

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 2, 2015

AGENDA NO. 17

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights August 2015 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: an Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings, Business Assistance, and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Government.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
Receive and file.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.
Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:dm

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for August 2015. The report includes four major areas: Environmental Justice Update; Community Events/Public Meetings (including the Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services, Communications Center, and Public Information Center); Business Assistance; and Outreach to Business and Federal, State and Local Governments.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE

The following are key environmental justice-related activities in which SCAQMD staff participated during the month of August. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

August 4

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Riverside County Community Health Workshop in Jurupa Valley and provided a timeline of upcoming community meeting dates for the 2016 Air Quality Management Plan.

August 19

- Staff attended the Inland Action Empire Asthma Coalition meeting in Colton and participated in the discussion related to school readiness as well as provided information about the upcoming National Drive Electric events.

August 20

- Staff worked with the Department of Toxic Substances Control to organize and implement the logistics for the Exide Technologies Advisory Group meeting in Huntington Park. Staff participation included: coordination with the City of Huntington Park, and organizing translation and audio visual services. Additionally, staff assisted community members throughout the meeting and helped with logistical issues.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that SCAQMD sponsors either alone or in partnership with others. Attendees typically receive the following information:

- Tips on reducing their exposure to smog and its health effects;
- Clean air technologies and their deployment;
- Invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events;
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD's rule and policy development; and
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates at the following events:

August 8

- 41st Assembly District 16th Annual Community Block Party and Resource Fair, Pasadena

August 16

- Regalettes Annual "A White Linen Affair" Event, Skirball Cultural Center, Los Angeles

August 22

- American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Rialto Middle School

August 26

- 6th Annual Women in Green Forum, Los Angeles

August 29

- 2015 Rhythm and Joy Festival, Warner Center Park, Woodland Hills
- 62nd Assembly District Back to School Wellness and Health Fair, Oakwood Park, Venice
- 22nd Annual City of Glendale Cruise Night

SPEAKERS BUREAU/VISITOR SERVICES

SCAQMD regularly receives requests for staff to speak on air quality-related issues from a wide variety of organizations, such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, community-based groups, schools, hospitals and health-based organizations. SCAQMD also hosts visitors from around the world who meet with staff on a wide range of air quality issues.

August 12

- Two representatives from the National Weather Service visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency and air quality, toured SCAQMD’s laboratory, and viewed SCAQMD’s clean alternative fuel vehicles.

August 21

- Thirteen attendees from a Workshop for Chinese Air Regulators, hosted by the UCLA Air Quality Management Training Program toured, SCAQMD’s Air Monitoring Station in Rubidoux and laboratory. SCAQMD staff also made a presentation to the group on the agency’s rules and regulations.

August 28

- Fifteen attendees from a Workshop for Chinese Air Regulators hosted by the UCLA Air Quality Management Training Program were given a tour of SCAQMD’s Air Monitoring Station in Rubidoux and laboratory. SCAQMD staff also presented to the group on the agency’s rules and regulations.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG[®] line, the Spanish line, and after hours calls to each of those lines. Calls received in the month of August 2015 were:

Calls to SCAQMD’s Main Line and 1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	3,770
Calls to SCAQMD’s Spanish-language Line	<u>84</u>
Total Calls	3,854

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month of August is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	134
<u>Calls to Automated System</u>	<u>3,770</u>
Total Calls	3,904
Visitor Transactions	241
E-Mail Advisories Sent	2,463

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

SCAQMD notifies local businesses of proposed regulations so they can participate in the agency’s rule development process. SCAQMD also works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Staff provides personalized assistance to small businesses both over the telephone and via on-site consultation. The information is summarized below:

- Conducted one free on-site consultation
- Provided permit application assistance to 145 companies
- Issued 15 clearance letters

Types of businesses assisted

Auto Body Shops	Dry Cleaners	Printing Facilities
Chemical Manufacturer	Gas Stations	Restaurants
Cabinet Manufacturer	Medical Facilities	Metal Plating Facilities
Construction	Architecture	Engineering

OUTREACH TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Field visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following cities:

Aliso Viejo	Inglewood	Murrieta
Alhambra	Industry	Palos Verdes Estates
Bell	La Habra	Rancho Palos Verdes
Buena Park	La Verne	Redondo Beach
Beaumont	Lawndale	Rolling Hills
Carson	La Cañada Flintridge	Rolling Hills Estates
Corona	Lake Elsinore	Riverside
Commerce	Lomita	Rosemead
Diamond Bar	Los Angeles	San Dimas

Duarte	Long Beach	San Jacinto
El Segundo	Maywood	South Gate
Gardena	Manhattan Beach	South Pasadena
Glendora	Menifee	Temecula
Hawthorne	Monterey Park	Torrance
Hermosa Beach	Moreno Valley	Vernon
Hemet	Montebello	Walnut
Huntington Park		

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following State and Federal Offices:

- U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
- U.S. Congressman Xavier Becerra
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Janice Hahn
- U.S. Congressman Duncan Hunter
- U.S. Congressman Brad Sherman
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- U.S. Congresswoman Mimi Walters
- State Senator Ben Allen
- State Senator Joel Anderson
- State Senator Pat Bates
- State Senator Kevin De León
- State Senator Isadore Hall
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Ricardo Lara
- State Senator Holly Mitchell
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator John Moorlach
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Jeff Stone
- Assembly Member Autumn Burke
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member David Hadley
- Assembly Member Christina Garcia
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Anthony Rendon

- Assembly Member Miguel Santiago
- Assembly Member Reginald Jones-Sawyer
- Assembly Member Don Wagner
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided updates or a presentation to the following governmental agencies and business organizations:

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
 Anaheim Chamber of Commerce
 Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
 California Air Resources Board
 Coachella Valley Association of Governments
 California Contract Cities Association
 Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Corona Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce
 Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce
 League of California Cities, Inland Empire
 Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation
 Montclair Chamber of Commerce
 Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Murrieta Chamber of Commerce
 Orange County Council of Governments
 Orange County Black Chamber of Commerce
 OmniTrans
 Regional Hispanic Chamber, Southern California
 Riverside County Transportation Commission
 Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
 San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce
 San Bernardino Associated Governments
 San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
 San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
 San Pedro Chamber of Commerce
 Silicon Valley Leadership Group
 Small Business Action Committee, Laguna Niguel
 South Bay Association Chamber of Commerce
 South Bay Area Chambers of Commerce
 South Bay Service Council
 South Bay Cities Council of Governments
 South Orange County Economic Coalition
 Southern California Association of Governments
 Temecula Chamber of Commerce

Western Riverside Council of Governments
Western Riverside Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter
- Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter
- San Gorgonio Pass Chapter, Beaumont
- Southwest Chapter, Temecula

Western States Petroleum Association
Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided updates or a presentation to the following community groups and organizations:

American Cancer Society
Barrio Planners, Los Angeles
Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council
Environmental Priorities Network, Manhattan Beach
Healthy Jurupa Valley City Group
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition
Moreno Valley Unified School District
Moreno Valley College
Mothers of East Los Angeles
One LA Board of Organizations
Resurrection Church, Los Angeles
Riverside County Department of Public Health
Riverside County Health Coalition
St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church, Maywood
Southwest Health Care System, Temecula
Temecula Valley School District
University of California, Riverside
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
University of Southern California, Los Angeles (USC)
Union de Vecinos, Los Angeles