

SCHOOL MEASURES: SUBCOMMITTEE MEASURES

SCHOOLS IN THE STOCKTON COMMUNITY

The Stockton Unified School District is the primary district serving the Stockton AB 617 community. In addition to the 32 schools within the Stockton Unified School District, three private schools also operate within the boundaries. Enlisting the participation and support of these schools in the effort to reduce children's exposure is key to ensuring that benefits are as widespread as possible. Targeting schools like Washington Elementary School protects the most vulnerable populations. All children, but especially young children, are considered sensitive receptors with respect to air pollution and it is vital that their protection from unhealthy air during their developing years is made a priority.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND COMMENTS

A primary concern expressed by Steering Committee members is to ensure cleaner air both indoors and outdoors for children at school while fully engaging local school districts and parents in clean-air efforts. Committee members expressed a desire to prioritize schools in neighborhoods with the highest risk of exposure to pollutants, such as those near the Stockton Port and near existing truck routes, and to enlist the cooperation and support of Stockton Unified School District as programs are further developed during the implementation phase of the CERP. The Steering Committee also requested incorporating an "Emissions Free Zone" model into the outreach strategies developed.

CURRENT CONTROL PROGRAMS

The District's Healthy Air Living (HAL) Schools program empowers participating schools to make informed decisions about outdoor activities based on real-time air quality conditions. School staff sign up for automated notifications when air quality becomes harmful using the Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) tool, and receive health-protective recommendations for the modification or cancellation of outdoor activities accordingly through the Real-time Outdoor Activity Risk (ROAR) guidelines. The program includes access to resources like anti-idling signs, air quality widgets for school websites, bilingual informational materials, and bilingual educational speakers for students, parents, and staff. This program will be expanded to include an "Emissions Free Zone" model into the coordination with schools.

STRATEGIES DEVELOPED FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN COMMUNITY

Strategies developed to reduce the exposure of children within the community require a twofold approach: increasing enrollment of schools in the HAL School program protects children from exposure to unhealthy outdoor air through the widespread adoption of RAAN and ROAR; further, establishing a program that offers incentive funds to install advanced air filtration systems in community schools reduces exposure to potentially unhealthy indoor air quality.

SC.1 INCENTIVE PROGRAM TO INSTALL ADVANCED AIR FILTRATION SYSTEMS IN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Overview: The goal of this strategy is to reduce the impact of air pollution on children at schools. Air filtration reduces the concentration of particulate contaminants from indoor air and is an important component of a school's Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. Reducing airborne particles is important due to the negative impacts to human health, especially that of sensitive populations such as children and the elderly.

This strategy would provide up to \$2,640,000 in incentive funding for schools within the Stockton boundary to install advanced air filtration systems, utilizing existing Community Air Protection Program guidelines. This funding amount is designed to provide sufficient funding for all public schools within the Stockton boundary. Proposed funding amounts would provide local schools with funding to install HVAC filters with a minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV) rating of 14 or greater or the highest MERV filter the current HVAC system can handle and/or standalone air filtration units as determined through an assessment performed by the trained school district staff or third party vendor. The MERV rating reflects the filter's ability to capture particles in the air, the higher the MERV rating, the better the filter is at trapping particles.

Implementing Agency: SJVAPCD

Strategy Type: Incentives

Budgeted Amount: \$2,640,000

Quantifiable mitigation: Utilize CARB-approved guidelines and methodology.

SC.2: REDUCE CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE THROUGH INCREASED ENROLLMENT IN THE HEALTHY AIR LIVING SCHOOLS PROGRAM AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EMISSION FREE ZONES

Overview: The goal of this strategy is to reduce children's exposure to unhealthy air by increasing the enrollment of schools in the Healthy Air Living (HAL) Schools program to decrease vehicle idling, limit children's outdoor activity during episodes of poor air quality, and educate student about protecting our air. Additionally, the strategy is to work with school staff and students to educate the public, educators and parents regarding having an "Emission Free Zone" around schools, thereby reducing negative health impacts on student's health caused by emissions generated from vehicle idling. To help in this effort, "No Idling" signage in English and Spanish will be distributed to schools within the boundary. Additionally, informational videos will be used as an outreach tool and will be made available in languages such as Spanish, Tagalog, and others on an as needed basis.

Implementing Agency: SJVAPCD

Strategy Type: Outreach

Quantifiable mitigation: Minimize emissions and exposure around schools.

HD.6: INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR REPLACING OLDER DIESEL SCHOOL BUSES WITH ZERO EMISSION SCHOOL BUSES

To provide increased outreach and access to incentive funding for the replacement of older, high polluting school buses with new zero-emission school buses operating within the Stockton Unified School District.

Replacing older school buses is important to reduce children's exposure to diesel emissions including NOx and PM2.5 and these pollutants negatively impact human health, especially for sensitive populations such as children. New, zero-emission battery electric and near-zero emission natural gas powered school buses are significantly cleaner than older diesel buses.

Emissions from school buses are regulated by the California Air Resources Board Statewide Truck and Bus Regulation that requires transition to cleaner technology over time. Generally phased in by model year.

<https://www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/onrdiesel.htm>

This measure would cover up to 100% of the cost of replacing up to 10 diesel school buses with electric buses at \$400,000 each.

Implementing Agency: SJVAPCD

Type of Action: Incentives

Implementation: 2021-2025

Budgeted Amount: \$4,000,000

Quantifiable emission reductions: Estimated lifetime emissions reductions associated with this measure includes up to 0.3 tons of PM, 18 tons of NOx, and 4 tons of VOCs.