



# Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Initiatives

## East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce Community Steering Committee Meeting #3

Thursday, February 28, 2019 — 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Commerce Senior Center  
2555 Commerce Way Commerce, CA 90040

Time	Item	Presenter	Why is this important?
5:45 pm	Doors open		
6:00 pm	Welcoming Remarks – 5 min	Johncito Peraza Romero ( <i>Co-host</i> ) and Facilitator	
	Enforcement Overview – 5 min  Committee Questions on Enforcement – 5 min	Terrence Mann ( <i>Assistant Deputy Executive Officer, Compliance and Enforcement</i> )  <b>Committee Members only</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help explain examples of enforcement strategies used by SCAQMD</li> <li>Requested by CSC members</li> </ul>
6:15 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategies to Address Air Pollution Concerns – 10 min</li> <li>Air Pollution Emissions Data – 5 min</li> </ul>	Jo Kay Ghosh ( <i>Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development &amp; Area Sources</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To help with developing emission reduction plans in this community</li> <li>To understand where emissions come from in this community</li> </ul>
	Q & A on Strategies and Emissions Data – 5 min	<b>Committee Members and the public</b>	
6:35 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Boundary and Prioritization of Air Quality Concerns – 10 min</li> <li>Prioritization Activity – 30 min</li> <li>Activity Report Back – 15 min</li> <li>Break – 5 min</li> <li>Activity Consensus Results Discussion – 10 min</li> </ul>	SCAQMD staff; Facilitator; Johncito Peraza - Romero ( <i>Co-host</i> )  <b>Committee Members and the public</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Helps SCAQMD prioritize the top air quality concerns from the community</li> <li>Helps guide the SCAQMD's focus for the community emission reduction plans</li> </ul>
7:45 pm	Important Reminders and Next Steps – 5 min	Johncito Peraza Romero ( <i>Co-host</i> )	
7:50 pm	Public Comment – 10 min	Members of the public, moderated by Facilitator	
8:00 pm	Adjourn		



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Commerce Senior Center  
2555 Commerce Way Commerce, CA 90040

Affiliation	Representative (Primary <sup>1</sup> ; Alternate <sup>2</sup> )	Participant in the Committee Meeting Discussion
<b>Category: Community Organization</b>		
East LA Rising	Anna Araujo	
Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church - ELA	H. Jose Garcia <sup>1</sup> ; Luis Reyes <sup>2</sup>	
Mothers of ELA	Teresa Marquez	
Resurrection Church	Father John Moretta	Father John Moretta
EYCEJ	Cindy Donis	Cindy Donis
COFEM	Anabella Bastida	
Legacy LA	Jacky Rodriguez	Jacky Rodriguez
<b>Category: Active Residents (not representing a Community Organization or a Business)</b>		
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Veronica Polanco	Veronica Polanco
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Nadine Diaz	Nadine Diaz
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Terry Cano <sup>1</sup> , Joe Gonzalez <sup>2</sup>	
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Fabiola Rivas	
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	Rafael Yanez	Rafael Yanez
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	Rudy Perez <sup>1</sup> ; Carina Sanchez <sup>2</sup>	Carina Sanchez
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	mark! Lopez	mark! Lopez
Active Resident - West Commerce	Jennifer Reyes	
Active Resident - West Commerce	Paulina Becerra	Paulina Becerra
Active Resident - West Commerce	Johncito Peraza	Johncito Peraza
<b>Category: Agency, School, University, Hospital</b>		
City of Los Angeles – Department of City Planning	Priya Medendale <sup>1</sup> ; Jason Douglas <sup>2</sup>	Priya Medendale
City of Commerce	Oralia Rebollo <sup>1</sup> ; Michelle Keshishian <sup>2</sup>	Oralia Rebollo
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Cristin Mondy <sup>1</sup> ; Tiffany Romo <sup>2</sup>	Cristin Mondy
Los Angeles County Planning Department	Norman Ornelas <sup>1</sup> ; Soyeon Choi <sup>2</sup>	Soyeon Choi
USC	Wendy Gutschow <sup>1</sup> ; Jill Johnston <sup>2</sup>	Zully Juarez*
AltaMed Health Services	Bernice Nunez Constant <sup>1</sup> , Corina Martinez <sup>2</sup>	Corina Martinez
White Memorial Medical Center	Brian Johnston	Brian Johnston
<b>Category: Elected Officials</b>		
Asm. Cristina Garcia - District 58	Evelyn Nuño	Evelyn Nuño
Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council	Hector-Alessandro Negrete	Hector-Alessandro Negrete
Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti	Irene Burga	Irene Burga
First District Supervisor Hilda Solis	Joseph Martinez <sup>1</sup> ; Elizabeth Andalón <sup>2</sup>	Elizabeth Andalón
<b>Category: Business representative, business organization or labor organization</b>		
Railroads – BNSF	Trini Jimenez <sup>1</sup> ; Marisa Blackshire <sup>2</sup>	Marisa Blackshire
Labor - SEIU 721	Maribel Castillon <sup>1</sup> ; Griselda Mariscal <sup>2</sup>	Maribel Castillon

Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	Kendal Asuncion <sup>1</sup> ; Olivia Lee <sup>2</sup>	
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce	Jennifer Lahoda	Jennifer Lahoda

\*Zully Juarez sat at the CSC table to represent USC since neither official representative for the CSC was present. However, she participated as a member of the public.

**Meeting Summary:** During CSC Meeting #3, an overview of enforcement actions, strategies to address air pollution concerns, and air pollution emissions data were discussed. Community members also prioritized air quality concerns in their communities during the small group discussion.

1. **Welcoming Remarks** - Johncito Peraza Romero (Co-Host), Valerie Martinez (Facilitator)
  - a. Jo Kay welcomed the committee and thanked Council Member Leonard Mendoza for allowing SCAQMD to use this facility for today’s meeting. She introduced Valerie Martinez, the facilitator, and Johncito Peraza Romero, the co-host of the evening.
  - b. Johncito (Co-host) introduced himself and welcomed the community. He recognized Councilwoman Oralia Rebollo for her participation and discussed housekeeping rules.
  - c. Valerie (Facilitator) introduced VMA facilitator services and explained what their role would be in these CSC meetings. She commented that VMA has been working with communities on environmental justice issues for many years and hopes to create an opportunity for everyone’s voices to be heard in this committee. She further commented that today’s meeting’s focus is on prioritization and strategies to reduce air pollution in the East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, and West Commerce community. She shared that questions will be taken on question cards throughout the meeting, and that there will be a public comment period at the end of the meeting, with a limit of three minutes of speaking time per person.
2. **Enforcement Overview** - Terrence Mann (SCAQMD)
  - a. Terrence provided an overview of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement, including how the teams are organized. He discussed the types of enforcement activities SCAQMD conducts, which include response to complaints, inspections, response to notifications, source education and outreach, special project investigations, and enforcement actions. He further commented that noise complaints, most indoor air quality issues, and soil remediation and water issues are not in SCAQMD’s jurisdiction. He summarized the types of air quality concerns identified by the East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, and West Commerce community, and noted the types of enforcement activities that SCAQMD staff could conduct for each of these types of concerns (coating and metal finishing facilities, rendering plants, railyards, idling trucks and warehouses and waste management sites).
3. **Q and A on Enforcement**
  - a. Oralia Rebollo (City of Commerce) asked what the turnaround time is when a complaint is received and when a response is provided.
    - i. Terrence responded that the SCAQMD does its best to respond within two hours.

- b. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) asked what it means to have supervisors on standby during after-hours, what it takes for them to visit the site, and in general what is the complaint process.
    - i. Terrence responded that during normal business hours a live attendant directs the complaint to the right enforcement team. During after-hours a supervisor receives the notification and directs it to an available inspectors. He explained that the type of response depends on the type of complaint. For example, odor complaints are tricky because a party may report an odor that dissipates quickly. However, if an emission is visually spotted an inspector can be sent to the specific location.
    - ii. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) followed up stating that a Notice of Violation (NOV) is usually only issued if there are a certain number of individuals in the presence of the inspector when he arrives to respond to a complaint. However, if an inspector is conducting an inspection he will only cite the facility to fix the problems not give a NOV.
      - 1. Terrence responded that multiple complaints are usually required for nuisance complaints, like odor or dust. However, each complaint is different. If there are emissions an inspector can issue a NOV. He encouraged the public to keep calling in complaints.
  - c. Evelyn Nuño (Asm. Cristina Garcia - District 58) asked that even though SCAQMD is limited by Federal Law in regulating rail yards, are they also limited in conducting air monitoring.
    - i. Terrence responded that as an agency we are exploring ways to regulate the railyard facility itself. Currently, inspectors can look at equipment at the facility but regulating emissions from the trains and trucks is being explored through the Indirect Source Rules. He concluded that the Federal Law limits don't affect our ability to monitor air pollution.
  - d. Corina Martinez (AltaMed Health Services) asked how the public is made aware of SCAQMD's enforcement actions.
    - i. Terrence responded that this information is available on the website, via a user friendly interface. One can use the "Find" feature to find information on particular facilities. He further remarked that the agency is always open to hearing ways to better the process.
4. **Strategies to Address Air Pollution Concerns, Air Pollution Emissions Data** - Jo Kay Ghosh (SCAQMD)
- a. Jo Kay provided a summary of strategies to address some of the top air pollution concerns in this community. Emission reduction strategies include regulations, incentives, enforcement, and outreach and education. Other complementary tools include exposure reduction, monitoring, public information, and collaborations. She expanded on what each of the strategies are, gave examples, and discussed the pros and cons of each strategy. Jo Kay discussed ways to combine strategies at auto body shops, and for truck traffic and exposure reduction at schools.
5. **Air Pollution Emissions Data** – Jo Kay Ghosh (SCAQMD)

- a. Jo Kay presented the air pollution emissions data for the community. She discussed the main air toxics in the community (e.g. diesel particulate) and the sources that contribute to these emissions. She also provided information about the budget commitment that SCAQMD has put behind the AB 617 program, and shared the finalized community boundary line, along with areas where there were several stationary or mobile source concerns identified by the community.

**6. Q and A on Strategies and Emissions Data**

- a. Johncito Peraza (West Commerce resident) asked which local school districts the SCAQMD is already working with to introduce zero emission school buses.
  - i. Jo Kay responded that outreach to different schools has taken place in the past but SCAQMD can do specific outreach if someone has a school district contact person.
- b. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) asked for more information on the rule development item in the presentation.
  - i. Jo Kay clarified that rule development mentioned in the presentation under truck traffic was referring to the Indirect Source Rule efforts. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.
- c. Jennifer Lahoda (Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce) asked how businesses and residents can find out about the different incentive programs and equipment that qualifies.
  - i. Jo Kay responded that she can provide information for a contact person to discuss the incentive programs. She further mentioned that there are brochures in the back about the different programs.
- d. Soyeon Choi (Los Angeles County Planning Department) asked if rules are applied to existing facilities.
  - i. Jo Kay responded that SCAQMD rules do apply to both existing and new facilities.
- e. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) asked how SCAQMD will test for and enforce mobile source emissions from polluting cars and trucks. He also asked how and where monitors will be placed to identify issues and offer tangible reductions.
  - i. Jo Kay responded that SCAQMD does enforce the Idling Truck Regulation, and to reduce emissions, incentives programs can be used. She commented that if there is a desire for monitoring, the purpose would be determined and then the appropriate strategy developed.
  - ii. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) followed up that he wants to know specifically what monitoring will be done given that monitoring equipment will be approved by the SCAQMD Board next month.
    - 1. Valerie (Facilitator) responded that first priorities will be determined and then the strategy developed.
    - 2. Jo Kay further responded that although monitoring equipment will be approved by the Board next month, there will be more opportunities to request equipment if needed.

- f. Oralía Rebollo (City of Commerce) commented that two schools mentioned at the previous meetings are not identified on the map.
    - i. Valerie (Facilitator) responded that those will be added to the map.
- 7. **Community Boundary and Prioritization of Air Quality Concerns** – SCAQMD staff; Valerie Martinez (Facilitator)
  - a. Valerie (Facilitator) explained that the goal of the prioritization activity is to identify air quality priorities for this community and that each group would be responsible for identifying what the top priorities are for this community. She explained how the activity will be conducted, and further commented to focus on things that are tangible and in the scope of what SCAQMD can do.
  - b. Jo Kay clarified that CARB is a main partner, and although suggestions for SCAQMD action is the focus, CARB actions can also be included in the emission reduction plan.
- 8. **Prioritization Activity** – Group Activity
  - a. Groups were formed with up to six CSC members each, generally consisting of one to two members from each of the different categories (resident, local agency, business, etc.) of the CSC roster to discuss and build a consensus on what the priorities for the community should be. There was also a discussion group for members of the public, who also participated in the same activity. One facilitator and one note taker were present at each table to guide the activity and take notes on the details of each prioritized concern. After 30 minutes of discussion, each group shared aloud to all meeting attendees to describe their top air quality concerns.
  - b. Jo Kay summarized the top priorities as freeway truck traffic, truck traffic related to warehouses, and train/rail emissions. Other priorities included schools and parks, metal processing facilities, and rendering facilities. Jo Kay mentioned that at the next meeting we will be looking at strategies for these top priorities.
- 9. **Important Reminders and Next Steps** – Johncito Peraza Romero (Co-Host)
  - a. Johncito (Co-host) reviewed the future meeting, which will be:
    - i. CSC Meeting #4: March 28<sup>th</sup> (6:00 – 8:00pm) at Resurrection Church
  - b. Johncito (Co-host) also reviewed the future potential topics for the next meeting, which could include:
    - i. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) timeline
    - ii. RECLAIM – Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT) Rule development update
    - iii. Indirect Source Rule (ISR) development update
      - 1. Rules to control mobile source emissions at warehouses, railyards, etc.
  - c. Johncito (Co-host) shared that the first TAG meeting took place February 27<sup>th</sup> and that the next meeting will be Late Spring 2019.
- 10. **Public Comment**
  - a. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) discussed obtaining possible grant funding for street sweeping equipment capable of picking up PM2.5. He wants to invite local cities and industries to partake as a proof of concept.
  - b. Cindy Donis (EYCEJ) asked how emission reduction plans are different from rule development, specifically the Indirect Source Rules.

- i. Jo Kay responded that the rule development referred to in the funding table was in regard to BARCT rules, and that there is a set timeline for this. She further commented that there is a possibility of additional rules coming out of the Community Emission Reduction Plan, and that staff working on the BARCT may transition into the rule making for the Community Emission Reduction Plan.
- c. Brian Johnston (White Memorial Medical Center) asked what priorities the SCAQMD would select to provide maximum public health benefit.
  - i. Jo Kay responded that AB 617 requires SCAQMD to get input from the community. From the standpoint of SCAQMD we will look at technical data to make sure we aren't missing anything. She commented that the data has indicated that mobile sources are an issue, and these are top priorities that the community has also identified.
- d. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) asked what the public complaint protocol for photos and video footage is.
  - i. Terrence responded that how rules are enforced and what is deemed evidence in the court of law are two different issues. Video footage and photos are helpful in identifying a place. However whether an NOV can be issued based on a video is still being worked out. Terrence encouraged community members to keep recording and calling in.
- e. Richard Hernandez commented that from his experience of calling in about odor issues, unless four to five people call, it will not be responded to. He commented that the SCAQMD does not have enough staff to go out and respond to all the complaints. He further asked about the quality of the monitors. He commented that many issues are not addressed so residents need to be aware of the pollutants that exist in their community.
  - i. Terrence responded that during business hours SCAQMD will respond to every complaint. In regards to odors though SCAQMD may require for example 3 calls/hour, but not always, because prevailing weather conditions may change quickly what is present. However, what is required to issue a NOV is written in statute language.
- f. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) asked if what was just communicated by Terrence can be documented because this has not been the case when he has filed a complaint.
  - i. Terrence responded that if the mentioned protocol is not being followed that individuals can come talk to him and his team in person. Terrence responded that SCAQMD will try to resolve this.
- g. Jason Douglas (City of Los Angeles – Department of City Planning) wanted to know how SCAQMD will cover the funding gap, or if certain programs will be cut, since SCAQMD only received \$20 million of the \$27.7 million requested.
  - i. Jo Kay responded that the community will have to prioritize their efforts.
- h. Jason Douglas (City of Los Angeles – Department of City Planning) asked what SCAQMD's authority is over regulating truck emissions that frequent warehouses and how can we promote cleaner burning vehicles through this mechanism.

- i. Ian MacMillan (SCAQMD) responded that SCAQMD will update the community about the Indirect Source Rules at the next meeting.
- i. Johncito (Co-Host) thanked the community for their participation and introduced council member Leonard Mendoza.
  - i. Leonard Mendoza commented that SCAQMD spent little time on incentives, and requested that the community to be prioritized when it comes to incentive funds.