

Meeting Highlights*
AB 617 South Central Fresno Community Steering Committee Meeting #22
June 8, 2020, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Zoom Virtual Meeting

Action items/reminders for the South Central Fresno Community Steering Committee (Committee):

- Continue to inform the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Valley Air District) about:
 - Locations where the Committee has observed residential burning and illegal idling;
 - Locations where the Valley Air District should focus future enforcement efforts; and
 - Construction/earthmoving sites or areas of concern.
- To file an air pollution related complaint, contact:
 - The Valley Air District: Call 1-800-870-1037; go online: <https://www.valleyair.org/complaints>
- The air monitoring updates and air quality data (including historical data) are available at:
 - Valley Air District website: <http://community.valleyair.org/selected-communities/south-central-fresno/air-monitoring/>
 - CARB website: <https://aqview.arb.ca.gov/data.html>
- Reply to the Valley Air District's email if interested in volunteering on the Truck Rerouting Subcommittee and/or the School Buses/Air Filtration Subcommittee.
- Offer the Valley Air District any suggestions for ways to move forward with the Orange Center School site, given the recent school board decision not to use the school as a monitoring site.

Action items/reminders for the Valley Air District:

- Circle back with the Committee about the reporting timeframe for the pilot training program.
- Verify that the enforcement locations of the State's heavy-duty vehicle anti-idling regulation include illegal idling locations identified by the Committee during the development of the Community Emission Reduction Program (CERP).
- Consider placing an air pollution monitoring van around the Roeding Park area.
- Follow up with the Committee members about opportunities to volunteer on two subcommittees: Truck Rerouting Subcommittee and Electric School Buses/Air Filtration.
- Share the summary of the toxic air contaminant analysis with the Committee and highlight potential data concerns.
- Identify additional opportunities for Valley Air District staff and interpreters to practice Zoom and/or the Language Line with the Spanish speaking Committee members to resolve technical difficulties and troubleshoot issues before the next Committee meeting.

- For any future presentations that include monitoring data, differentiate between data gathered pre, during, and post-COVID-19.

Welcome and Introductions

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

Hanna Stelmakhovych, Facilitator, ILG

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

Kimberly McCoy, Community Co-host

Christal welcomed the Committee members and the public and introduced the ILG team: Hanna Stelmakhovych, facilitator; Erica Manuel, executive director and co-facilitator; and Kim Danko, co-facilitator. Hanna provided Zoom and translation instructions, reminded participants about the meeting being recorded and live-streamed via social media, and went over the agenda items. Christal conducted the roll call.

Ryan welcomed participants and thanked Kimberly McCoy for working with the Valley Air District to prepare the agenda.

Kimberly welcomed everyone, expressed gratitude for their attendance and articulated her hope that the meeting agenda reflected comments received by the Committee and covered topics that were important to the Committee.

Enforcement Measures Update

Jake Felton, Director of Compliance, Valley Air District

Justin Shields, California Air Resources Board (CARB)

The Valley Air District and CARB staff led the discussion about the implementation of CERP enforcement measures and the process of filing an environmental complaint. Presentations highlights:

- The Valley Air District performs a full suite of enforcement and compliance assurance/assistance activities.
- In addition to existing inspections, surveillance and complaint responses, the Valley Air District conducted targeted surveillance and inspection within the South Central Fresno community to limit the potential for localized air quality impacts:
 - Wood burning fireplace and wood burning heaters curtailments – at least four hours of surveillance on each declared curtailment day for the next five winter seasons;
 - Illegal open burning of residential waste – at least once per quarter for the next five years;
 - Enhanced inspection frequency of permitted sources – facilities that have received an emission violation over the past three years will be inspected at least twice per calendar year for the next five years;
 - Fugitive dust from construction/earthmoving activities – at least one targeted enforcement effort during the second and the third quarter for the next five years; and
 - Enhanced enforcement of the State's heavy-duty vehicle anti-idling regulation – at least once per quarter for the next five years.

- The Valley Air District developed a pilot training program to train gas station operators on conducting more thorough self-inspections of their vapor recovery systems. While the training program has been developed, the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed providing the training.
- When reporting an air pollution complaint, residents should be as descriptive as possible, including all pertinent details about what, where, when, who, and why.
- To report a complaint, contact:
 - The Valley Air District: Call 1-800-870-1037 or go online: <https://www.valleyair.org/complaints>
 - CARB/CalEPA: Call 1-800-END-SMOG or go online: <https://calepa.ca.gov/enforcement/complaints/>
- Contact the Valley Air District if the complaint requires an immediate response.

Question: How and how often will the Valley Air District share data from the GDF pilot program with the Committee?

Answer: The Valley Air District will keep track of the training locations. The reporting timeframe is TBD.

Question: What is the post-training follow up with the gas stations on their self-inspection efforts?

Answer: The Valley Air District will continue to conduct regular inspections of all gas stations, which includes review of records of equipment inspection.

Question: On the Fireplace and Open Burning Violations map from the slides, what are the household demographics? How do the household demographics determine the marketing of replacing old fireplaces?

Answer: We do not have this information at the moment.

Comment: On the Fireplace and Open Burning Violations map from the slides, please label the icons and include dates.

Question: Are trainings and self-inspections part of 'self-certification at the local level' process?

Answer: The self-inspections are additional steps to the existing regulatory testing already mandated by the State and the Valley Air District.

Question: In the past, Committee members gave several recommendations on where to pinpoint illegal idling enforcement measures. Has the Valley Air District incorporated this information?

Answer: Yes. In the breakout sessions, please let us know where these locations are so that we can verify these sites in the upcoming investigation next quarter and include them in the ongoing investigations in the next five years.

Chat Question: Does CARB regulate forklifts? What if forklifts operate outside of a facility (on the road) and cause a lot of traffic? Who regulates that?

Chat Answer: Forklifts are mobile sources and may be subject to one of several CARB regulations (generally the large spark-ignition regulation).

Chat Answer: Here is the Large Spark Engine link for forklifts: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/large-spark-ignition-lsi-engine-fleet-requirements-regulation/about>. Generally, CARB regulates forklifts through a regulation called the Off-Road Large Spark Ignition Engine Fleet Requirements. If there is an area where you see a lot of forklifts operating, please let us know. If we

do not regulate it, we can figure out who to send it to.

Chat Question: Can CARB fine a private car that is idling?

Chat Answer: Gas vehicles have no idling restrictions.

Breakout Groups

Participants were moved into five breakout groups where they discussed how the Valley Air District can best implement the enforcement measures and explored answers to the following questions:

- Are there particular locations where the Committee has observed illegal idling and residential burning?
- Where should the Valley Air District focus future enforcement efforts?
- Are illegal idling and residential burning more prevalent at particular times of day?

Report out:

- Group 1 discussed the need to have more community education and outreach about legal vs. illegal burning as well as types of equipment that can be reported as idling equipment.
- Group 2 focused on the need to differentiate between pre- and post- COVID-19 enforcement data. The group also discussed the Roeding Park area as a high air pollution area (especially the off-ramp on Highway 99 and Belmont Ave). Other comments included a suggestion to look at the truck counts and enforcing idling rules around Producers Dairy. In the area west of the railroad track and Belmont Ave, heading towards the cemetery, there are a lot of industry-related activities as well as possible pollution sources related to the homeless community, such as fires.
- Group 3 discussed causes of increased big rig idling in Southwest Fresno, including
 - An increased number of trucks waiting to go to the distribution centers;
 - Local truckers coming home from their breaks from the long hauls and
 - Increased idling during hot summer months to maintain cool cabin temperature.

The group also talked about the need for more water tanks at the construction sites as well as the need for more community education about old chimney replacement. During fall months, there is a need to better promote burning day notices and educational information about illegal burning because this is when the community notices the highest instances of illegal burning and agricultural burning.

- Group 4 discussed previous enforcement measures and asked whether there is a subsequent follow up with already filed claims. The group talked about idling locations and the need to educate residents about the process of recognizing and reporting environmental violations to the government.
- Group 5 talked about the need to keep monitoring the Orange Elementary School District, providing more idling education to the community, and paying close attention to Southwest Fresno, particularly around the new college construction site.

Question: Can the community follow up with CARB and the Valley Air District about the status of an environmental complaint?

Answer: CARB follows up with individuals who made complaints before heading to the site. Each complaint has a tracking number for the complainant to follow up.

Chat Comment: This is the link to CARB's Truck Stop website that provides information and resources (including factsheets) on our diesel truck regulations:

<https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/msprog/truckstop/truckstop.htm>

Chat Comment: Trucks and buses with clean idle certified stickers can idle for more than 5 minutes in unrestricted areas, but are still *not* allowed to idle in restricted areas such as schools, hospitals, and senior centers.

Chat Comment: Here is some information on alternative technologies to ensure cab comfort in trucks during the hot weather: <https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/msprog/cabcomfort/cabcomfort.htm>

Chat Comment: Trains do not have a California idling limit.

Chat Comment: Here is the emission reduction concept page for Trains/Railyards:

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/reducing-rail-emissions-california/concepts-reduce-emissions-locomotives-and>

Chat Comment: The drayage/railyard truck rule directed at heavy-duty trucks going in and out of the facility: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/drayage-trucks-seaports-railyards>

Chat Comment: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/railyard-compliance>

Incentives Update

Brian Dodds, Program Manager, Valley Air District

Brian shared an update on CERP incentive measures and the Community Air Protection funding guidelines.

- The incentive measures have to meet CARB approved guidelines (new and existing) that fund community air protection projects.
- Most of the CERP measures will require approval from CARB before the Valley Air District can start implementing them. Meanwhile, the Valley Air District continues working on other priorities identified by the Committee, including truck rerouting measure. The school bus replacement and the air filtration measures do not have to go through CARB approval, but there are several implementation challenges that the Valley Air District and the Committee need to work through.
- Brian asked for volunteers for the school bus replacement and air filtration measures subcommittees. Several Committee members raised their hands, including Kimberly McCoy, Ivanka Sanders, Tim Tyner, Kevin Hamilton, Nayamin Martinez, Gregory Barfield, Ed Ward, Eric Payne, Oralia Maceda, Lisa Flores, Lupe Perez, and Larry Taylor.

Comment: Please check with Committee members who were not able to attend/fully participate to see if they would like to be on the subcommittee.

Question: How could the State budget revision impact the implementation of the incentive strategies?

Answer: The Valley Air District has sufficient resources to keep moving forward this fiscal year. The Valley Air District will inform the Committee if there is a budget or resource issue in the future.

Air Monitoring Update

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

Brad provided an update on the Valley Air District's air monitoring work.

- The Valley Air District deployed two more real-time PM 2.5 air monitors and broke ground at Malaga Elementary School.
- The Valley Air District is still working on the Edison High School and Madison Elementary School sites.
- The Orange Center School Board voted not to place the equipment at their site. The Valley Air District staff hope that the Committee can provide suggestions on how to move forward with the Orange Center School site.
- The Valley Air District website will list newly updated air monitoring sites as well as quarterly air monitoring reports. Community can access additional information as follows:
 - Air monitoring updates and data on the Valley Air District website: <http://community.valleyair.org/selected-communities/south-central-fresno/air-monitoring/>
 - Historical air quality data on CARB website: <https://aqview.arb.ca.gov/data.html>

Chat Comment: CARB is working on updating the web interface, but if you want to locate data from traditional regulatory monitors, it can be found here: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/aqmis2/aqdselect.php>. Feel free to email questions to brian.moore@arb.ca.gov.

Question: What is the status of the toxic air contaminant analysis? Please share the report and flag relevant issues that the community should be aware of.

Answer: The Valley Air District gathers samples of 68 different compounds. The data will be posted on the website. At the moment, there are no red flags.

Question: Please clarify “new air monitoring sites.”

Answer: The Heaton Elementary and Yosemite Middle School sites are live. The Valley Air District electricians broke ground at the Malaga Elementary School but the installation is not yet complete.

Question: Could the Valley Air District get on the agenda for the Orange Center School Board meeting and perhaps invite some of the Committee members to attend and co-present?

Answer: The Valley Air District staff attended the school board meeting in September 2019 and met independently with parents. The initial progress included mapping out the location and discussing electrical needs. The Valley Air District staff continues to work with the school and is mindful of the decision its Board has made.

Question: Can the Community Air Monitoring report account for potentially skewed outcomes by the Governor’s shelter-in-place order? Could you add clarification to the report stating that data was collected during COVID-19 months?

Answer: It is noted. Thank you.

Comment: The process of electrifying the City of Fresno's bus fleet is challenging. Let the Committee members know how you would like us to help the Valley Air District with this process.

Wrap up/Next Steps

Hanna Stelmakhovich, Facilitator, ILG

Hanna asked Committee members to submit July and August agenda topics via the chatbox, by emailing the Valley Air District, or by replying to the June meeting follow up email.

Christal Love Lazard, one of ILG's facilitators, announced that she would be joining CARB's Environmental Justice Unit but that ILG will continue to facilitate these discussions on behalf of the Valley Air District and the community.

Chat Question/Comment from the Valley Air District Staff: Are there any volunteers for the Truck Rerouting Subcommittee? Those who are interested in the Truck Rerouting Subcommittee, type in the chatbox or email AB617@valleyair.org

Chat Answer: Lupe Perez, Eric Payne, Lisa Flores, Ivanka Sanders, and Kimberly McCoy expressed interest in serving on the subcommittee.

Comment: A committee member requested that a future agenda item provide an update on Committee stipends.

Answer: CARB is working on the general stipend guidance for all AB 617 committees and the Air District or CARB will provide an update as soon as one is available.

Hanna asked for volunteers to co-host the next meeting. Ed Ward and Eric Payne volunteered to be future community co-hosts.

Comment: Please ensure that Spanish speaking participants can fully participate without technical glitches.

Answer: The Valley Air District looks forward to resolving technical difficulties, including setting up an additional practice meeting with Spanish speaking Committee members to troubleshoot any issues.

Question: Once we transition back to in-person meetings, will Zoom continue to be an option for those who cannot attend/not comfortable attending?

Answer: Safety is the Valley Air District's priority. The Valley Air District staff will explore all possible participation options for this relatively large group.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 8 via Zoom

All the presentations, meeting highlights, transcripts and the Zoom meeting recording will be posted online.

**Refer to meeting audio to review the full details and comments from the meeting.*