

A collage of four photographs showing community members at various stages of the event: people seated at a table, a group on steps, people at round tables, and a group walking outdoors.

2025 PROGRAM AB 617



ALL COMMUNITY STEERING COMMITTEE (CSC) EVENT

SOUTH COAST AQMD IS HOSTING AN AB 617 COMMUNITY MEETING FOR
ALL COMMUNITY STEERING COMMITTEE (CSC) STAKEHOLDERS.

THE GOAL OF TODAY'S ALL CSC EVENT IS TO SHARE COMMUNITY-FOCUSED
BEST PRACTICES, PROVIDE NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES AND DISCUSS
FUTURE STEPS TO CONTINUE THE SUCCESSES OF AB 617.

Saturday, October 25, 2025
9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

WELCOME

CEAP Land and Labor Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the Community Engagement and Air Programs (CEAP) division of South Coast AQMD, we acknowledge that we are on the ancestral land of the Cahuilla, Serrano, and Gabrielino/Tongva people. We also honor the labor of the people who have and do reside here and their efforts to foster a healthier environment and enhance the quality of life for all residents and community stakeholders. We are excited to be in a communal space as we reflect on our relationships with both the land and one another to celebrate the progress and achievements of our collaborative efforts.



Greetings!

We are honored to welcome community members and colleagues to our 2nd Annual AB 617 All Community Steering Committee (CSC) Event. We have gathered in this shared space to reflect on our connection to the land and to one another, to celebrate the progress made through our collective efforts and to address the changes of AB 617 moving forward.

Given the unprecedented times we are currently experiencing, we are humbled to be with you today. Your presence is a present: it affirms a resilience and ongoing commitment to collaborate in a manner inclusive of all voices.

Over the years and especially in this past year, our communities have been and are still being challenged. Although we have not all been together since the beginning of this hard-fought process, it is your willingness to engage and dialogue that has enabled meaningful strides in improving air quality and public health.

Today's event is grounded in respect for residents' lived experiences and community expertise as essential assets in our work. As multiple injustices intersect with environmental and air-quality issues, we are deeply appreciative that community members continue to stay engaged in these efforts through challenging times.

Our agenda is interactive and designed to foster new connections, expand knowledge and skills, and strengthen our partnerships so that we adapt to changing expectations of the AB617 program. You will have the opportunity to brainstorm with multiple generations of community leaders from across the South Coast region.

As we move ahead, we hope to deepen the trust, build on the successes and journey together toward our common vision for healthier air, resilient communities, and sustainability for current and future generations.

Thank you for being here.

Thank you for showing up.

Thank you for speaking your truth.

In solidarity,

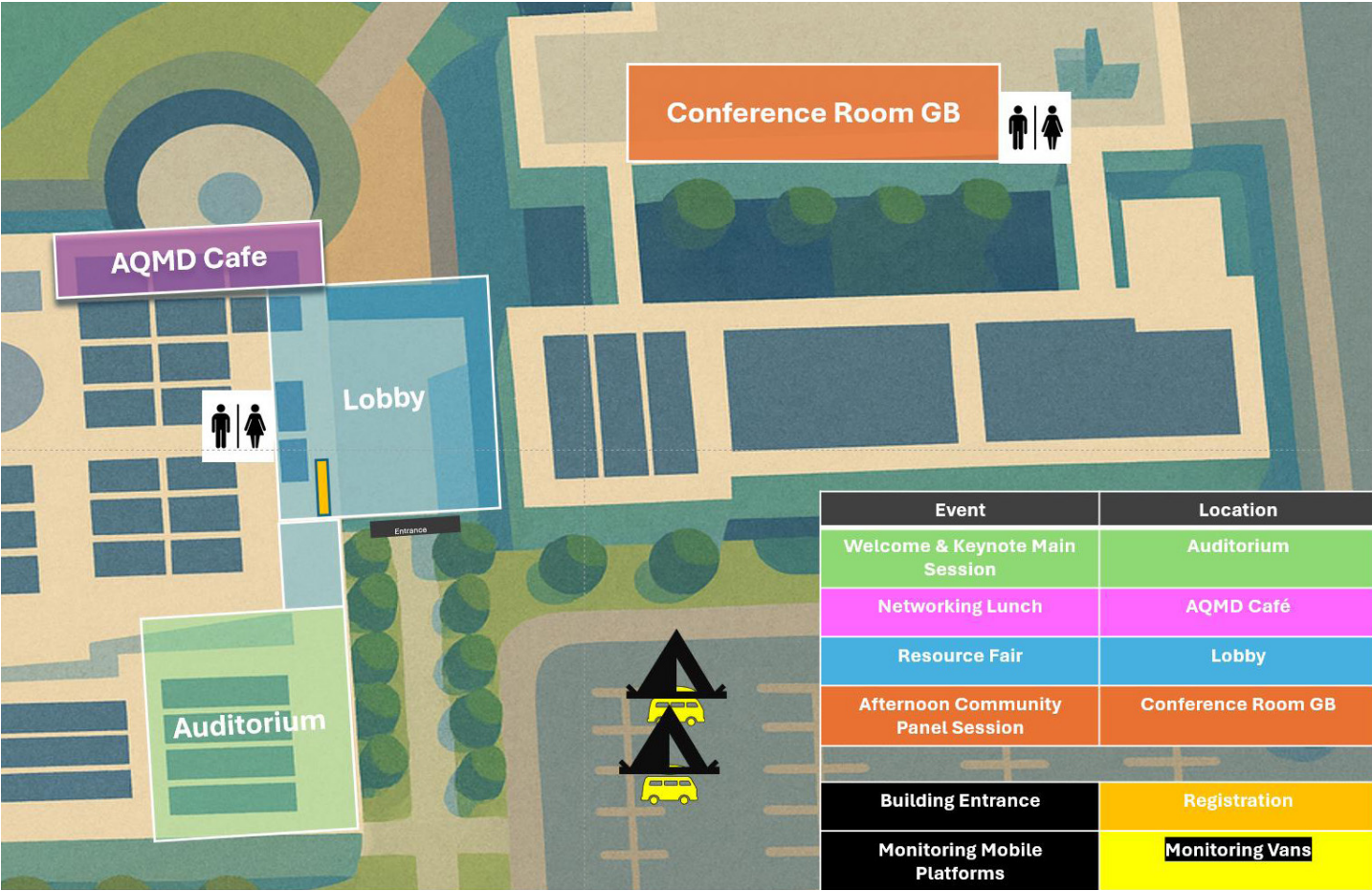
Community Engagement & Air Programs Division
South Coast AQMD



Agenda

7:00 AM	CSC Transportation Staging	Offsite locations
9:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast	AQMD Cafe
10:00 AM	Welcome & Acknowledgements South Coast AQMD Executive Leadership CA Air Resources Board Office of Community Air Programs (OCAP) Legislative & Budget Update Community Steering Committee (CSC) Recognition	Auditorium
10:45 AM	Film Screening: "The Warehouse Empire" (Chapter 1) Keynote Speaker: Sofia Figueroa followed by: Q&A Discussion Prompts	Auditorium
11:45 AM	Group Photo	Auditorium
11:50 AM	Community Connections / Networking Lunch	AQMD Cafe
1:00 PM	Thought Partner Panel (Year 1 CSCs) Community Leadership, Collaboration, Challenges, and Hope. Moderator : Lucy Herrera, Legacy LA Panelists: Jan Victor Andasan, Angelica Balderas, Valerie Dobesh, Theral Golden	Conference Room GB
2:00 PM	Mindfulness Break	Offsite locations
2:20 PM	Resource Fair	Lobby
3:00 PM	Transportation Pick-up	Designated Parking Stations

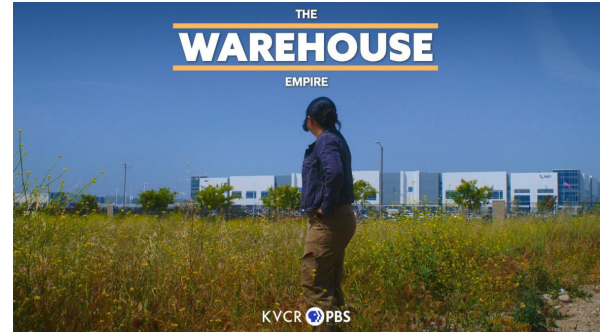
Map



Film Screening

The Warehouse Empire

San Bernardino based filmmaker, Sofia Figueroa, investigates the growth of the warehouse and logistics sector in the Inland Empire, examining its environmental, economic, and social impacts.



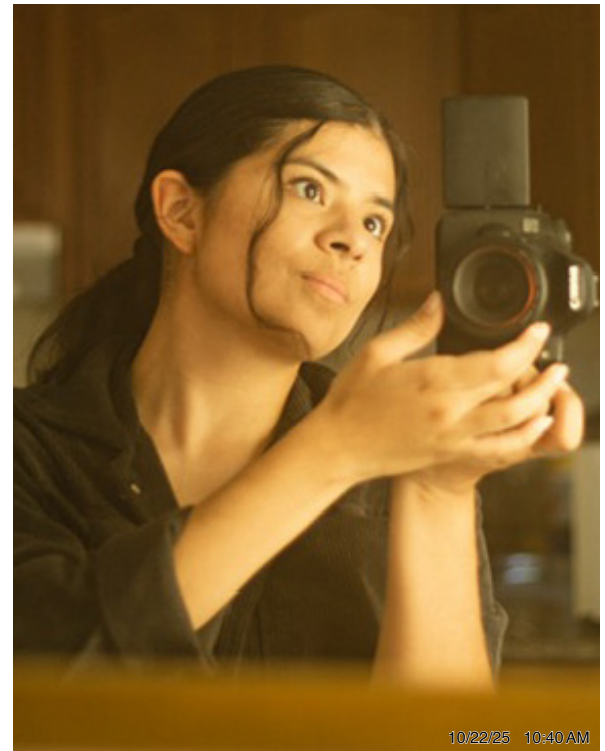
<https://www.pbs.org/show/the-warehouse-empire/>

Keynote Speaker

Sofia Figueroa

I'm Sofia, a filmmaker, born and raised in San Bernardino, CA. My passion is helping artists, businesses, and non-profit organizations tell their story through authenticity and empathy. Ever since I was a kid, I had always been fascinated with the arts and with serving my community. After high school, I attended California Baptist University and graduated with a Bachelors in Film Studies and a minor in Sociology. Through my college experience, I began partnering with local non-profits and community organizers to document their events, capturing stories that highlighted the voices and experiences of my community. This passion for storytelling eventually grew into directing impactful documentary work—most recently *The Warehouse Empire*, which earned me an Emmy Award.

I aim to craft work that resonates—bringing awareness, empathy, and authenticity to every documentary and local collaboration.



Afternoon Panel Moderator: Lucy Herrera

Lucy Herrera serves as the Executive Director of Legacy LA, a youth development organization located near the Ramona Gardens public housing community in Los Angeles. Legacy LA supports more than 500 young people annually through leadership development, academic support, civic engagement, and advocacy programs that center equity and social justice.

Born and raised in Ramona Gardens, Ms. Herrera was Legacy LA's very first youth participant in its founding Youth Council in 2008. Her lived experience in the community continues to shape her leadership and her deep commitment to addressing systemic inequities that affect under resourced neighborhoods. Under her direction, Legacy LA has expanded its work to include youth-led organizing and cross sector partnerships that elevate youth voices in policy, governance, and environmental justice.

Ms. Herrera holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in Law and Society from the University of California, Riverside. She is particularly passionate about empowering youth in Boyle Heights and Ramona Gardens to develop an intersectional lens to confront issues such as climate change, pollution, and public health disparities. Her leadership is grounded in the principles of equity, community empowerment, and the belief that youth must be at the forefront of social and environmental change.

In addition to her role at Legacy LA, Ms. Herrera serves as Vice Chair of the AltaMed Board of Directors, where she continues to advocate for inclusive, youth-centered approaches to community development and public policy.



Panelist Jan Victor Andasan

Jan Victor Andasan (Siya/They/Them/Theirs) is a queer non binary sober immigrant Pilipino. They immigrated and grew up in West Long Beach until their family settled in a home in Carson. Jan Victor attended UCLA and received a BA Asian American Studies with a concentration in Pilipin@ Studies. During their tenure at UCLA, they were involved with organizing students of color, LGBTQ issues, and various issues affecting underrepresented communities.

Jan Victor worked for 10+ years at East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice (EYCEJ) as both a Community Organizer in the Long Beach and South Bay region and the Fundraising and Development Director where they helped to break fundraising records. At their time in EYCEJ, Jan Victor fought alongside the community to stop Warren Buffet's proposed BNSF SCIG railyard and sued refineries and won. They helped shape policy on both freight and fossil fuel regulations in Southern California and beyond.

Jan Victor currently serves as Legacy LA Youth Development Corporation's first ever Development Director utilizing storytelling and the robust skills they developed in community organizing to secure funds to meet the needs in addressing the impact of multigenerational gang violence in the Ramona Gardens / Boyle Heights community. Additionally, Jan Victor continues to engage in environmental justice community organizing and strategizing with frontline communities as a consultant shaping policy and intentional community engagement.

Jan Victor has a passion for community organizing, social justice, fashion like bags and shoes, streaming video games and having political talks, and eating delicious food.



Panelist Angelica Balderas

Angie is a dedicated advocate and long-time community organizer for social justice who has lived in the Inland Empire for over 30 years. She works as a Digital Strategist/Organizer and Communications Coordinator for the People's Collective for Environmental Justice and serves on several boards, including the Environmental Justice Advisory Board for the South Coast Air Quality Management District and The Garcia Center of the Arts.

With over 20 years of experience, Angie has been involved in various social justice efforts, including labor organizing with UFCW Local 1167 and serving as a Lead National Organizer for the Sierra Club. She is also active in her community, having participated in student government at Cal State Northridge and San Bernardino Valley College to champion social justice issues. Also co-host and producer to The Artist I.E. a podcast that focuses on uplifting arts/activism here in the I.E. In 2021, she completed the Leadership, Organizing, and Action Program at Harvard University.

Outside of her activism, Angie enjoys spending time with her family and partner, enjoying simple activities like beach days and music-filled evenings.



Panelist Valerie Dobesh

I am a Mestiza, descendent of Spaniard and Purepecha. My passion is gardening, and I enjoyed managing retail nurseries for 17 years and my experience is both in mountain and inland valley gardening.

After my retirement from the retail nursery business, I was involved with mountain gardening clubs, which helped communities. This led me into mental health services. For many years I have studied with my Indigenous Elders and other Indigenous tribes on Native plant uses. For 15 years I've been a Master Herbalist and taught classes.

I am now retired from a Community Health Workers Program educating community on mental health wellness and linking them to resources in our community. Also I created a healing garden program with Riverside-San Bernardino County Indian Health, Inc. (RSBCIHI) and enjoyed working with the Diabetes Dept. and Nutrition Dept.

I am a Master Gardener with University of California cooperative extension. I take great pride in working and teaching hands-on with local communities. I have worked with community gardens throughout Southern California for many years.



Panelist Theral Golden

I have been a resident of Long Beach, CA, for more than fifty years, raising my family here and working in Los Angeles County throughout that time. Honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy. Entered service as an E1 and honorably separated services as an E5 Petty Officer after 3 years and 8 months.

My professional work was achieved as a Maintenance Manager, Operations Administrative Manager, and Service Operations Director. for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority. Today, I am struggling for clean air in my community of West Long Beach, and against the racism and the racist policies that the local and state agencies are exacerbating the health of this Community. This community is disproportionately affected by pollution, particularly from the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, California.

LEADERSHIP or AFFILIATIONS

Mayor's Advisory Team
Long Beach, CA
2014

Board Member and President,
West Long Beach, CA Association, 2005 -
Present

Board Member
West Long Beach, CA Medical Clinic
2009 - 2013

Member 617 Select Committee for
West Long Beach, Wilmington,
and Carson, California

Moving Forward Network and the Impact
Project

EDUCATION

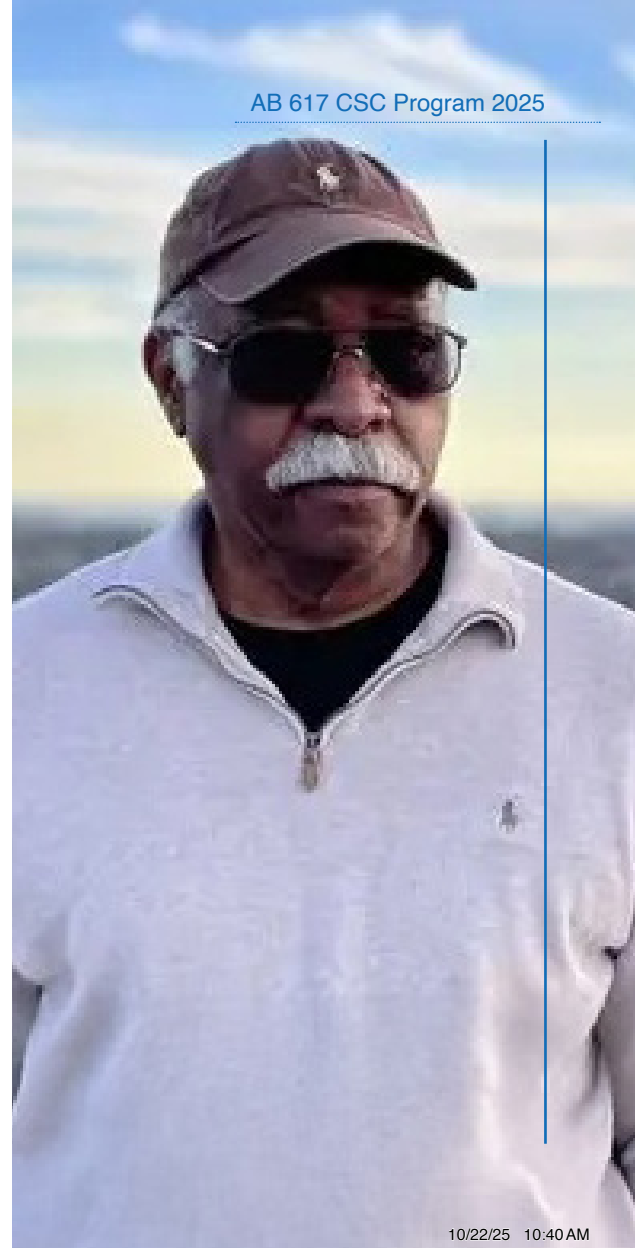
Cal State University - Dominguez Hills

Major - Public Administration, Administrative
Management

Undergraduate degree

Long Beach City College

UCLA Management Training Academy





Annual All CSC Event Feedback Form

South Coast Air Quality Management District

WILLIAM A. BURKE AUDITORIUM

**South Coast Air Quality
Management District**
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178

