

BOARD MEETING DATE: October 7, 2016

AGENDA NO. 17

REPORT: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the August 2016 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.

Wayne Nastri
Acting Executive Officer

DJA:MC:DM

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for August 2016. 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 staff participated during August 2016. These events involve communities which suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

August 3

- Staff met with the Lee Andrews Group to strategize on the Environmental Justice for All Conference, taking place on November 16, 2016 at the Center at Cathedral Plaza in Downtown Los Angeles. The teams discussed possible keynote speakers, panel topics, breakout group sessions, and logistics related to the execution of the event. Information from this strategy meeting was then presented to the Advisory Council for the Environmental Justice Community Partnership.

August 4

- Staff met at SCAQMD Headquarters with Comite Civico del Valle (CCV), to discuss environmental justice in the Coachella Valley. CCV summarized the most pressing air quality issues affecting Coachella Valley, and inquired how SCAQMD might be able to help with technical assistance and funding for air quality monitors. SCAQMD staff agreed to be part of their advisory committee to provide insight on technical issues.

August 16

- Staff met with a SoCalGas representative to discuss recent lessons learned and best practices in environmental justice, community outreach, and stakeholder relations.

August 24

- Staff met with Oakview ComUNIDAD Group, Delhi Center, Unit HERE Local 11, and Orange County Communities Organized for Responsible Development to discuss the Orange County workshop for the Environmental Justice Community Partnership. The group discussed proposed workshop formats, awardees, logistics, and outreach strategies. The event will take place in Huntington Beach.

COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each year SCAQMD staff engage with thousands of residents, providing valuable information about the agency, incentive programs, and ways individuals can help reduce air pollution through events and meetings sponsored solely by SCAQMD or in partnership with others. Attendees typically receive the following information:

- Tips on reducing their exposure to air pollution and its health effects;
- Clean air technologies and their deployment;
- Invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events;
- SCAQMD incentive programs;
- 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 6

- SCAQMD Hearing Board Meeting related to SoCalGas Aliso Canyon Storage Facility, Plaza de Sol Concert Hall, Northridge
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August 10

- City of Calabasas Fast Charger Electric Vehicle Event, Calabasas City Hall

August 16

- SCAQMD Paramount Town Hall Meeting, Paramount Community Center

August 18

- SCAQMD Town Hall Meeting related to Sunshine Canyon, Van Gogh Charter School, Granada Hills

August 20

- Eastside Sol Festival Event, Mariachi Plaza, Los Angeles.

August 21

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

August 24

- SCAQMD Public Meeting on RFP Related to Penalties/Fines from ExxonMobil

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 2

- Staff provided an overview on SCAQMD, air quality, and clean alternative fuel vehicles to 35 members at the Rotary Club of Brea.

August 4

- Members of a family from Los Angeles visited SCAQMD headquarters and received an overview from staff on SCAQMD, clean alternative fuel vehicles, and a brief tour of the laboratory.

August 18

- Four officials of a Chinese delegation from Pingdon County in Taiwan visited SCAQMD’s headquarters, and received a tour of the laboratory.

August 30

- Staff provided an overview on SCAQMD, air quality, and clean alternative fuel vehicles to fifteen members at the Whittier Sunrise Rotary Club.

COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

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

Calls to SCAQMD's Main Line and 1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	4,035
Calls to SCAQMD's Spanish-language Line	<u>53</u>
Total Calls	4,088

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	131
<u>Calls to Automated System</u>	<u>1568</u>
Total Calls	1,699
Visitor Transactions	259
E-Mail Advisories Sent	2839

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:

- Provided permit application assistance to 161 companies
- Provided assistance in filing 1 request for variance
- Conducted 4 free on-site consultations
- Issued 23 clearance letters

Types of businesses assisted

Auto Body Shops	Dry Cleaners	Furniture Refinishing Facilities
Engineering Firm	Gas Stations	Auto Repair Centers
Construction Firm	Restaurants	Printing Facilities
Architecture Firm	Breweries	Manufacturing Facilities
		Plating Facilities

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:

Artesia	Hemet	Rosemead
Azusa	Industry	Riverside
Brea	Jurupa Valley	Rolling Hills
Burbank	Los Angeles	San Jacinto
Calabasas	Lake Elsinore	Santa Clarita
Cerritos	La Puente	Signal Hill
Chino	Maywood	South El Monte
Chino Hills	Menifee	South Gate
Claremont	Monrovia	South Pasadena
Corona	Moreno Valley	Temecula
Commerce	Murrieta	Vernon
Diamond Bar	Norco	Walnut
Duarte	Ontario	West Hollywood
Fontana	Paramount	Westlake Village
Glendora	Rancho Cucamonga	Wildomar

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following state and federal offices:

- U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
- U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
- U.S. Congressman Xavier Becerra
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congressman Tony Cardenas
- U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu
- U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano
- U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
- U.S. Congressman Ed Royce
- U.S. Congressman Brad Sherman
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano
- California Secretary of State Alex Padilla
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Robert Hertzberg
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Ricardo Lara
- Assembly Member Scott Wilk
- State Senator Mike Morrell
- State Senator Fran Pavley
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Jeff Stone
- Assembly Member Ling Ling Chang
- Assembly Member Ian Calderon
- Assembly Member Jimmy Gomez
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Miguel Santiago
- Assembly Member Marie Waldron

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

Bear Valley Chamber of Commerce
California Air Resources Board
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
California Contract Cities Association
Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
Corona Chamber of Commerce
Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce
Hemet/San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce
Lake Arrowhead Communities Chamber of Commerce
League of California Cities, Los Angeles Division
Los Angeles Police Department
Los Angeles County Unified School District
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
North Orange County Legislative Alliance
Omnitrans
Orange County Business Council (OCBC)
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Riverside County Library System
Riverside County Transportation Commission
Riverside County Transportation Department
Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)
Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
Riverside County Code Enforcement
Riverside County Regional Park and Open Space District
San Bernardino County
San Bernardino Associated Governments
San Fernando Valley Council of Governments
Southern California Gas Company
Southwest California Legislative Council
Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG)

- WRCOG Clean Cities Coalition

Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter
- Southwest Chapter

Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce

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

American Lung Association in California, Inland Empire
Building Healthy Communities Group, Long Beach
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Coachella Valley Environmental Task Force
Coachella Valley Water District
Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Center District
Earthjustice, Los Angeles
El Oro Way Charter Elementary School, Granada Hills
Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council
Healthy Jurupa Valley
Healthy Fontana
Inland Empire Asthma Coalition
LA Unión Hace La Fuerza
Los Angeles Unified School District
Loma Linda University
Moreno Valley Unified School District
Moreno Valley College
Pasadena Sierra Club
Riverside City College
Riverside County Health Coalition
Robert Frost Middle School, Granada Hills
San Antonio Regional Hospital
San Bernardino County Healthy Communities
Sunshine Canyon Community Advisory Committee
University of California, Riverside
University of Southern California, Los Angeles
Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils, Los Angeles
Whittier Clean Air Coalition, Whittier & Avocado Heights