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August 27, 2019

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District  
1990 E. Gettysburg Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93716  
Attn: AB617


Dear Selection Committee,

Kern County Public Works (KCPW) is pleased to support the nomination of community residents in the Arvin/Lamont South Kern Region as an AB 617 community. KCPW has been working diligently with the local leadership to address environmental justice concerns, particularly through transportation modes that affect disadvantaged communities in Kern County.

The Arvin/Lamont South Kern Region is at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley at the base of the Tehachapi mountain range, which effectively traps air pollution causing serious local air quality conditions. KCPW is committed to improving public health and safety by constructing infrastructure improvements that reduce air pollution to help the region meet clean air mandates. KCPW is willing to partner with the community to identify opportunities to reduce fugitive dust and vehicle miles traveled by paving unpaved roadways, constructing new sidewalks, increasing street sweeping, and improving public fleet vehicles.

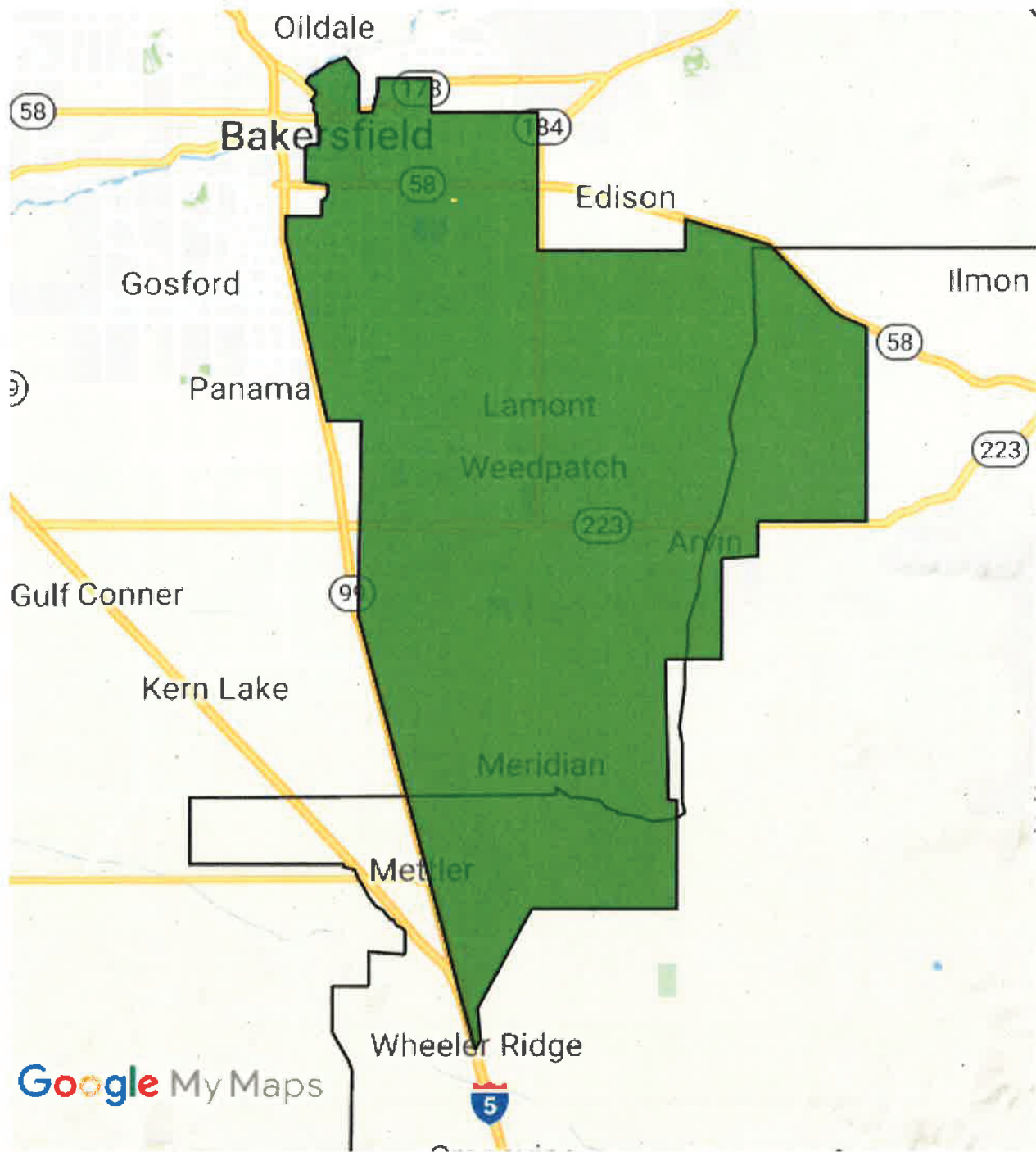
Over the last 10 years, this Department has completed over 80 air quality projects to improve the quality of life of our residents. Due to the vast size of the County and competitive nature of the grants, only 10 of those projects were located specifically in the Arvin/Lamont South Kern Region. The successful partnership with an AB 617 community would allow KCPW to focus improvements per Goal/Objective 6 within this SJVAPCD Environmental Justice community to enhance the effectiveness of emission reduction incentives for bicycle lanes and infrastructure.

KCPW is excited for the opportunity to progress our partnerships with the Air District and community to strategize effective reductions in fugitive dust that will improve air quality in our Valley and move toward attainment of state and federal air quality standards.

Sincerely,  


Craig M. Pope  
Public Works Director

**San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District  
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAP**



**Goal/Objective 6:** Work with the District to enhance the effectiveness of emission reduction incentive programs in EJ communities in San Joaquin Valley.

Bicycle lanes and infrastructure	EJAG Members	On-going	Assist in conducting outreach in disadvantaged communities for projects that promote bicycle use
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