agency, incentive programs, and ways individuals can help reduce air pollution through events and meetings sponsored solely by SCAQMD 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;
- SCAQMD incentive programs;
- 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:

May 1-6

- Advanced Clean Transportation (ACT) Expo, Long Beach Convention Center.

May 5

- Soboba Tribal Earth Day Event, Tribal Hall, San Jacinto.

May 5-6

- 2016 SCAG Regional Conference & General Assembly meeting, La Quinta Resort & Club.

May 6

- Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) 2016 Community and Environmental Fair, WLCAC, Los Angeles.

May 14

- Third Annual San Dimas High School Car Show.

May 15

- Southwest Los Angeles Charge Ahead Ride & Drive Event, Huntington Park.

May 17

- SCAQMD Tesoro Refinery Public Hearing on Proposed Title V Significant Revisions, and Public Meeting on Draft Environmental Impact Report, Carson Center.

May 20

- Asthma Educator Forum, East Los Angeles College.
- Shades of Green Verte 2016 Gala Event, Marina Del Rey.

May 21

- Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) Air Power Games, CHOC Santa Ana.

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.

May 26

- Six students and staff from Antioch University Los Angeles visited SCAQMD. The visit included an overview on SCAQMD, air quality, and clean alternative fuel vehicles, as well as a tour of the SCAQMD facility.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on SCAQMD's main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG® line, the Spanish line, and after-hours calls to each of those lines. Calls received in the month of May 2016 were:

Calls to SCAQMD's Main Line and 1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	3,696
Calls to SCAQMD's Spanish-language Line	<u>45</u>
Total Calls	3,741

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

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

Calls Received by PIC Staff	142
<u>Calls to Automated System</u>	<u>1,154</u>
Total Calls	1,296
Visitor Transactions	246
E-Mail Advisories Sent	10,929

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:

- Provided permit application assistance to 126 companies
- Conducted one free on-site consultation
- Issued 16 clearance letters

Types of businesses assisted

Auto Body Shops	Dry Cleaners	Furniture Refinishing Facilities
Engineering Firm	Gas Stations	Coffee Roasting Facilities
Construction Firm	Restaurants	Printing Facilities
Architecture Firm	Auto Repair Centers	Manufacturing Facilities

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:

Alhambra	Jurupa Valley	Rancho Mirage
Aliso Viejo	La Habra	Rosemead
Arcadia	La Cañada Flintridge	Riverside
Azusa	La Quinta	San Dimas
Banning	La Verne	San Gabriel
Baldwin Park	Lake Elsinore	San Jacinto
Buena Park	Lake Forest	San Marino
Beaumont	Los Angeles	Santa Ana
Canyon Lake	Menifee	South El Monte
Claremont	Monrovia	South Pasadena
Corona	Moreno Valley	Sierra Madre
Covina	Monterey Park	Torrance
Diamond Bar	Murrieta	Temple City
Duarte	Norco	Walnut
El Monte	Pasadena	West Covina
Glendora	Palm Springs	Wildomar
Hemet	Perris	
Indio	Pomona	

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

- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator John Moorlach
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Tom Daly
- Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina

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

Arcadia Chamber of Commerce
Anaheim Chamber of Commerce
Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
California Air Resources Board
Children's Hospital of Orange County
Coachella Chamber of Commerce
Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District
Coachella Valley Economic Partnership, Riverside County
Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board, Palm Desert
Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce
Grid Alternatives Inland Empire, Riverside
Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce
Imperial Irrigation District
Indio Chamber of Commerce
La Quinta Chamber of Commerce
League of California Cities, Riverside County Division
Orange County Council of Governments (OC-COG)
Orange County Business Council (OCBC)
Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
Riverside County Transportation Commission
San Bernardino Associated Governments
San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
South Orange County Economic Council
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce
Temescal Valley Municipal Advisory Council
Urban Conservation Corps, San Bernardino
Western Municipal Water District, Riverside
Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG)
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter
- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter
- Northwest Chapter
- Southwest Chapter

Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce

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

American Lung Association in California, Inland Empire
Beaumont Unified School District
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, San Bernardino
Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Task Force
East Los Angeles Library
Healthy Jurupa Valley Group
Healthy San Jacinto Coalition
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition
Loma Linda University
Moreno Valley College
Moreno Valley Unified School District
Riverside County Health Coalition
Riverside County Department of Public Health
San Bernardino Neighborhood Transformation Committee
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, Thermal
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, Riverside