

Meeting Highlights*

AB 617 Shafter Community Steering Committee Meeting #17

January 13, 2020, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Shafter Veterans Hall
309 California Ave, Shafter, CA 93263

Doors Open/Meet and Greet/Refreshments 5PM

Welcome and Introductions

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

Christal welcomed Hanna Stelmakhovych from the Institute for Local Governments and introduced her as the new facilitator for the Shafter AB 617 Committee Meetings.

Community Steering Committee Member Attendance and Meetings

Jaime Holt, Chief Communication Officer, Valley Air District

Jaime discussed the attendance of members of the committee. The District completed an inventory of the Committee Members' attendance and as a result the members who have missed a high number of meetings or have not attended any meetings will be contacted to inquire about their commitment to the steering committee. Jaime encouraged the committee members to recommend residents who may be interested in participating and becoming committee members.

Outreach Strategy Implementation

Jaime Holt, Chief Communication Officer, Valley Air District
Hanna Stelmakhovych, Facilitator, Institute for Local Government (ILG)

Jaime provided a brief explanation of the structure of upcoming meetings as the focus transitions from community emission reduction program development to the implementation phase. The District will be looking for additional opportunities to be more involved with the community by participating in more public events and bringing additional speakers from other agencies to help fine tune and work on the implementations.

Jaime provided instructions for the group exercise. Members of the Committee were given an opportunity to go to 3 tables and provide feedback on 6 emission reduction strategies.

At Table 1, staff from the District and Members of the Committee and the public discussed SC.2, which is to reduce children's exposure through increased enrollment in the Healthy Air Living School Program, and IR.1, which is about idle-reduction outreach to reduce the exposure of sensitive receptors to vehicle emissions.

Feedback from Members of the Committee and Public

- Present to the POGA group
- Contact Richland School District
- Connect with the First 5- provide them with information to send out to families, they have a strong Facebook following
- Work with the Shafter Youth Center

- Connect with the Shafter Learning Center. Provide materials for after school program along with “No idling” signs
- Work with the Shafter Library
- Contact the Consulate and ask to place District pamphlets in waiting area
- Provide an analysis for the health impacts from vehicle idling
- Signs showing the effects of idling, like RAAN or speedometers
- Reward children for sharing air quality information. Work with school principals to nominate a child from each school
- Work with migrant programs to connect with parents
- Promote bus riding for Maple School

At Table 2, the discussion was on O.1, which is about outreach to increase community awareness and knowledge of air quality and O.2, which talks about outreach to share clean air efforts and how communities can get involved.

Feedback from Members of the Committee and Public

- Sign up for text alerts for app and events
- Additional advertisement for RAAN app, add a banner
- More outreach for older high school students
- Phone tree
- Publicity on 90.1 FM Spanish radio station (several times)
- Door-to-Door, explain the programs and provide handouts
- Presentations at churches
- Have local business have handouts/info on hand
- Workshops to help residents complete applications
- Attend local events: football events; festivals (4th of July/Cinco de mayo)
- Advertise on the City of Shafter’s Facebook page and app
- Attend the POGA meetings with Grimmway Schools in Shafter
- Get Civic Club help: Rotary, Kiwanis, Lion’s Club
- Community Taskforce
- Meet with local Farm Groups
- Outreach to tractor/farm businesses

At Table 3, the discussion was on RB.2, which talks about educating the public about harmful impacts of residential wood burning and RB.4, which talks about reducing illegal burning through residential open burning education.

Feedback from Members of the Committee and Public

- More advertising for Residential Wood Burning
- More education on who suffers from wood smoke-put a face to it
- Radio talk shows in English and Spanish
- Eliminate “No Burn unless Registered”
- Literature on where you can dispose yard refuse
- Billboards on trash burning
- Educate kids in schools on burning trash
- Larger fines for violations

- Messaging at grocery stores and schools
- Transfer stations
- Add chip yard refuse to garbage bill

Community Air Monitoring Update

Chay Thao, Program Manager, Valley Air District

Chay Thao provided a brief updated on the Air Monitoring efforts in Shafter. Chay mentioned the PM 2.5 monitors in Grimmway Academy and the DMV are available on the District's real time network. Data from the monitors can be found on the District's Shafter AB 617 website. The air monitoring van is also in operation collecting data in the areas near the airport and Mexican Colony. The District is continuing to look for an Air Monitoring site in the Mexican Colony that has electrical access and is accessible for District staff to maintain and operate.

Committee and Members of the Public Comments

- Can the air monitor in the Mexican Colony be placed at a residential home?
- A new community center will be built in the Mexican Colony and may be a site to use in the future for an air monitor.
- Requested to see raw data. Is this data available for the public?
- Is PM10 data available?
- Can we have a Purple Air monitor available at the DMV? Compare the Purple Air monitor to the Bakersfield and Shafter Purple Air Monitors.
- What event happened on Dec. 10, 2019?

Wrap up/Upcoming California Air Resources Board Meeting Update **Update on upcoming CARB hearing and community tour**

Jaime informed the Committee the California Air Resources Board will be hosting their Board meeting in Shafter for the month of February. They will be looking to approve the CERPs for South-Central Fresno and Shafter.

Public Comment

- What time will the tour bus be operating Feb 15th?
- Byanka will be working with CARB to help arrange the Shafter tour.
- Which Board members will be participating?

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- February 13, 2020, 4 pm: CARB Hearing to consider CERP approval
 - Shafter Veteran's Hall, 309 California Ave, Shafter, CA 93263
- March 9, 2020, 5:30pm: CSC Meeting
 - Shafter Veteran's Hall, 309 California Ave, Shafter, CA 93263