

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 3, 2024

AGENDA NO. 25

REPORT: Technology Committee

SYNOPSIS: The Technology Committee held a hybrid meeting on Friday, April 19, 2024. The following is a summary of the meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Carlos Rodriguez, Chair
Technology Committee

MW:psc

Committee Members

Present: Supervisor Andrew Do
Supervisor Curt Hagman
Mayor Pro Tem Larry McCallon
Councilmember Carlos Rodriguez, Committee Chair

Absent: Mayor Patricia Lock Dawson
Board Member Veronica Padilla-Campos

Call to Order

Committee Chair Carlos Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

For additional details of the Technology Committee Meeting, please refer to the [Webcast](#).

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Recognize Funds, Execute Agreements for School Air Filtration Systems in Environmental Justice Communities, and Reimburse General Fund for Administrative Costs

A settlement between the District Attorneys of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Orange Counties and Pacifica Hosts, Inc. includes a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) in which air filtration systems would be supplied to

schools within Environmental Justice (EJ) Communities. South Coast AQMD has been requested to administer the SEP. Further, unspent school air filtration SEP funds of \$45,000 from a South Coast AQMD settlement with the California Attorney General previously recognized by the Governing Board need to be reallocated to Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). These actions are to: 1) recognize up to \$40,000 from the settlement between the District Attorneys and Pacifica Hosts, Inc. into Air Filtration Fund (75) to implement a school air filtration SEP; 2) authorize the Executive Officer to execute agreement(s) not to exceed \$81,000 with the LAUSD to install and maintain air filtration systems in schools within EJ Communities; and 3) reimburse the General Fund from the Air Filtration Fund (75) for administrative costs up to \$4,000 for implementing the school air filtration projects.

Mayor Pro Tem McCallon asked why LAUSD was the only school district involved and if staff reached out to San Bernardino County schools. Kelly Gamino Trainor, Program Supervisor/Technology Advancement Office responded that LAUSD has several cost-effective projects with completed assessments that are ready to be implemented and that San Bernardino and other school districts were contacted. Dan Garica, Planning & Rules Manager/Technology Advancement Office, explained that the funds must be spent in environmental justice communities, and the average installation cost is \$65,000, which is insufficient to fund schools outside of LAUSD at this time. Mr. Garcia also explained that \$13.7 million will be available for public school air filtration systems in AB 617 Communities, including San Bernardino, this summer. Mayor Pro Tem McCallon also stated that he understood that the maintenance portion of this was new. Mr. Garcia responded that maintenance is a minimum of 3 years but may be limited based on availability of the funds. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 3:05.

Committee Chair Rodriguez directed staff to bring the \$13.7 million funds for public school air filtration to the Board's attention as it becomes available so they can inform various stakeholders in their communities to participate in the program. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 12:36.

Moved by Hagman; seconded by McCallon; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Do, Hagman, McCallon, Rodriguez
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Padilla-Campos, Lock Dawson

2. Recognize Revenue, Transfer Funds, Execute Contract for Electrification of Balboa Island Ferries and Installation of Supporting Charging Infrastructure, and Reimburse General Fund for Administrative Costs

South Coast AQMD received an award of \$8,297,548 for the electrification of Balboa Island ferries and installation of supporting charging infrastructure under CARB's Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 Advanced Technology Demonstration and Pilot Projects Solicitation. These actions are to: 1) recognize up to \$8,297,548 from CARB into Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83); 2) transfer up to \$250,000 for South Coast AQMD's project cost-share from Clean Fuels Fund (31) and up to \$7,664,396 as a temporary loan from Rule 1111 Air Quality Investment Fund (27) into Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83); 3) execute a contract with Balboa Island Ferry in an amount not to exceed \$7,914,396 for the electrification of Balboa Island ferries and installation of supporting charging infrastructure; and 4) reimburse the General Fund up to \$633,152 from Clean Shipping Technology Demonstration Special Revenue Fund (83) for administrative costs necessary to implement this project.

Supervisor Hagman inquired if there is a scientific scale or tool for us to measure the amount of funds allocated to each project compared to similar projects. Dr. Maryam Hajbabaei, Program Supervisor/Technology Advancement Office, responded that for each proposal submission, staff will work with the project partners, receive a cost estimate, develop a budget, and submit it to the funding agency for approval. Supervisor Hagman also inquired about what scientific measures are used to estimate the air quality gain throughout each proposed project, other than cost. Dr. Hajbabaei responded that each project's emission reduction benefits are calculated, and the funding agency scores each project based on the emission reduction achieved relative to the cost of the project. Supervisor Hagman inquired if there is a scale or measure to rank the projects. Executive Officer Wayne Nastri added that this project is a demonstration project, and CARB was supportive of this project and other than quantifying cost-effectiveness for demonstration projects, the type of technology being developed is also evaluated. He also added that we can look at the demonstration and pilot projects from two perspectives: 1) what type of technology is being developed; and 2) the project's cost-effectiveness. Supervisor Hagman agreed that this would be a good measure to evaluate the demonstration projects and that we are interested in advancing these types of technologies. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 17:42.

Ranji George, public member, expressed appreciation and support to staff for the Balboa Island Ferry Electrification Project and emphasized the progress made over the years to replace diesel engines with newer technologies. Mr. George requested that staff look into hydrogen alternatives, hydrogen vessels and battery recycling. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 23:57.

Committee Chair Rodriguez applauded CARB and state funding support for this project. He also mentioned that Balboa Island Ferry has provided low-cost transportation for about 100 years, keeping more cars from the streets, and provides accessibility to the residents. He also appreciated Assembly Member Diane Dixon's continuous support of Balboa Island Ferry. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 27:39.

Moved by Hagman; seconded by McCallon; unanimously approved.

Ayes: Do, Hagman, McCallon, Rodriguez
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Lock Dawson, Padilla-Campos

OTHER MATTERS:

3. Other Business

There was no other business to report.

4. Public Comment Period

Mr. George urged staff to fund hydrogen projects. For additional details, please refer to the [Webcast](#) beginning at 32:59.

5. Next Meeting Date

The next regular Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 21, 2024, at noon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Attachment

Attendance Record

ATTACHMENT

**SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING
Attendance Record – April 19, 2024**

Supervisor Andrew Do	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Supervisor Curt Hagman	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Mayor Pro Tem Larry McCallon	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Councilmember Carlos Rodriguez	South Coast AQMD Board Member
Michael Miller	Board Consultant (Hagman)
Fred Minassian	Board Consultant (Padilla-Campos)
Andy Silva	Board Consultant (Lock Dawson)
Mark Taylor	Board Consultant (Rodriguez)
Chris Wangsaporn	Board Consultant (Do)
Mark Abramowitz	Public Member
Ranji George	Public Member
Lisa Mirisola	Public Member
Beth Quiambao	Public Member
Patty Senecal	Public Member
Debra Ashby	South Coast AQMD Staff
Laurence Brown	South Coast AQMD Staff
Cindy Bustillos	South Coast AQMD Staff
Penny Shaw Cedillo	South Coast AQMD Staff
Philip Crabbe III	South Coast AQMD Staff
Robert Dalback	South Coast AQMD Staff
Christian Fielding	South Coast AQMD Staff
Scott Gallegos	South Coast AQMD Staff
Alex Han	South Coast AQMD Staff
Maryam Hajbabaei	South Coast AQMD Staff
Gillian Kass	South Coast AQMD Staff
Christina Lajos	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ruby Laity	South Coast AQMD Staff
Howard Lee	South Coast AQMD Staff
Tom Lee	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ron Moskowitz	South Coast AQMD Staff
Ghislain Muberwa	South Coast AQMD Staff
Susan Nakamura	South Coast AQMD Staff
Wayne Nastri	South Coast AQMD Staff

Vasileios PapapostolouSouth Coast AQMD Staff
Robert Paud South Coast AQMD Staff
Nicholas Sanchez South Coast AQMD Staff
Yuh Jiun Tan South Coast AQMD Staff
Lisa Tanaka South Coast AQMD Staff
Veronica TejadaSouth Coast AQMD Staff
Kelly Gamino Trainor South Coast AQMD Staff
Carolina VargasSouth Coast AQMD Staff
Mei Wang South Coast AQMD Staff