



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PRESS RELEASE

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## **Long Beach Vice Mayor Rex Richardson Joins South Coast AQMD Governing Board**

**DIAMOND BAR, CA** – Long Beach Vice Mayor Rex Richardson has been appointed as the newest member of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) Governing Board. Richardson was elected to represent the Western Region Cities of Los Angeles County, replacing former Rolling Hills Estates Mayor Judith Mitchell who announced her retirement in the fall after more than a decade serving on the Board.

Richardson represents the 9th District in North Long Beach and was recently re-elected as Vice Mayor by the Long Beach City Council. He also serves as President of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), representing 191 cities across the region.

“Our region continues to see some of the worst air quality in America,” said Vice Mayor Richardson. “I look forward to working with the Governing Board to push for cleaner technologies and other innovative strategies that will equitably address air pollution in a way that will benefit everyone.”

During the last year, Vice Mayor Richardson has led the local and regional response to the COVID-19 pandemic, its economic impacts, and the longstanding effects of systemic racism. He remains focused on identifying vulnerable sectors, support for affected industries, opportunities for growth, and recommended actions for future resources and stimulus for the City of Long Beach and the Southern California region.

Regionally, Richardson championed the adoption of the connect SoCal Regional Transportation Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy, which outlines more than \$638 billion in transportation system investments through 2045 for the entire Southern California Region. He is also the architect of the Southern California Inclusive Economic Recovery Plan, which puts in place strategies to ensure the region’s economic recovery amid the COVID-19 pandemic is inclusive and equitable in order to be sustainable.

As a council member, Richardson championed the Long Beach 'Everyone In' Economic Inclusion Initiative, established the City's Office of Equity, increased local capacity to address homelessness, and most recently led efforts to create the Long Beach Inclusive Economic Recovery Plan. This past year, Richardson led the effort around Measure US, a local tax approved by voters this November which taxed local oil production to investment in youth, climate, and health.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for major portions of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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