

949-724-6000

November 17, 2020

Chairman Burke, Board of Directors South Coast Air Quality Management District 21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765

Subject: Request for Transparent and Proactive Measures to Address Ongoing and Potentially Dangerous Emissions in the City of Irvine

Dear Chairman Burke and Members of the Board:

As you are aware, the All American Asphalt plant, located at 10671 Jeffrey Road in Irvine, has become a growing public nuisance and a source of potentially harmful emissions in the community. Over the last year, the City of Irvine and the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) have received a multitude of complaints about noxious odors and pollutants from those who live and work in Irvine as well as from the schools in our community. The regulation of these types of emissions falls within the jurisdiction of AQMD and, although your agency has issued a number of notices of violation in the last year related to odor issues and unpermitted operations, little has been done to resolve the underlying problem as community concern has grown. Further, we understand that All American has applied for a permit to install equipment that, representatives from the plant have stated, would significantly mitigate the ongoing odor issues. We have yet to receive a clear answer from AQMD as to the process or timing for the approval of this application.

Separately, Irvine residents have been raising concerns related to odors generated by the Frank R. Bowerman Landfill located at 11002 Bee Canyon Access Road in Irvine. Over the past year, the City of Irvine has received numerous complaints from nearby residents of strong odors emanating from the Bowerman Landfill, impacting quality of life and raising health concerns. The odors experienced currently are the highest level of the year, due to the infrastructure damage at the Bowerman Landfill caused by the Silverado fire. We understand that the Bowerman Landfill is closed and AQMD has issued a temporary variance authorization allowing Orange County Waste and Recycling (OCWR) to restore the landfill's operation.

Given the growing and justifiable concerns of Irvine residents regarding the odors and the unknown potential dangers of the emissions from All American Asphalt plant and the Bowerman Landfill, a transparent and proactive approach is essential. The City of Irvine is doing all it can to assist residents and has been actively seeking resolution to the ongoing issues at the facilities. On July 28, 2020, with the increase in the number of resident complaints and no sense of when SCAQMD would take action to resolve its enforcement case, the City filed a legal action against AAA. Pursuant to that legal action, the City seeks injunctive relief and an abatement order to force AAA to eliminate

Chairman Burke, November 17, 2020 Page 2 of 2

the public nuisance conditions. The City is also conducting its own air sampling to document emissions from both facilities and assess health impacts.

With the City pursing all available means to seek a solution, AQMD, the responsible regulatory agency, needs to do more to understand the urgent concerns of the community and share specific information about the actions it is taking to protect them. Therefore, we are respectfully requesting the following immediate actions pertaining to both the All American Asphalt facility and the Bowerman Landfill:

- For AQMD to hold a public meeting in Irvine in order to listen to and understand
 the concerns of those that are being affected and to give an update on the
 agency's progress in resolving the underlying causes of the problems in our
 community.
- 2. Given the long-standing concerns about All American Asphalt and the noxious odors emanating from the Bowerman Landfill, we are requesting that community air monitoring facilities be established by AQMD in appropriate locations in and around the City of Irvine to evaluate emissions and potential health risks from both of these sources on an ongoing basis.

We believe that our residents deserve a more transparent and proactive approach from the agency charged with safeguarding their health. We would appreciate a timely response from you regarding both of our requests.

Respectfully,

The Irvine City Council

Christina L. Shea

Mayor

Michael C. Carroll
Vice Mayor

Farrah N. Khan

Councilmember

Melissa Fox Councilmember

Anthony Kuo
Councilmember

cc: Marianna Marysheva, Interim City Manager
Pete Carmichael, Director of Community Development
Mark Steuer, Director of Public Works