



September 12, 2019

California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attn: AB 617
(via email to: communityair@arb.ca.gov)

San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue
Fresno, CA 93726
Attn: AB 617
(via email to: AB617@valleyair.org)

Dear Selection Committee,

We write this letter to express our full support for the community of Stockton to be selected for the second-year implementation of the AB617 Community Air Protection Program. We are not alone in this recommendation. The San Joaquin Valley AB617 Environmental Justice Steering Committee (SJV-AB617-EJ-SC) ranked Stockton as the number one area in the urban category in the nomination document they submitted to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SVJACPD). This nomination was the result of a thorough analysis of indicators that included Population Characteristics, Regional and local air pollution; health data as well as the capacity from community-based organizations that is necessary to successfully engage with residents, the Air District and CARB in the AB617 CAPP process.

Little Manila Rising was formed in response to generations of redlining and scorched-earth redevelopment practices. In many ways, the story of Little Manila's founding mirrors broader trends concerning the generational disinvestment from Stockton's communities of color. In the realms of civic life, industry, education, and (most egregiously) within the realm of environment, we recognize that many communities of color in Stockton have experienced systemic disenfranchisement. We currently work to challenge high school students in Stockton to understand the connections between history and the present state of our communities. And to map, then influence, the resource allocations and policy decisions that have contributed to the present state. We believe that, in the long term, our communities will thrive only when all residents have the power - and are equipped with the skills - to advocate for their civic needs - and thus are eager to use our educational models to build broader coalitions of engaged community members.

We strongly support Stockton to be part of the AB617-Community Air Protection Program because this area is extremely affected by multiple sources of pollution (port, diesel trucks, building of the crosstown freeway) but at the same time it has a strong history of activism that includes local residents, as well as community organizations such as Restore the Delta, Father's and Families of San Joaquin, Delta Sierra Group of the Sierra Club, Catholic Charities, and Central California Environmental Justice Network. These efforts have led to partnerships with local decision-makers, some local businesses and schools. All these are assets that puts Stockton in a privileged position to take full advantage of the spirit of AB617 of having community members at the forefront of the development of air monitoring plans and emission reduction programs.

We look forward to seeing Stockton selected for the next round of AB617 Community Air Protection Program.

In gratitude,

Dillon Delvo
Executive Director
Little Manila Rising

Board of Directors

Chairperson
Rhonda Ureta-Villalobos

Vice-Chairperson
Joel Juanitas

Treasurer
Lailani Chan-Ramirez

Secretary
Brian Batugo

Directors
Dr. Nancy Huante-Tzintzun

Debra Louie

Elena Mangahas

Sylvia Oclaray

Florence Quilantang

Lorenzo Romano

Dom Siababa

Adeline Suguitan

Deborah Vallejo

Executive Director
Dillon Delvo

Directors Emeritus
Dr. Dawn Bohulano
Mabalon

Antonio Somera