

BOARD MEETING DATE: February 1, 2019

AGENDA NO. 9

PROPOSAL: Transfer and Appropriate Funds and Authorize Purchase of *Kids Making Sense Kits*

SYNOPSIS: SCAQMD seeks to implement an air quality educational program at 100 high schools in environmental justice communities within its jurisdiction. The *Kids Making Sense* kits from Sonoma Technology, Inc. are critical to implementing the program as they integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math education and California Next Generation Science Standards with air quality curriculum through hands-on learning experiences. This action is to transfer and appropriate funds from the BP ARCO Settlement Project Fund (46) to Legislative, Public Affairs and Media's FY 2018-19 Budget and authorize the sole source purchase of 100 *Kids Making Sense* kits which can be reused multiple times, over multiple years in an amount not to exceed \$276,875.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, January 10, 2019; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Transfer \$276,875 from the BP ARCO Settlement Project Fund (46) to General Fund (01) Unassigned Fund Balance;
2. Appropriate \$276,875 from General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance to Legislative, Public Affairs and Media's FY 2018-19 Budget, Services and Supplies Major Object, Professional & Specialized Services account; and,
3. Authorize the Procurement Manager to issue a sole source purchase order of one hundred *Kids Making Sense* Kits from Sonoma Technology, Inc. at the cost of \$276,875.

Wayne Natri
Executive Officer

Background

SCAQMD has a long history of educational outreach to teachers and students in the South Coast Air Basin through programs and events, especially within environmental justice communities. These activities have been effective in raising awareness about SCAQMD and air quality issues among teachers and students, reaching several thousand program and event participants. Additionally, SCAQMD's outreach efforts to high school students has yielded exponential benefits as participants in programs have shared information with their families, communities and peers.

In 2019, SCAQMD seeks to implement an air quality educational program at 100 high schools in environmental justice communities within its jurisdiction. The initial program would target 40 schools in Los Angeles County, and 20 schools each in Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties.

Recent advancements in low cost sensor technology, smartphones and the development of professional air quality curriculum that meets California standards will enable SCAQMD to implement an all new hands-on learning program for high school teachers and students. Sonoma Technology, Inc. has developed unique educational kits called *Kids Making Sense* which integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education and California Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) with air quality curriculum. This specific curriculum correlates well with key SCAQMD environmental justice related initiatives including, but not limited to, AQ-SPEC, Rule 1180 Refinery Fenceline Air Monitoring, Special Air Toxics Investigations and AB 617. The kits also can be reused multiple times, over multiple years and include updates to curriculum.

Additionally, the kits include access to interactive tools including, air monitoring sensors, smartphones, access to a designated website for air quality data, and materials specifically designed for high school teachers and students. Sonoma Technology Inc. also allows for the modification of the curricula to align with SCAQMD branding and messaging. The specific hands-on learning experience provided by the kits would uniquely serve SCAQMD's objectives to raise awareness and to educate and engage high school students and teachers in disadvantaged communities on SCAQMD and air quality issues.

Sole Source Justification

Section VIII.B.2. of the Procurement Policy and Procedure identifies provisions under which a sole source award may be justified. This request for sole source award is made under provision B.2.c: The desired services are available from only the sole-source based upon one or more of the following reasons: (1) The unique experience and capabilities of the proposed contractor or contractor team.

The *Kids Making Sense* kits from Sonoma Technology, Inc. were selected to be a sole source purchase because they integrate STEM education and California NGSS standards with air quality curriculum. This specific curriculum correlates well with key SCAQMD environmental justice related initiatives including, but not limited to, AQ-SPEC, Rule 1180 Refinery Fenceline Air Monitoring, Special Air Toxics Investigations and AB 617.

Proposal

This action is to transfer and appropriate funds from the BP ARCO Settlement Project Fund (46) to Legislative, Public Affairs and Media’s FY 2018-19 Budget and authorize the purchase of one hundred *Kids Making Sense* kits which can be reused multiple times, over multiple years, in an amount not to exceed \$276,875.

Resource Impacts

Sufficient funding will exist for this sole source purchase upon transfer of \$276,875 from BP ARCO Settlement Projects Fund (46), and the appropriation of \$276,875 from the General Funds Unassigned Fund Balance to the Legislative, Public Affairs, and Media FY 2018-19 Budget.