

**Meeting Highlights\***  
**AB 617 Fresno Community Steering Committee Meeting #31**  
*March 10, 2021 | 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm*  
*Virtual Zoom Meeting*

**Action items for the Fresno Community Steering Committee (CSC):**

- Send feedback to the District on the vegetative barriers project plan for CARB
- Sign up for the Tree Fresno/CCEJN tree planting event if interested
- Email the District if interested in being a community co-host for a future CSC meeting
- Recommend tree-planting locations on My Social Pinpoint
- Send the vegetative barriers subcommittee suggestions for community outreach

**Action items for San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District):**

- Post strategic planning session notes on AB 617 Fresno webpage
- Send a link to strategic planning notes when posted
- Ensure follow up and reporting on recommendations made during the annual planning session, including, but not limited to:
  - Follow up with Isabel re: incentives for lawn and garden equipment
  - Confirm the District can provide a CSC website training to Spanish-speaking CSC members
  - Confirm that any documents sent to CSC members match the presentations shown during CSC meetings
- Schedule next air filtration and school bus subcommittee meeting

**Welcome and Introductions**

*Erica Manuel, Facilitator & CEO/Executive Director, Institute for Local Government (ILG)*

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

*Nayamin Martinez, Central California Environmental Justice Network, Community Co-host*

Erica introduced herself and the ILG team, welcomed all participants and went over housekeeping items and translation services. The facilitation team provided an overview of the meeting agenda and Zoom controls.

Ryan welcomed the CSC and expressed excitement about the strategic planning process. Community co-host, Nayamin Martinez, urged the CSC members to take a more proactive approach to co-hosting the meetings and encouraged fellow CSC members to help design the meetings based on their priorities.

**Annual Planning Topic #2: Reporting & Tracking**

*Erica Manuel, Facilitator & CEO/Executive Director, ILG*

Erica explained to the CSC that the planning topic for this meeting will center on reporting and tracking; what is working well and what suggestions the CSC has for improvement in 2021. Presentation highlights included:

- The Reporting & Tracking topic includes:
  - Reporting about subcommittee activities
  - Website updates
  - Reporting from other agencies (DPR, CARB, City of Fresno, etc.)
  - Reporting about air monitoring
  - Reporting about CERP implementation progress
- What is going well and what improvement is needed?

***The CSC had a robust discussion about Reporting & Tracking. The comprehensive notes taken during the meeting are attached.***

**Comment:** The CSC spent the last meeting discussing Administration and one recommendation was that the community co-host play a more active role in the meetings. How will that change moving forward?

**ILG Response:** The CSC can talk about that today and what that is going to look like. ILG and the District want to best integrate the CSC into the meetings, including the expertise, availability and interests of the co-host.

**Comment from Spanish-speaker:** I bought some machinery two months ago and was told I would be helped with the expenses, but no one has gotten in touch with me.

**Co-host Response:** The District will follow up with you.

**Comment:** Regarding enhanced enforcement, the District needs something that takes pictures at night when people are running their fireplaces.

**District Response:** The District has night vision cameras and that technology takes good images. During nighttime surveillance, the District sends staff out in pairs because of safety concerns, but COVID has posed a challenge to that. The District can also explore how surveillance is conducted post-COVID.

**CARB Comment:** CARB recognizes the gap in providing information to the CSC and plans to work with the District and CSC members on how to do a better job sharing information and being transparent.

**Comment from Spanish-speaker:** What happens with fines that the District issues?

**District Response:** When the District collects fines, the funds go into the various programs the District runs for air pollution reduction activities.

***Erica asked the CSC a set of questions to prepare them for prioritizing CERP measures at the next meeting. The full list of suggestions is included in the planning session notes.***

**District Comment:** The District needs the CSC to help prioritize which CERP measures are most important to the CSC. Lower priority doesn't mean a particular measure won't be worked on, but higher priority measures are the ones the CSC will constantly meet and talk about.

**Co-host Comment:** I agree. I think the CSC should go beyond discussing the measures. What we have heard is that the CSC wants a more prominent role in what is being worked on and

what projects are being sent to CARB. This process should be about action and what is most important to the community members.

### **Standing Updates**

#### **Monitoring Update:**

*Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Planning, District*

Jon gave an update on community air monitoring. Presentation highlights included:

- The District posted a report summarizing the third quarter 2020 air monitoring data to the AB 617 webpage in English and Spanish
- The District is summarizing and preparing a report with fourth quarter 2020 air monitoring data
- The Madison Elementary School site has been established
- The District is continuing work with Fresno Unified to get the last air monitor deployed to Edison High School
- The District is integrating community air monitoring data into RAAN

#### **Truck Rerouting Subcommittee Update:**

*Scott Mozier, Public Works Director, City of Fresno*

Scott gave an update on the truck rerouting subcommittee and the RFP. Presentation highlights included:

- Fresno City Council approved and authorized \$250,000 in Measure C funds to go toward the truck rerouting study
- The City of Fresno will provide the updated draft RFP with subcommittee feedback to the subcommittee next week
- District and City of Fresno staff are preparing the cost-sharing and reimbursement agreement

#### **Vegetative Barriers Subcommittee:**

*Yesenia Venegas, CivicSpark Fellow*

Yesenia updated the CSC on the vegetative barriers subcommittee. Presentation highlights included:

- Tree Fresno and CCEJN are hosting a tree planting Tree planting on March 20; CSC members can sign up on [treefresno.org](http://treefresno.org)
- The [Social Pinpoint](#) site is ready to use for the CSC's and other community residents tree planting recommendations
- The subcommittee is looking for feedback on how to conduct outreach in the community

- The vegetative barriers project plan is almost ready for submittal to CARB; please provide feedback

**CARB Update:**

*Brian Moore, Office of Community Air Protection, CARB*

Brian gave the CARB agency update. Presentation highlights included:

- CARB will reach out to CSC members for feedback on the AB 617 community selection process
- CARB is looking for creative ways to get resources into communities that need them, but are not officially selected for AB 617
- CARB is tracking statewide efforts implemented in each community and is happy to update the CSC at a future meeting
- CARB can offer education for areas of interest to the CSC, beyond air monitoring

**Wrap Up/Next Steps**

*Erica Manuel, Facilitator & CEO/Executive Director, ILG*

Erica thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Community co-host, Nayamin, thanked everyone for the great discussion and expressed enthusiasm for seeing her fellow CSC members co-host in the future.

**Comment:** When will the CSC get an update on school filtration and electric buses?

**District Response:** The District is in communication with Fresno Unified and Washington Unified. Both districts are identifying what air filtration systems are going to work well for them. An application from Fresno Unified for the school buses will be submitted in the near future.

**Reminders**

The next regularly scheduled CSC meeting is April 14 via Zoom. All the presentations, meetings 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.*

**Public Comments**

No public comment.

**Annual Planning Notes – Reporting & Tracking**

## Reporting About Subcommittee Activities

Working Well	Suggestions for 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban greening, vegetative barriers and truck rerouting committees are working well – CSC should continue</li> <li>Air monitoring subcommittee could use additional participation now that we have data rolling in; this may need to be made a higher priority in the main CSC discussion agendas</li> <li>We should think about the best approach to linking data to enforceability</li> <li>Ownership of the subcommittees by CSC members is working well, especially when the member has expertise</li> <li>Really appreciate the work on the vegetative barriers subcommittee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a small group, each CERP measure may need a subcommittee and/or additional CSC member engagement to cover all the necessary activities and updates</li> <li>Some CSC members are feeling uninformed about the progress being made; CSC members would love to see more progress being made, or reported on</li> <li>Can issues brought up in the committees be brought back to the larger CSC more often?</li> <li>Stationary sources haven't been reported on in about a year; need more frequent updates</li> <li>CSC agendas are often too tight to discuss all committee updates; a table or tracker on progress would help</li> <li>Subcommittee meeting notes would be helpful</li> <li>Consider appointing a chair position for each subcommittee that is responsible for reporting back at the CSC meetings in writing and verbally</li> </ul>

## Website Updates

Working Well	Suggestions for 2021
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members of the public may have difficulty finding information on the website</li> <li>The web development team should adhere to the 3-click rule for ease of navigation</li> <li>Air monitoring information should be easier to find for the general public, especially those stakeholders who are connected to the areas where the monitors are placed</li> <li>The website still has some navigation challenges for the Spanish speaking</li> </ul>

	<p>participants; see 3 click rule suggestion above</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Search terminology should be based on general public terminology, not technical terms</li> <li>• Would a CSC website training be helpful? Spanish speakers say yes</li> </ul>
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### Reporting from Other Agencies

*CARB, DPR, City of Fresno, etc.*

Working Well	Suggestions for 2021
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring for pesticides has not yet been addressed by DPR or the AD; periodic updates are appreciated, but often the reports the CSC receives are too minimal</li> <li>• Written summary from subcommittees and partner agencies may be helpful for more robust updates</li> <li>• Transparency is key; CSC wants to be at the table during the discussions with partner agencies to help make decisions, not just reported back to</li> <li>• More communication would be helpful</li> <li>• Clarify decision-making authority of the CSC with these partner agencies</li> <li>• City council is still uninformed about AB 617 – what kind of status report or orientation can the CSC or AD give to the City Council in advance of discussions about planning process changes?</li> <li>• Ask city about providing status report on canal and street cleaning</li> </ul>

### Reporting about Air Monitoring Reporting about the CERP Implementation Process Community Co-host Suggestions

Working Well	Suggestions for 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor placement in schools is important and sends the right signal to the community about the importance of air quality</li> </ul>	<p>CERP Implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefer to see milestones and a Gantt chart by month, as well as an</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to Maricela and the rest of the team for their help with social media updates</li> <li>• CSC members are enjoying the co-host process and opportunity</li> </ul>	<p>estimation of completion for major tasks</p> <p>Air Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical support and subject matter expertise on air monitoring is important and should be maintained moving forward; include PM 2.5, dust, mold, genetics, etc.</li> <li>• CARB is interested in working more closely with the CSC to share and interpret data</li> <li>• CSC should schedule a separate meeting to discuss and take action on some of the air monitoring concerns</li> </ul> <p>Co-Hosts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More community co-host engagement in each meeting</li> <li>• Discuss co-host role at the agenda-setting/planning meetings and assign specific responsibilities</li> <li>• Determine the comfort level of each co-host with facilitation and technology</li> </ul>
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### 2021 Reporting & Tracking Goals

If we could *fast forward* to the end of 2021... What do you think **SUCCESS** would look like in this Reporting & Tracking category?

What data, reporting & status updates are the **MOST IMPORTANT** for the CSC to have in 2021?

Reporting & Tracking Goals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timeline on a calendar</li> <li>• Expenditures and milestones; task-oriented approach to CERP implementation and reporting</li> <li>• The committee isn't making clear decisions or seeing things happen as quickly as possible; give committee more opportunities to advise the AD and vote; make advisory role more clear and decision-making framework more consistent</li> <li>• Measurable milestones and reporting around air quality in the CERP strategies</li> <li>• Focus on trust building and relationship building; continue to discuss and disagree respectfully</li> <li>• Review the blueprint at least once a year to ensure we're operating within the committee structure and priorities</li> </ul>

## CERP Prioritization

In preparation for prioritizing the CERP measures at the next meeting, please answer these questions:

Questions	Suggestions/Comments
What type of written background information do you need to receive IN ADVANCE of the meetings to best prepare you for the discussion?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSC needs to understand the timelines for each measure</li> <li>• Clarify the air monitoring information and timeframes?</li> <li>• Understand what else is happening with the other measures; what activities impact implementation?</li> <li>• Need to see a Gantt chart with milestones, funding, MOUs, etc.</li> <li>• Clarity around monetary capital vs. human capital (enforcement) activities</li> <li>• More information on the ROAR program and where we have approvals to proceed Roles, responsibilities and plans for addressing land use discussions (in industrial zones)</li> </ul>
Do you need a CERP refresher? Should the Air District provide a verbal recap of CERP strategies DURING the meeting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some members implied that a short overview would be helpful</li> </ul>
What level of detail do you need DURING the meeting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not discussed</li> </ul>
Would you be willing to answer a Doodle Poll about your CERP priorities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>
Would you be open to using other forms of polling technology DURING the meeting?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only if translation can be seamless and there is training offered</li> </ul>

### Other Notes

<b>Suggestions for 2021</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The “replace woodburning devices and enhanced enforcement items in the CERP” need more gas burning fireplaces registered</i></li> </ul>

- *Need quicker response from inspectors on enforcement*
- *Are there internet connected devices that would help with enforcement in the “check before you burn time”? (Ryan referenced night vision cameras and nighttime surveillance)*
- *The City councilmember meetings did not result in much action; we need their support to move forward*
- *Funding should be available to move forward with the projects; CSC would like to see more progress (AD responded about some progress, additional outreach, reasons for delay, etc.)*
- *Knowing what is in the queue and what has been submitted would be helpful for the CSC*
- *How does prioritization align with the resolution and submission of plans related to the CERP that the AD is sending to CARB?*
- *More buses are needed for the schools*
- *There are concerns about what happens to air quality when the kids return to school*
- *If we plant more trees, we’ll need to remove old logs and trim trees that are too large*
- *Old TVs and refrigerators are becoming more prevalent, oil discharge is polluting subsoil; we need to find a program to help with that effort*
- *We should mold CSC agendas to allow for more flexibility in the discussion and free-flowing conversation*
- *What is happening with the fines? (Ryan answered that they pay for air pollution reduction activities, including having enforcement of District regulations)*