

South Central Fresno Community Steering Committee - Meeting #15

October 23, 2019, 5:30 p.m.

Vang Pao Elementary School

1. Doors Open/Meet and Greet/Refreshments

View air monitoring van and equipment

Brad Dawson, Valley Air District, Supervising Air Quality Instrument Specialist

2. Welcome and Introductions

Christal Love Lazard, Facilitator from Institute for Local Government

Christal facilitated, reviewed agenda and set goals for meeting

3. Community Air Monitoring Program

Jessica Olsen, Program Manager and John Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Planning

Jessica Olsen explained the plan for deployment of monitoring within community in stages. She further explained how locations were determined and obtained. Monitoring has already begun. There are eight locations that monitors will be installed, not including air monitoring van.

Jon Klassen explained the data that had been collected at various sites and how van is used to monitor near specific pollution sources throughout South Central Fresno boundaries.

Following the presentations by Jessica and Jon on deployment and data collection, Committee members provided the following questions and comments:

- Members inquired what is considered a high level of PM 2.5. (Jon explained that 35 micrograms per cubic meter is the 24-hour national ambient air quality standard for PM 2.5).
- It was noted that a trend showed PM higher in mornings than evenings during the data collection period.
- Bitwise data should be available at AB617 website.
- Who does this data benefit?
- Data showed that more polluted areas were home to heavy industry.
- Committee members also asked for location of heaviest polluters.
- Committee members inquired how someone from the community might go about requesting monitoring to take place in other areas.

4. Update on Statewide Pesticide Measures

Presentation provided by DPR Director, Val Dolcini

Val Dolchini introduced himself as new Director, only appointed one week before the meeting, how the agency approaches pesticide control and mainly offered answers to questions from committee members.

Comments and questions by committee members:

- Which pesticides have biggest impact on Fresno? (Fresno area has some of highest pesticide use in state)
- More than one member commented that pesticide monitoring is needed in Fresno (Dolcini stated that this is in next year's budget).
- Committee members stated that Edison High School was a heavily impacted area and community needs more information and transparency. (Dolcini stated his agency is working on ways to better notify the community)
- Spanish question on who can be called to report pesticide drift. (answer is Ag Commissioner)
- Tarping fields was discussed
- Question on finding money in budget for health studies and studies on health impact to children
- Member stated that Ag Commissioner should be held accountable
- Members requested that DPR institute more non-pesticide methods be used to control pests.

5. Community Emissions Reduction Program

Adoption update and next steps – *Provided by Jessica Coria*

Jessica Coria explained the steps taken and lessons learned in completing CERP, adoption by the board, emissions expected to be reduced through CERP, and the ongoing steps necessary to achieve CERP goals.

Strategy Prioritization exercise – *Conducted by Christal Love Lazard*

Christal explained which strategies are already in place, which strategies need to be prioritized for funding, and those that still require development. The Exercise was for committee members to express their feedback on prioritizing strategies:

Following exercise, members had following comments/questions

- Several members wanted to know how to make amendments
- Members would like to see more regulation, rather than incentives.

End of meeting

7:30