

Meeting Highlights*

AB 617 South Central Fresno Community Steering Committee Meeting #19

March 11, 2020, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

FDSA Hall

1360 Van Ness, Fresno, CA 93721

Doors Open/Meet and Greet/Refreshments 5PM

Welcome and Introductions

Christal Love Lazard, Facilitator, Institute for Local Government (ILG)

Ryan Hayashi, Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer, Valley Air District

Karen Magliano, Chief of Office of Community Air Protection, CARB

Kevin Hamilton, Community Co-host

California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved the Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) on February 13, 2020.

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and community co-host thanked the Fresno Community Steering Committee (CSC) members for the tremendous amount of work that went into developing the CERP over the course of 18 meetings.

CARB is currently working on making changes to the resolution based on the directive from the Board, including:

- Adjusting the funding allocation to incorporate the trucking rerouting study;
- Conducting a rule assessment by the end of the year;
- Establishing an official collaboration with local agencies and the District via a MOU process;
- Reporting progress to CARB board in six months and hosting the next CARB meeting in Fresno;
- Advancing best practices from the *Concept Paper for the Freight Handbook*;
- Collaborating with the steering committee on the annual report to the CARB board to explain the community-led process in more details;
- Developing a reporting template for the District;
- Adding new strategies identified by the community.

Question: Is the comment period still open for the freight handbook?

Answer: It closed late Feb, but the community can send their comments to CARB.

Question: What about strategies' emission reduction targets?

Answer: Estimates will be provided for those strategies that cannot be quantified.

Question: What are the proposed changes to the process recommended by the Consultation Group?

Answer: The consultation group is looking at the next steps, including the revision of the *Community Air Protection Blueprint*, to incorporate lessons learned from the first-year community.

Question: What is the timeline for the truck study and collaborative MOUs?

Answer: Six months is the timeline to report back to CARB's Board about the progress, including updates on the items included in the resolution.

Question: What emission requirements are included in the resolution?

Answer: We took the recommendations from the staff report as well as the new Board direction included in the resolution.

Committee members thanked CARB for the excellent summary and an opportunity to sit at the table with CARB board members, District, and residents during the CARB Board meeting.

CERP Strategy Implementation Update (Regulatory, Enforcement, Incentives)

Todd DeYoung, Director of Grants and Incentives, Valley Air District

The District presented on next steps given the approval of the CERP and encouraged the committee to share contacts and locations where these programs can be implemented

Presentation highlights:

- The Fresno CSC previously went through a variety of measures to prioritize incentive related measures. Ranked order in which they would like to see these prioritized.
- *Community Air Protection Guidelines*, available on CARB's website, include a variety of traditional incentive program options for the school bus and heavy-duty truck replacement, heavy-duty alternative fuel infrastructure, railcar mover, and switcher replacement.
- School buses, truck replacement and fuel infrastructure incentives are already in progress. The remainder will need to get taken through a process with CARB executive board to create guidelines and approve the use of funds.
- CARB is currently developing guidance for approval of CERP measures not currently in CAP guidelines. The District will need to show how it will calculate emissions reductions, benefits, etc. to provide the framework for how it will spend the money.
- There is funding through AB 856 2019 State budget. The District has money to immediately start implementing certain projects. Spending deadlines require funding to be liquidated by June 2022.
- The CSC needs to recommend how to re-allocate funds initially set for locomotive replacement. The CSC can also share recommendations on how to shift program funding to provide more significant benefits to the community while meeting legislative requirements.

Question: What about incentives for personal vehicles that fail smog?

Answer: Tune In Tune Up program provides an incentive to make repairs to get back in compliance with smog regulations.

Question: Can re-allocated funds go to the truck re-routing study and electric charging infrastructure at the gas stations so that residents who often buy food at gas stations can charge their vehicles at the same time.

Answer: The District can look at these options. The District also needs more feedback from the community regarding exact locations where this infrastructure will best be served in the community.

Question: Is there another process for replacing cars that do not fail a smog check?

Answer: The District follows the existing process in accordance with CARB's approved Moyer guidelines.

Question: Should we indicate the facilities where electric chargers should be located?

Answer: Please provide suggestions to the District on potential sites and the District will look to work with the property owners so that they can apply for funds for charging infrastructure.

Question: How can we submit a six-month progress report to CARB on programs that we currently cannot move forward?

Answer: The update to CARB's Board will cover the progress made to date.

Incentives Strategy Implementation Exercise Solicit Feedback on Priority Mobile Source Incentives Measures

HD.1 (HD Trucks), HD.7 (School Buses), HD.9 (Locomotives), HD.10 (Switchers/Railcars), C.1 (Tune in Tune up)

Christal Love Lazard, Facilitator, Institute for Local Government (ILG)

The facilitator moved the Committee into four groups and invited members of the public to join a small group discussion. District staff recorded notes on the flip charts at each group.

Small groups reported out implementation suggestions:

HD.1 HD Trucks. The groups suggested to target short trip vehicles (especially garbage, delivery, utility trucks), extend incentives specifically to small businesses to replace the equipment, and start identifying fleets and fleet owners by contacting small repair shops.

- **Comment:** Some activities are already taking place in the Valley: UPS and FedEx are already committed to going electric; the CA Energy Commission has an alternative fuel project; there are incentives for the garbage trucks.

Question: What new technology does CARB enforcement division have to detect diesel emission on the highway and the Valley?

Answer: There are enforcement and screening tools to identify non-compliant vehicles at the truck stops.

Question: Can more electric vehicle charging stations be installed?

Answer: People are working on identifying needed locations.

HD.7 Schools buses. The group emphasized that not all school districts are interested in bus replacement because of infrastructure concerns and suggested considering shifting funds to infrastructure rather than bus replacement. The CSC asked to prioritize elementary schools and those with higher diesel particle emissions; asking to identify those schools and their routes. A CSC member reminded others that residents could also contact school superintendents directly.

HD.9 & HD.10 Locomotives & Switchers/Railcars. The group suggested providing CSC education about the benefits of reducing/switching locomotives and identifying switches located and operated in the AB 617 community.

- **Comment:** Moving funds to diesel equipment replacement is cost effective. We also want to keep high-speed rail funding in the Valley.

Question: How much money did the District spend last year on electric buses and how much is available to spend this year?

C1.Tune In Tune Up. The suggestions included: raising event visibility by reaching out to local car repair stores, setting up more frequent events (hosting events in West Fresno and Downtown Fresno), providing larger incentive amounts to account for high vehicle repair costs and having a contact list of ongoing outreach.

- **Comment:** There was a recommendation in the past to increase the amount for low-income residents for replacement cars because the \$9000 is not enough for the car model they need.

Question: Tune In Tune Up. The program serves about 5% of the population because the majority of cars pass the smog test. How can residents learn about replacement options for vehicles that have passed the smog but still have high pollution?

Answer: The intent of the program is to provide free repair for the vehicles that cannot pass the smog test. If there is a portion of the program that does not work, we need to understand more what happened in each case.

The District staff thanked participants for sharing their knowledge and suggestions and shared that the District would continue to share updates about implementation and monitoring at future meetings.

Community Steering Committee Participation and Resident Stipends

Location discussion. Provide update on CSC participation. Day/time change? Registration permanently open?

*Christal Love Lazard, Facilitator, Institute for Local Government (ILG)
CARB Staff*

The District staff is coordinating the CSC meeting dates with other community events to ensure that public and Committee members can attend. Currently the CSC meets on the second Wednesday of the month. Staff asked the CSC members to let the District know about dates of other important community meetings (for example, the Fresno Transformative Climate Community quarterly meetings) so that they can look at alternative dates. Meetings are held at various locations. The hope is to secure something soon. April 8 is the next potential meeting date.

- **Comment:** Suggest meeting at Sequoia Middle School.
- **Comment:** The CSC needs more diverse representation, for example, recruiting additional residents from Hmong community.

Question: What about the stipend for the Steering Committee Members?

Answer: The District is in communication with CARB to understand stipend options. CARB is working on developing stipend guidance to ensure consistency across all the AB 617 communities.

Question: What is the update on Committee membership? Are we still in compliance with having 50% of residents?

Answer: Yes, the CSC is in compliance. However, we always need more resident members. The District needs committee support to recruit more residents.

Wrap up Next Meeting: April 8, 2020, 5:30pm

Next Community Co-Host Selection

Christal Love Lazard, Facilitator, Institute for Local Government (ILG)

The District is monitoring COVID-19 updates and County announcements and will keep the committee informed about the plans for the next meeting. Thank you to CSC member Janet Gardner for volunteering to be a community co-host at the next meeting.

