



# Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Initiatives

## East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce Community Steering Committee Meeting #9

Thursday, August 22, 2019  
CSC Meeting 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Commerce Senior Center  
2555 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA 90040

| Time    | Item  | Presenter   | Why is this important?  |
|---------|---|---|---|
| 5:30 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doors Open</li> </ul>  |   |   |
| 6:00 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcoming Remarks</li> <li>Announcements</li> <li>Meeting #8 Recap &amp; Current Progress: What we've done so far<br/>– 10 min</li> </ul>  | Facilitator<br><br>Johncito Peraza Romero ( <i>Co-host, Active Resident – Commerce</i> )  | To understand where we are in developing the community plans  |
| 6:10 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee Presenters               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Los Angeles (LA) County Department of Public Health<br/>– 10 min</li> <li>Office of LA Mayor Eric Garcetti<br/>– 10 min</li> </ul> </li> <li>Committee Discussion<br/>– 5 min</li> </ul> | Cristin Mondy ( <i>Regional Health Officer, LA County Department of Public Health</i> )<br><br>Irene Burga ( <i>Air Quality Adviser, Office of LA Mayor Eric Garcetti</i> )<br><br><b>Committee Members</b> | To understand current efforts in the community by CSC members to address air quality concerns<br><br>To give overview of LA's newly released Green New Deal and Clean Up Green Up program |
| 6:35 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governing Board Process Overview and Stationary Source Committee Meeting Recap<br/>– 15 min</li> <li>Committee Discussion<br/>– 10 min</li> </ul>  | Dan Garcia ( <i>Planning and Rules Manager, South Coast AQMD</i> )<br><br><b>Committee Members</b>  | To provide information on the Governing Board process and a recap of the Stationary Source Committee Meeting  |
| 7:00 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) and Emissions Reduction Targets*<br/>– 15 min</li> <li>Committee Discussion<br/>– 35 min</li> </ul>  | Dan Garcia ( <i>Planning and Rules Manager, South Coast AQMD</i> )<br><br><b>Committee Members</b>  | To provide an update on revisions of the Draft CERP based on comments received and how actions in the CERP will lead to emission reductions   |
| 7:50 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Air Monitoring Highlights*<br/>– 10 min</li> <li>Committee Discussion<br/>– 15 min</li> </ul>  | Payam Pakbin ( <i>Advanced Monitoring Technologies Program Supervisor, South Coast AQMD</i> )<br><br><b>Committee Members</b>   | To provide an update on the current monitoring efforts being deployed in the community  |
| 8:15 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next Meeting Topics and Important Reminders<br/>– 5 min</li> </ul>   | Facilitator<br><br><b>Committee Members</b>   |   |
| 8:20 pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Comment<br/>– 10 min</li> </ul>   | Members of the Public   |   |

|         |         |  |  |
|---------|---------|--|--|
| 8:30 pm | Adjourn |  |  |
|---------|---------|--|--|

\* Staff is also available for questions after the meeting.



South Coast  
AQMD

# Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Initiatives

## East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce Community Steering Committee Meeting #9 Attendance

Thursday, August 22, 2019  
CSC Meeting 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
Commerce Senior Center  
2555 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA 90040

| Affiliation   | Representative<br>(Primary, Alternate) | Participant in the<br>Committee Meeting<br>Discussion |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Category: Community Organization</b>   |  |   |
| East LA Rising  | Anna Araujo                            |   |
| Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church – ELA   | H. Jose Garcia, Luis Reyes             |   |
| Mothers of ELA  | Teresa Marquez                         |   |
| Resurrection Church   | Msgr. John Moretta                     |   |
| East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice (EYCEJ)                                     | Cindy Donis                            | Cindy Donis   |
| Council of Mexican Federations (COFEM)  | Anabella Bastida, Leoda Valenzuela     | Leoda Valenzuela                                      |
| Legacy LA   | Jacky Rodriguez                        |   |
| <b>Category: Active Residents (not representing a Community Organization or a Business)</b> |  |   |
| Active Resident – Boyle Heights   | Veronica Planco                        |   |
| Active Resident – Boyle Heights   | Nadine Diaz, Diana Tarango             |   |
| Active Resident – Boyle Heights   | Terry Cano, Joe Gonzalez               |   |
| Active Resident – Boyle Heights   | Fabiola Rivas                          |   |
| Active Resident – East Los Angeles  | Rafael Yanez                           | Rafael Yanez  |
| Active Resident – East Los Angeles  | Rudy Perez, Carina Sanchez             | Carina Sanchez, Rudy Perez                            |
| Active Resident – East Los Angeles  | mark! Lopez                            |   |
| Active Resident – East Los Angeles  | Martha Ofelia Jimenez                  |   |
| Active Resident – West Commerce   | Jennifer Reyes                         |   |
| Active Resident – West Commerce   | 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 Mehendale, Jason Douglas         | Priya Mehendale                                       |
| City of Commerce  | Oralia Rebollo                         |   |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Cristin Mondy, Tiffany Romo            | Cristin Mondy   |
| Los Angeles County Planning Department  | Normal Ornelas, Soyeon Choi            | Soyeon Choi   |

|  |   |                   |
|--|---|-------------------|
| University of Southern California (USC)                                  | Wendy Gutschow, Jill Johnston           | Jill Johnston     |
| AltaMed Health Services  | Corina Martinez, Bernice Nunez Constant | Corina Martinez   |
| White Memorial Center  | Brian Johnston                          | Brian Johnston    |
| <b>Category: Elected Officials</b>                                       |   |                   |
| Assemblymember Cristina Garcia – District 58                             | Evelyn Nuno                             | Evelyn Nuno       |
| Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council                                       | Hector-Alessandro Negrete               |                   |
| Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti                                | Irene Burga                             | Irene Burga       |
| First District Supervisor Hilda Solis                                    | Joseph Martinez, Elizabeth Andalon      |                   |
| Assemblymember Miguel Santiago – District 53                             | David Juarez, Luis Melchor              |                   |
| <b>Category: Business Representative, Business or Labor Organization</b> |   |                   |
| Railroads - BNSF   | Trini Jimenez, Marisa Blackshire        |                   |
| Labor – SEIU 721   | Maribel Castillon, Griselda Mariscal    | Maribel Castillon |
| Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce                                     | Kendal Asuncion                         |                   |
| Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce  | Jennifer Lahoda                         |                   |

**Meeting Summary:** During CSC Meeting #9 an overview of the Governing Board process was discussed and a recap of the Stationary Source Committee Meeting was given. The meeting began with two presentations. The first presentation was delivered by Cristin Mondy with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to discuss the agency’s mission and the work that they do as it related to environmental health. The second presentation was done by two co-presenters, one with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti’s office and the other with the city’s Sanitation District. Irene Burga gave a presentation about the city’s Green New Deal plan and Melissa Plamondon discussed the city’s Clean Up Green Up program. Finally, Payam Pakbin with the South Coast AQMD delivered a presentation where he gave updates about stationary monitoring efforts in the ELABHWC community and discussed the results from mobile air monitoring measurements made in July and August 2019.

- **Welcoming Remarks**

- **Valerie Martinez (Facilitator)**

- **Announcements**

- **Johncito Peraza Romero** (Active Resident – West Commerce) began the meeting with housekeeping reminders and that this is Meeting #9 being recorded on FaceBook Live
- Johncito introduced the District Coordinator from Assemblymember Garcia’s Office, Rida Hamida. She invited the CSC and public to attend a movie viewing of *The Devil We Know* on Thursday, August 29th and distributed flyers. The film is a documentary about a group of citizens that challenge a powerful corporation to be more environmentally responsible, highlighting the dangers of toxic chemical PFAS. Film Director Stephanie Soechtig will be available for Q&A after the film. If anyone is interested in becoming a Co-sponsor of the event, contact Rida.
- Fernando Delgado from Supervisor Hilda Solis Office was welcomed and introduced to the meeting.

- Peter Nguyen, a graduate student of Professor Jonathan London's research group at the University of California, Davis announced that a study regarding the perspectives of community engagement regarding AB 617 will be conducted in the upcoming months. Professor London serves as an independent evaluator, under contract with CARB, on the community engagement components of AB 617. The study is intended to help CARB, the regional air districts, steering committees and other stakeholders reflect on the implementation process to highlight its successes and challenges, and to inform recommendations on how the process can be improved over time. The study includes a stakeholder's survey, key expert interviews and observation of the CSC meetings.
- **CSC Meeting #8 Recap & Current Progress: What we've done so far**
    - **Valerie** provided an overview of AB 617's progress to date. Specifically, the Draft CERP was released in July and presented to the South Coast AQMD Stationary Source Committee.
- **Committee Presenters**
    - **Cristin Mondy, (Regional Health Officer, LA County Department of Public Health) (LADPH)** gave a presentation on a brief overview of the LADPH. Their mission is to protect health of Los Angeles and its 10.2 million residents, which is divided into eight sections called Service Planning Areas (SPAs). Highly burdened communities can lead to a variety of health effects such as cardiovascular disease, asthma and other pulmonary diseases. Cristin oversees SPA 4 (Boyle Heights). SPA 7 includes East LA & West Commerce. Three areas of concern include: 1) Community and agency partnerships for improvement of community health and engagement, 2) Communicable Disease Control and Management, and 3) Public Health Emergency Response and recovery. Their division of Environmental Health handles toxicology and environmental assessment. There are also three Public Health Centers in SPA 4 & SPA 7 which can be accessed in the Central LA, Hollywood, and Whittier areas with a commitment to integrated care and health equity, such TB and STD testing and immunizations. The Asthma Coalition of LA County have four working groups to change policy.
    - **Irene Burga, (Air Quality Advisor, Office of LA Mayor Eric Garcetti)** delivered a presentation on the City of LA's Green New Deal program which is an expanded vision of the 2015 pLAN that tackles climate emergency with accelerated targets and new aggressive goals with carbon neutrality by 2050. L.A.'s Green New Deal is guided by four key principles: a commitment to uphold the Paris Climate Agreement; a promise to deliver environmental justice and equity through a green economy; a plan to ensure every LA resident has the ability to join the green economy by opportunities to good paying, green jobs; and to show leadership in City government, by putting the program into practice. The pLAN is based on a Zero Carbon Grid, Zero Carbon Buildings, Zero Carbon Transportation, Zero Waste, and Zero Water. Targets around zero emission vehicles, building electrification and industrial emissions together will prevent 1,650 premature deaths per year and save \$16 billion annually. Initiatives for the years 2021, 2025, and 2028 have been set for mobility, transportation, and industrial categories.

- In addition, a presentation on the Clean-up Green-up (CUGU) Program was given by **Melissa Plamondon** (LA Sanitation). CUGU was developed as an environmental justice program for clean water, watershed protection, and solid waste resources and environmental quality. Goals include streamlining permitting, simplifying regulatory compliance and assistance for businesses.
  - **Rafael Yanez (Active Resident – East Los Angeles)** asked whether baseline numbers were reported in the city’s Green New Deal report and for which year projected emission reductions were based off of. He also asked if the report was posted online.
    - **Irene Burga** stated that the dates for which different emission reductions were based vary, but the report is posted online.
  - **Diego (South Coast AQMD)** asked which kinds of illegal dumping in particular the CUGU program were concerned with.
    - **Melissa Plamondon** answered that they were concerned with wastewater and dumping of hazardous solid material into the sewers.
- **Governing Board Process Overview and Stationary Source Committee Meeting Recap**
  - **Dan Garcia** discussed the process for the AB 617 item scheduled for the September Governing Board meeting and provided information on how to provide public comment for this item. A Stationary Source Committee Meeting recap of AB 617 items was given, and some of the key issues discussed were 1) an analysis of emission sources, 2) quantifiable emissions, and 3) Year 2 recommendations.
- **Draft Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) and Emissions Reduction Targets\***
  - **Dan** provided a summary of comments received for the Draft Final CERP and stated his expectation that the release of the plan would occur as scheduled on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The CERPs include six overall strategies to reduce emissions, supported by 61 actions, incentives, enforcement, rules and regulations, outreach, monitoring and collaboration. Based on CSC comments, South Coast AQMD worked with CARB staff to provide detailed emissions reduction targets by 2029. While this is just the beginning of the process to implement actions, the South Coast AQMD commits to returning to this community to make sure their input is considered, and to provide progress reports on the CERP actions.
    - **Jill Johnston (Professor, USC)** asked whether the projected emission reductions mentioned in the presentation referred to those specifically within the ELABHWC community. She requested that the CERP include baseline emission values to offer some perspective as to the degree to which progress is being made in reducing emissions. Also, she noted that CARB’s Heavy-Duty Low-NOx rule should be considered as to its effect on railyards.
      - Dan responded the projected emission reductions that were presented were indeed calculated specifically for the ELABHWC community and for CERP actions. Baseline emissions are for 2017 and available in Chapter three of the CERP.
  - **Rafael Yanez** requested that the PEAQS roadside air monitoring system which is still

under development by CARB be included in the body of CERP since the community is so heavily impacted by mobile sources.

- **Crystal Reul-Chen (CARB)** responded that the PEAQS system is still being tested in certain areas.
- **Dan** added that CARB staff is working on the evolution of the technology. South Coast AQMD staff will discuss with CARB and see what language makes sense to add to the Draft Final CERP.
- **Evelyn Nuno (Representative of Assemblymember Cristina Garcia)** asked if comments submitted after the August 9<sup>th</sup> deadline will be included in the Final CERP. Also, she noticed language in Chapter 5b of the CERP suggesting the use of roadside air monitoring equipment similar to the PEAQS system, although South Coast AQMD had claimed such technology was still in its infancy. Thus, she did not see any way to evaluate emissions data from trucks and automobile traffic which is a major source of emissions in the ELABHWC community, echoing Rafael's earlier comment.
  - **Dan** mentioned that every effort will be made to respond to every comment as best as possible, including those made after the submission deadline. He also mentioned that although Rafael was referring to a specific technology that is still in the development process with CARB, South Coast AQMD will certainly consider incorporating the PEAQS system into the CERP, albeit with caveats.
- **Brian Johnston (White Memorial Medical Center)** wanted to know if identifying specific places with populations that were more prone to health effects from air pollution, such as schools, were a part of the mobile air monitoring effort in order to establish the best locations for longer air monitoring efforts. He also wanted to know if the data from ongoing mobile air monitoring efforts would be available and stated that baseline air pollution data should be reported concurrently so that the public can determine whether progress is being made.
  - **Payam Pakbin** of South Coast AQMD responded that he will be presenting data and initial findings from the mobile air monitoring efforts during his presentation.
- **Leoda Valenzuela (COFEM)** echoed Jill Johnston's earlier comments that it would be useful to show baseline values for the Emissions Reduction Targets
  - **Dan** replied that the information is shown in Chapter 5a of the Draft Final CERP, which had undergone substantial revisions since the previous version.
- **Jason Low (South Coast AQMD)** added that a monitoring system, such as ALPR, could combine truck information with air monitoring technologies to determine emissions. South Coast AQMD will continue to coordinate with CARB on such matters since such technology demonstrations are of high importance.

- **Community Mobile Air Monitoring Highlights**

- **Payam Pakbin** shared the most recent findings of the mobile air monitoring efforts in the ELABHWC community and announced that the data is available online through a web data tool with new features added to the display tool. He also discussed that a continuous NO<sub>2</sub> fixed monitoring station has now been established at Resurrection Church site which was upgraded in August. He stated that mobile air measurements were conducted on three separate days (July 23, August 13, and August 14) between the hours of 12 – 5 pm and surveyed areas based on CSC air quality concerns such as

railyards, warehouses, manufacturers, and downwind communities. Preliminary results showed a snapshot of diesel PM tracers (BC, NO<sub>2</sub>, CO) levels were within typical ambient levels during the period of the measurement.

- **Evelyn Nuno** asked why UCLA was noted in a map that was displayed in Payam's presentation when it is located outside of the ELABHWC boundary. She also asked how the data from mobile monitoring measurements could account for differences in seasonal effects and weather patterns which have a lot of variation and thus could affect such measurements.
  - o **Payam** responded that it was Cal State – LA, not UCLA, that was displayed on the map. He also agreed that there are indeed seasonal variations in the weather which impacts air pollution measurements made by the mobile air monitoring platform, which is why such data will be used to recommend sites for fixed monitoring locations.
- **Rafael Yanez** commented that external factors such as LAUSD still being on vacation, daily traffic patterns, diurnal weather patterns, and railyard schedules need to be taken into consideration when making mobile air measurements since such activities may affect those measurements and may not reflect true ambient, background levels. He stated that the time of day therefore needed to be taken into account when interpreting such data.

- **Next Meeting Topics and Important Reminders**

- **Valerie** noted that the next CSC meeting was on September 26<sup>th</sup> at Resurrection Church where South Coast AQMD will have a "show and tell" for the new stationary NO<sub>2</sub> air monitor.
- **Valerie** proposed an update to the CSC roster, with replacing the primary CSC representative for ASM Santiago's Office with the alternate. She also proposed that Marisa Blackshire, currently the alternate, to become the primary CSC representative for BNSF.
- **Valerie** announced future South Coast AQMD meetings, including the Facility-Based Mobile Source Measure Warehouse Working Group Meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am and the Governing Board Meeting on September 6<sup>th</sup> at 9 am.
- **Evangelina Barrera (South Coast AQMD)** made an announcement about the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Justice Conference in Los Angeles on Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.

- **Public Comments**

- **Chris Chavez (Coalition for Clean Air; WCWLB CSC Member)** shared his comments on the CERP, requesting itemized emission reduction programs, along with a community interest on health concerns. He stated that the targets in the CERP should be quantified and tied to future rulemaking and needed to be periodically updated to inform the CSC on future rules. He also mentioned that indirect source rules target magnets of pollution and should have the strongest rules to protect communities and assure Best Available Retrofit Control Technology. Lastly, he believes that incentives alone are not enough.
- **Harvey Eder (Public Solar Coalition)** mentioned that since 1985, his efforts dealing

with air pollution and climate change have been expressed at many South Coast AQMD meetings. He stated that that emission reductions of 40-50 tons reduction per day need to be integrated into the plan. He also mentioned his belief that building natural gas-based infrastructure in Santa Monica was pushing the wrong technology.

- **Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm**