



Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Initiatives

East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce Community Steering Committee Meeting #2

Thursday, January 24, 2019 — 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
East Los Angeles Service Center
133 N. Sunol Drive Los Angeles, CA 90063

Time	Item	Presenter	Why is this important?
5:45 pm	Doors open Poster session – Monitoring Technologies		
6:00 pm	Welcoming Remarks, and Meeting Expectations – 5 min	Anna Araujo <i>(ELA Resident, Cohost)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set expectations for this meeting
6:05 pm	Meeting Overview, Air Quality Concerns and Community Boundaries, continued committee discussion and input – 60 min	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i> Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested by CSC members • Help us understand this community's air quality concerns, and start thinking of which concerns can be addressed through AB 617 • Provide input on community boundaries, which will help guide technical analysis and prioritization of air quality concerns in this community
7:05 pm	Public Comment on Community Boundaries – 5 min		
7:10 pm	STRETCH BREAK - 5 min		
7:15 pm	Community Air Monitoring and committee Q&A – 30 min	Andrea Polidori <i>(Atmospheric Measurements Manager, Science & Technology Advancement)</i> Committee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested by CSC members • Provide ideas for what monitoring we may want to do through AB 617
7:45 pm	CSC Charter and Next Steps – 5 min	Jo Kay Ghosh <i>(Health Effects Officer, Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask committee to sign charter • Preview of next steps, next meeting topics
7:50 pm	Public Comment – 10 min		
8:00 pm	Adjourn		



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Affiliation	Representative (Primary ¹ , Secondary ²)	Participant in the Committee Meeting Discussion
Category: Agency, school, university, hospital		
City of Los Angeles – Department of City Planning	Priya Medendale ¹ , Jason Douglas ²	
City of Commerce	Oralia Rebollo ¹ , Michelle Keshishian ²	Oralia Rebollo
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Cristin Mondy ¹ , Tiffany Romo ²	<u>Cristy Mondy</u>
Los Angeles County Planning Department	Norman Ornelas ¹ , Soyeon Choi ²	<u>Norman Ornelas</u>
USC	Wendy Gutschow	Wendy Gutschow
AltaMed Health Services	Bernice Nunez Constant	Bernice Nunez Constant
White Memorial Medical Center	Brian Johnston	Brian Johnston
Category: Elected Officials		
Asm. Cristina Garcia - District 58	Evelyn Nuño	Evelyn Nuño
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 ¹ , Elizabeth Andalon ²	Joseph Martinez
Category: Business representative, business organization or labor organization		
Railroads – BNSF	Trini Jimenez ¹ , Marisa Blackshire ²	Trini Jimenez
Labor - SEIU 721	Maribel Castillon ¹ , Griselda Mariscal ²	Maribel Castillon
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce	Kendal Asuncion ¹ , Olivia Lee ²	Kendal Asuncion
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce	Jennifer Lahoda	Jennifer Lahoda
Category: Community organization		
East LA Rising	Anna Araujo	Anna Araujo
Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church - ELA	H. Jose Garcia ¹ , Luis Reyes ²	H. Jose Garcia
Mothers of ELA	Teresa Marquez	Teresa Marquez
Resurrection Church	Father John Moretta	
EYCEJ	Cindy Donis	Cindy Donis
COFEM	Anabella Bastida	Anabella Bastida
Legacy LA	Jacky Rodriguez	Jacky Rodriguez
Category: Active residents (not representing a community organization or a business)		
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Veronica Polanco	Veronica Polanco
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Nadine Diaz	
Active Resident - Boyle Heights	Terry Cano ¹ , Joe Gonzalez ²	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 ¹ , Carina Sanchez ²	Rudy Perez
Active Resident - East Los Angeles	mark! Lopez	mark! Lopez
Active Resident - West Commerce	Jennifer Reyes	Jennifer Reyes
Active Resident - West Commerce	Paulina Becerra	
Active Resident - West Commerce	Johncito Peraza	

* Joe Gonzalez is the alternate for Terry Cano. These two residents live in the same household and only one is allowed to represent their household as a CSC member. They were both present at the table during the first half of the meeting, at which point South Coast AQMD staff requested that only one of them sit as the representative. However, both continued to sit at the table throughout the meeting.

Meeting Summary: During CSC Meeting #2, a summary of air quality concerns and community boundaries were discussed. Information on air monitoring, and ideas for air monitoring through AB 617 were shared with the committee.

1. **Welcoming Remarks and Meeting Expectations** – Anna Araujo (East LA Rising, ELA Resident and Co-host)
 - a. Anna welcomed community participants and reviewed meeting roles and expectations, and objectives for Meeting #2.
2. **Meeting Overview, Air Quality Concerns and Community Boundaries, Continued Committee Discussion and Input** – Jo Kay Ghosh (South Coast AQMD) and Anna Araujo
 - a. Jo Kay provided a brief review of how MATES IV, CalEnviroScreen 3.0, community nominations, and information about proximity of schools to industrial land use and freeways were used to identify the Year 1 communities for AB 617. Anna described the impacted community boundary and emission study boundary definitions. Jo Kay then summarized the results of the air quality concerns mapping exercise from Meeting #1 and then moved into a discussion of the updated boundary lines.
 - b. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) requested to change the impacted boundary line (blue line) at Garfield Ave. up to Olympic Blvd. This will include many auto body shops, a church, and residential area. He requested that the north side of Montebello Park area be included in the impacted boundary (blue line).
 - c. Evelyn Nuño (Asm. Cristina Garcia – District 58) asked for clarification on the distinction between the two boundary lines.
 - i. Jo Kay explained that the emission study boundary (pink line) will be used for the technical analysis of air pollution sources that is required as part of AB 617. The area within the impacted community boundary (blue line) is primarily where people live and work, but can also include air pollution sources. The emission study boundary (pink line) will be used to capture the sources that affect those within the impacted community boundary (blue line).
 - d. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) commented that previously identified air quality concerns are not indicated on the community map of concerns.
 - i. Jo Kay responded that South Coast AQMD is not solely relying on the community concern map to identify the pollution sources and sensitive

receptors, many different maps and agency data will be used. She further commented that there will be another opportunity during prioritization of sources to make those concerns known. Community members can also email staff with information on other points of concern.

- e. Terry Cano (Boyle Heights resident) requested clarification on why one census tract in the middle of the East Los Angeles Community is not included in the CalEnviroScreen slide. She also brought attention to the increase in marijuana growing facilities and the odors they produce. She identified a facility in Boyle Heights with a very bothersome odor.
 - i. Jo Kay remarked that the particular census tract may not have been in the top 25% “disadvantaged” communities according to CalEnviroScreen, but that it is still included in the impacted community boundary for the East Los Angeles Community.
- f. Oralia Rebollo (City of Commerce) remarked that there is a lot of truck traffic on Olympic Blvd.
- g. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) asked how he can suggest more points of concern.
 - i. Jo Kay responded that he can print out a map, identify the locations and email it to the AB 617 team or list the addresses for the point of concern and email them.
- h. Teresa Marquez (Mothers of East LA) commented that in Boyle Heights, on Cesar Chavez Ave. (between Evergreen Ave. and Matthew) there are a lot of auto body shops.
 - i. Jo Kay responded that those concerns can be added.
- i. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) commented that possibly one page of listed concerns from the community mapping exercise may be missing from the map.
 - i. Jo Kay responded that we will double check for any missed pages.

3. Public Comment on Community Boundaries

- a. There were no public comments on the Community Boundaries.

4. Community Air Monitoring and Committee Q & A – Andrea Polidori (South Coast AQMD)

- a. Andrea discussed the purposes of air monitoring, and noted some challenges of monitoring air pollution in areas where there are many air pollution sources. He discussed the types of monitoring that are currently being done in East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, and West Commerce, and also the benefits and limitations of the different types of air monitoring that can be implemented in AB 617 communities.
- b. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) commented that many people opposed AB 617 even before it was approved. The biggest concern was that instead of advancing what is already known about pollutants, the bill requires monitoring of already known concerns and does not implement measures to address these already known concerns. He said the passing of the bill is a distraction and a waste of resources. He further commented that we are creating a facade of the process. He said we already know what the issues are and what the solutions are. He said he has heard from the South Coast AQMD that the solutions are not politically feasible, and asked when policy changes can be discussed.

- i. Andrea responded that the South Coast AQMD has done a lot of technology demonstrations, and from our past experience, having more data is really beneficial. For example, some of the regulations South Coast AQMD has developed were the result of data generated from mobile monitoring, such as the refinery rule. He added the rule development process may be long, but it is effective and monitoring data can support that process.
 - ii. Jo Kay commented because there are a lot of items that need to be presented at these meetings, we are trying to present different topics at each meeting. Today's meeting included a focus on air monitoring, which is part of the AB 617 statute. The statute also specifies the development of emission reduction plans, which have a later due date compared to the air monitoring plans. She noted that, as a committee, we will be working on these plans in parallel. Jo Kay emphasized that we are motivated to make progress in improving community air quality through this program, and we need a lot of tools in our tool box. Monitoring may help in some areas and is an important tool, but where we have existing information available, we may not need to do monitoring.
- c. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) commented that the slide showing the map of sensor deployments is not within the East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, and West Commerce community. He commented that there is a lot of traffic and industrial sources in this area of concern. He mentioned that efforts to reduce emissions need to be a cross-agency effort. He suggested a partnership with LA County, who is working on Measure W. He mentioned that PM10 is getting into waterways and should be tackled as a multi-agency effort.
- d. Anabella Bastida (COFEM) said she is thankful for AB 617 and the opportunity to learn about these environmental issues. She feels blessed to be in this space. She mentioned that her mom had lived next to a freeway and passed away from cancer. She commented that the committee has an amazing opportunity to contribute to this program.
- e. Teresa Marquez (Mothers of East LA) commented that placement of monitors maybe a result of someone reporting an issue. She noted that while the freeways may cause a lot of pollution, there are other air pollution issues. She questioned if the South Coast AQMD is listening to the calls from the public. For example, she and others called to report a building at Roosevelt High School with asbestos that was being demolished, but nobody responded to the calls. She expressed doubt that anything will happen from this meeting. She commented that Soto and 8th street is highly contaminated, and that the agency hasn't done anything except put up monitors. She asked what capabilities the committee is going to have to reduce emissions.
 - i. Terrence Mann (South Coast AQMD) introduced himself as the Assistant Deputy of Compliance and Enforcement, and explained that the compliance inspectors report to him. He said that South Coast AQMD has been responsive to the issue at Roosevelt High School. He also noted that this is an ongoing investigation, and therefore the underlying facts are confidential. He also added that he would like to hear more information about the concerns with South Coast AQMD's

response to public phone calls. He noted that South Coast AQMD staff respond to most complaints within two hours. Terrence offered to discuss the issue one-on-one after the meeting.

- f. Terry Cano (Boyle Heights resident) asked if sensor locations are already set, and if not if the members of the committee have a say. She would like a discussion about types of monitoring appropriate for the issues of concern. She commented that the community has had a bad experience with South Coast AQMD after the Exide issue, but that she wants to know how this committee can affect change. She wants serious enforcement and closure of these facilities. She commented that during the Exide issue the South Coast AQMD database was not shared with DTSC.
 - i. Andrea responded that South Coast AQMD has 400 sensors throughout the state through the US EPA STAR Grant, and that sensors are a good educational tool. With respect to AB 617, he emphasized that we will take input from the community. When the committee identifies a priority area the South Coast AQMD will use instrumentation appropriate for the pollutant and type of source.
 - ii. Jason Low (South Coast AQMD) responded that monitoring is a tool, sensors are a tool, but for some areas sensors are not able to pick up the pollutants of concern, like metals monitoring. In the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) there will more discussion on the types of monitoring tools. He commented that the South Coast AQMD has evolved since the Exide issue. An example is the work that South Coast AQMD did in the City of Paramount, where the South Coast AQMD discovered high levels of hexavalent chromium through monitoring. The response included enforcement action, cross-agency collaboration, public outreach and rule development.
 - g. Rudy Perez (East Los Angeles resident) asked if South Coast AQMD is aware of potential future offenders with new city development. He asked if mobile monitoring is announced to businesses prior to arrival, since this can alter business behavior. He further asked if there is an example of a similar process happening elsewhere that this committee can learn from.
 - i. Jason Low (South Coast AQMD) responded that in the City of Paramount we had a pilot program where we worked with the city to give us information about upcoming businesses and developments. He said South Coast AQMD does not have the direct power to affect land use decisions but South Coast AQMD can work with other agencies.
 - ii. Andrea responded that South Coast AQMD has used mobile platforms in other areas and have identified pollution hot spots. For example in Signal Hill, South Coast AQMD used mobile platforms and identified a leaky tank, which the facility then fixed in days. He noted that it's important to take advantage of the potential from mobile monitoring.
5. **CSC Charter and Next Steps** – Jo Kay Ghosh (South Coast AQMD)
- a. Jo Kay commented that there were only a few changes made to the charter and that committee members should sign and submit the charter either in hard copy today or

through the online link. She also requested that members submit their biographies ASAP.

- b. Community Tour, including Facility Tour(s)
 - i. Jo Kay asked if there were any suggestions or volunteers for a tour.
 - i. Jennifer Lahoda (Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce) volunteered to help with the tour.
 - ii. mark! Lopez (East Los Angeles resident) volunteered to help with the tour.
 - iii. Cindy Donis (EYCEJ) volunteered to help with the tour.
- c. Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
 - i. Jo Kay commented that the first TAG meeting will be February 27th, 2019 in Diamond Bar at South Coast AQMD headquarters and that the TAG group should decide who will represent this community in the TAG.
 - ii. Kendal Asuncion (Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce) asked how the TAG is going to choose its members and what are the requirements to be on the TAG.
 - 1. Jo Kay responded that the TAG will look at different types of monitoring and their benefits, as well as discuss air pollution modelling and emission inventory. The meetings will be a technical discussion and although there are no specific requirements, members should be able to follow along in the technical discussion. As for selection of members, Jo Kay responded that South Coast AQMD asked volunteers to decide amongst themselves.
- d. Rafael Yanez (East Los Angeles resident) asked if the committee will be looking at already existing data. He asked where CARB's presence is in all of this, since they have jurisdiction over mobile sources. He commented that it is important to have a representative from CARB that is actively participating in the process.
 - i. Jo Kay commented that there is a CARB representative here, but that they are present in the observer capacity. She further commented that CARB will be a part of strategizing. Jo Kay also responded that South Coast AQMD will be presenting more information on the emission data in the future.
 - ii. Liliana Nunez (CARB) introduced herself and responded that the blue print for AB 617 is a good resource to look at and that she can answer specific questions in person after the meeting.

6. Public Comment

- a. Martha Jimenez remarked that she sits on the advisory council of Exide. She requested that the Terrace area, the area near California State University Los Angeles, be incorporated into the boundaries. She would like the committee to work with UC Irvine (UCI), and suggested the UCI professors who went to Mexico to conduct studies on air pollution and propose mitigations. She asked what mitigation efforts will be included in this process. She further commented that Raul Reyes, a California State University, Northridge professor, documented trash companies dumping waste in the area, and that his work should be looked at. Finally she asked how the Adelante Redevelopment Project is this going to impact this company.

- b. Harvey Eder represents the Public Solar Power Coalition. His family is from this area. He said he was exposed to asbestos and he has sued the agency. He further commented there are a lot health issues from PM from trucks and that they haven't quantified the effect from natural gas used in trucks. He emphasized the need to switch to solar energy.
- c. Miguel Avida asked if the community should just focus on stationary sources since South Coast AQMD has limited authority on mobile sources.
 - i. Jo Kay commented that although South Coast AQMD has limited authority over mobile sources the agency does a lot of work on mobile sources, including clean technology and some rule development, as well as addressing exposure reduction for nearby sensitive receptors.