

Community-Identified Project Approval Notice

Green Spaces Project Plan

Air District: South Coast Air Quality Management District

Community: Southeast Los Angeles

Community Emissions Reduction Program Measure:

Chapter 5d of the SELA CERP includes:

- **Action A:** Collaborate with land-use, state, and local agencies (e.g., Public Works, Parks and Recreation), non-profit organizations, and the CSC to develop a list of low-volatile organic compound (low-VOC) and drought tolerant trees.
- **Action B:** Evaluate opportunities to use future settlement funds to support community green space projects (e.g., bikeways, river paths, transit corridors).
- **Action C:** Collaborate with nonprofits, local, and regional agencies to provide letters of support and air quality information for urban greening funding opportunities, including maintenance. Collaborate with nonprofits, local, and regional agencies to identify potential metrics to measure progress in increasing tree canopy in SELA.
- **Action D:** Work with CSC, state, and local agencies to identify and prioritize locations for installing vegetative buffers near freeways, particularly near the I-710.

Project Plan Identifier: 2023-09CIP-SC

Project Type: Mitigation Strategy

Project Plan Completion Date: December 27, 2023

CARB Action (Date): Approved; January 4, 2024

CARB Modification Action (Date): Not Applicable

Project Description: This plan allocates \$2.5M for urban greening projects to reduce exposure to air pollutants such as ground-level ozone, nitrous oxides (NO_x), and particulate matter (PM).

Project Benefits: In addition to reducing exposure to ozone, NO_x, and PM, the increase of green spaces can benefit the community by enhancing community members' access to recreational opportunities. Residents living near or having access to green spaces and related infrastructure, such as bike and walking paths, may feel encouraged to participate in physical activities. This, in turn, can lead to improved physical health, decreased levels of depression and anxiety, and enhanced cognitive function. Moreover, green spaces can provide shade to buildings and sidewalks, consequently reducing the need for air conditioning. They may also encourage more active forms of transportation, such as walking or biking, thereby indirectly reducing passenger vehicle use and emissions.