

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 6, 2025

AGENDA NO. 11

PROPOSAL: Recognize Revenue in FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27 into the General Budget, Appropriate Funds in FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27, Execute and/or Amend Contracts, and Issue Solicitations and Purchase Orders for Continued AB 617 Implementation

SYNOPSIS: In November 2024, the Board approved \$22,213,333 for the most recent allocation of the AB 617 implementation program funding. This action is to recognize revenue and appropriate funds up to \$6,210,300 for AB 617 years six and/or seven implementation funds, in FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27, Execute and/or Amend Contracts, and Issue Solicitations and Purchase Orders for continued AB 617 implementation.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, May 9, 2025; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Recognize revenue up to \$6,210,300 in FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27 from CARB into the General Fund; and
2. Appropriate up to \$6,210,300 from the General Fund Undesignated (Unassigned) Fund Balance (AB 617 years six and/or seven implementation funds) into the FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27 Budgets for items listed in Tables 1-3; and
3. Authorize the Executive Officer to execute and/or amend contracts, and issue solicitations and purchase orders for AB 617 implementation in accordance with South Coast AQMD Procurement Policy and Procedure for items listed in Tables 1-3.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

Background

Assembly Bill 617 was signed into state law in July 2017 and focuses on improving air quality and reducing exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants in communities most impacted by air pollution. Assembly Bill 617 recognizes the impacts that disproportionate communities experience from sources of air pollution near residences and seeks to address these impacts through community-driven actions.

This Board letter recognizes the remaining unspent balance of sixth-year allocation funding for continued implementation of the AB 617 program. Major elements of AB 617 include: accelerated BARCT rule making, community engagement, community air monitoring, community emissions reduction plans, and statewide emission reporting consistency. South Coast AQMD's portion of the statewide funding for the seventh-year allocation of the AB 617 implementation program is \$22,213,333.

Proposal

Staff is seeking Board approval to recognize revenue, appropriate funds, purchase capital outlays and execute and/or amend contracts as listed in Table 1 and Table 2 and procure related services and supplies listed in Table 3 to support work required under AB 617.

Sole-Source Justification

Section VIII.B.2 of the Procurement Policy and Procedure identifies four major provisions under which a sole-source award may be justified. The request for the sole-source purchase of an Optical Remote Sensing Mobile Laboratory (ORS-ML) from FluxSense, Inc., and an X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) Standards from Sailbri Cooper, Inc. are made under Sections VIII.B.2.c (1): The unique experience and capabilities of the proposed contractor; VIII.B.2.c (2): The project involves the use of proprietary technology; and VIII.B.2.d (6): Projects requiring compatibility with existing specialized equipment. There are no other vendors who can provide this equipment, supplies and software meeting all required specifications and that are compatible with existing specialized equipment already in operation.

Section VIII.B.2 of the Procurement Policy and Procedure identifies a major provision under which a sole-source award may be justified: The request for sole source contracts for the three South Los Angeles Co-Leads listed in Table 2; Castillo Consulting Partners; and VMA Communications are made under Sections VIII.B.2.c (1): The unique experience and capabilities of the proposed contractor.

As part of our commitment to effectively implement AB 617 and ensure the successful development and implementation of CERPs with co-leads for the South Los Angeles CSC, South Coast AQMD has selected the following community local partners: Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles, Watts Clean Air and Energy Committee (WCAEC), and Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education

(SCOPE - LA). Their unique expertise, deep-rooted connections in the South Los Angeles community, and contextual understanding and lived experiences possessed by these contractors are ideal for AB 617 co-leadership collaboration for the South Los Angeles Community Steering Committee. These selected community partners have an established history of active engagement and collaboration within the communities affected by air quality issues. Their direct interactions and relationships with community members provide insight into local community concerns and air quality priorities, in which they have been primarily selected as the Community Co-Lead for the South LA CSC.

The SLA Community Co-Lead selected Castillo Consulting Partners after deliberation of four community facilitators. Castillo Consulting Partners demonstrated the capacity to conduct and facilitate CSC meetings and Co-lead planning meetings. Their ability to navigate cultural and local nuances, languages and sensitivities ensure that CSC engagement efforts are respectful, inclusive, and effective.

VMA Communications was selected as a third-party facilitator to lead the Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV) CSC Meeting. The facilitator's unique skill set, experience with the ECV CSC, and established rapport with community projects. The third-party facilitator brings a neutral, unbiased perspective that fosters a more collaborative environment in both English and Spanish languages.

Benefits to South Coast AQMD

These actions will continue to support South Coast AQMD efforts to fulfill the legislative directives of AB 617, which will result in benefits to disproportionately impacted communities and to the entire region.

Resource Impacts

South Coast AQMD receives funding annually from CARB's Air Protection Program under the AB 617 implementation grant. This funding will provide resources for the ongoing implementation of South Coast AQMD's AB 617 program.

Table 1
FY 2024-25, FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27 Proposed Capital Outlay/Intangible Asset
Expenditures for AB 617
(Capital Outlays Major Object)

Description	Org Unit	Estimated Amount*	Contracting Method
Optical Remote Sensing Mobile Laboratory (ORS-ML) (FluxSense, Inc.)	MAD	\$1,500,000	Sole-Source
Replacement Parts for Current ORS-ML Platform	MAD	\$75,000	RFQ/RFP
Replacement Parts for Current Proton Transfer Reaction-Time of Flight (PTR-TOF) Platform	MAD	\$50,000	RFQ/RFP
Replacement Parts for Current “Diesel PM” Mobile Platform	MAD	\$20,000	RFQ/RFP
Replacement Parts for Current Multi-Metals Mobile Platform (MMMP)	MAD	\$50,000	RFQ/RFP
Battery Conversion for Current PTR-TOF Platform	MAD	\$75,000	RFQ
X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) Standards (Sailbri Cooper, Inc.)	MAD	\$25,000	Sole-Source
Continuous Total Volatile Organic Compound (TVOC) Monitor	MAD	\$40,000	RFQ
Zero Air Generator and Calibrator for Audits	MAD	\$45,000	“Prior Bid, Last Price” or RFQ
AER Webtool	PRDI	\$1,540,000	IM Pre-approved Contractor
TOTAL		\$3,420,000	

*Note: Expenditures may be appropriated in the Services & Supplies Major Object as warranted.

Table 2
FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2026-27 Proposed Contracts/Contract
Amendments for AB 617
(Services & Supplies Major Object)

Contractor	Description	Org Unit	Estimated Amount*	Contracting Method
PSR-LA.	Community Co-Lead Contract for CERP Implementation Tasks for SLA	CEAP	\$140,000	Sole-Source
Watts Clean Air	Community Co-Lead Contract for CERP Implementation Tasks for SLA	CEAP	\$126,000	Sole-Source
SCOPE LA	Community Co-Lead Contract for CERP Implementation Tasks for SLA	CEAP	\$99,000	Sole-Source
VMA Communications	Facilitator for ECV CSC Meetings	CEAP	\$50,000	Sole-Source
Castillo Consulting Partners	Facilitator for SLA Community Co-Lead and CSC Meetings	CEAP	\$99,000	Sole-Source
TBD	Contracts CERP Implementation Projects (i.e. health effects studies, videographer, thought partnerships, potential co-leads, CERP actions to be funded other than CAPP Incentives including, truck traffic studies, program evaluation/studies, etc.)	CEAP	\$500,000	RFP/Sole-Source
TBD	Includes: Document Translation, Interpretation Services, Outreach Materials	CEAP	\$200,000	RFP/Sole-Source
TOTAL			\$1,214,000	

*Note: Expenditures may be appropriated in the Capital Outlays Major Object as warranted.

Table 3
FY 2025-26 and/or FY 2025-26 Proposed Other Services and Supplies
Expenditures for AB 617
(Services & Supplies Major Object)

Description	Org Unit	Account	Estimated Amount
Includes: Rents, Maintenance of Equipment, Utilities, Office Supplies, Travel, Training, Temporary Staff, Lab Supplies, Small Tools, Communications, Rents and Leases, etc.	MAD	Various	700,000
Data Platform (Development/Maintenance/Storage)	MAD	Various	\$350,000
Phones, Office Expenses, Equipment, and Professional Development	CEAP	Various	\$30,400
Meeting Coordination and Services, such as Venues, Audio/Visual Services, and Refreshments	CEAP	Various	\$211,400
Includes: Community Outreach Mileage and Travel	CEAP	Various	\$120,000
Stipends, CSC Member Facilitator	CEAP	Various	\$144,500
Public Noticing, Postage, Advertising	CEAP	Various	\$20,000
Total			\$1,576,300