

**Chapter 2 – Community
Outreach and Engagement**

Community Outreach and Engagement

In response to Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) [C. Garcia, Chapter 16, Statutes of 2017], the California Air Resources Board (CARB) established the Community Air Protection Program (Program). The program's mission is to reduce pollution exposure in communities based on environmental, health and socioeconomic information. This first-of-its-kind statewide effort requires community air monitoring, community emission reduction plans, and incentive funding to deploy the cleanest technologies in the most impacted areas.

The San Diego Air Pollution Control District (District or APCD) nominated the Portside Community to be included in this Program. This included the neighborhoods of Barrio Logan, Logan Heights and Sherman Heights in the City of San Diego, and West National City within National City.

In 2018, CARB selected the Portside Community as one of ten communities within the State for air quality monitoring under the Program. Prior to this selection and granting of AB 617 funds, the District began reaching out to members of the community to discuss areas of mutual interest. These meetings were key to identifying air pollution concerns within the Portside Community and initiated the outreach the process of forming community partnerships.

To facilitate information sharing and dissemination of AB 617-related information, the District created a new webpage on its website.

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Community Air Protection Program (AB 617)

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What is the Community Air Protection Program?

In response to Assembly Bill (AB) 617 (C. Garcia, 2017), the California Air Resources Board (ARB) established the Community Air Protection Program (Program). The Program's mission is to reduce pollution exposure in communities based on environmental, health and socioeconomic information. This first-of-its-kind statewide effort will require community air monitoring, community emission reduction plans, and incentive funding to deploy the cleanest technologies in the most impacted areas. The Air Pollution Control District (District) is leading efforts to implement the Program in San Diego County.

More information about the program can be found on the ARB [Community Air Protection Program webpage](#).



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County Edges Closer to Getting Off State Monitoring List

The District [Community Air Protection Program \(AB 617\)](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/apcd/en/community-air-protection-program--ab-617-.html)¹ webpage describes and illustrates the Program, the Portside community, steering committee meetings, and air pollution specifics in the area. The webpage is also a repository for meeting minutes, presentations, documents, and reports related to the program.

Community Partnerships

Starting in March 2018, the District invited stakeholders to assist in developing the Community Air Protection Program submittal for Community Air Monitoring/Community Emission Reductions. Through this collaboration, the draft document to nominate a community was submitted to CARB on April 30, 2018 and the final document was submitted on July 31, 2018. Participating stakeholders included: members of the community; community-based environmental justice organizations - Casa Familiar and the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC); academics from local universities; industry representatives - San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), the City of San Diego, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), the Port of San Diego, and the U.S. Navy. Additionally, there were individual presentations given to SANDAG, the City of San Diego, the Port of San Diego, Casa Familiar, and industry. There were also two evening meetings with EHC where information was presented to Portside residents in Spanish by bilingual District Compliance Inspectors.

The District started meeting with members of the community even before the community nomination process was formulated. These meetings facilitated the discussions to identify and understand residents' concerns related to air pollution within their neighborhoods. This initiated first steps towards the formation of a community partnership.



¹ District Community Air Protection Program (AB 617) Website
<<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/apcd/en/community-air-protection-program--ab-617-.html>>

A list of meetings and workshops that the District attended, participated in, or led in preparation of nominating a community, through the first Steering Committee meeting is shown below.

Summary of AB 617 Meetings with District Participation

Date	Subject	City	Attendees	Notes
October 23, 2017	CARB AB 617 Workshop	Los Angeles	~35	Listened to CARB/SCAQMD/Non-Profits/Public/Christina Garcia
November 18, 2017	APCD Advisory Group Meeting	San Diego	4	Update on AB 617 was an agenda item; answered questions
November 28, 2017	CARB Freight / AB 617 Workshop	National City	~35	Evening CARB community meeting on AB 617 and freight
February 14, 2018	APCD Advisory Group Meeting	San Diego	4	Update on AB 617 was an agenda item; answered questions
February 28, 2018	State of CA Community Air Protection Summit	Riverside	~150	Workshop on AB 617 Implementation- Best Practices
March 12, 2018	State of CA Community Leadership Summit	Riverside	~150	Workshop best practices in having community project success
March 14, 2018	APCD Advisory Group Meeting	San Diego	4	Update on AB 617 was an agenda item; answered questions
March 23, 2018	Stakeholder Kick-Off Meeting	San Diego	~20	Two community organizations, academia, utility, industry, EPA
March 29, 2018	San Ysidro Community Meeting	San Ysidro	~25	Residential concerns in San Ysidro/Otay Mesa
Month of April 2018	Door-to-Door Grant Outreach	San Diego		Outreach to companies in Portside Community
April 11, 2018	Portside Community Presentation	National City	20	Presentation at Environmental Health Coalition
April 14, 2018	APCD Advisory Board Meeting	San Diego	4	Agenda item was an AB 617 update
April 24, 2018	Project Workshop	San Diego	20	ARB presented program details, Q&A
April 26, 2018	Grant Outreach	San Diego		Outreach grants at industry Mexport Conference
April 27, 2018	Stakeholders Meeting	San Diego	20	Progress on monitoring, incentives grants
Month of May 2018	Door-to-Door Grant Outreach	San Diego		Outreach to companies in Portside Community

May 17, 2018	Monitoring Stakeholders Tour of District Facilities	San Diego	3	Tour of District lab and monitoring station for 2 professors and Joy Williams of EHC
May 29, 2018	Meeting with City officials	San Diego	6	Talk with City of San Diego Executive Team and Mayoral staff
May 31, 2018	Stakeholders Meeting	San Diego	24	Progress on monitoring, incentives
May 31, 2018	San Ysidro Community Meeting	San Diego	~25	Presentation at Casa Familiar Community Meeting
Month of June 2018	Door-to-Door Grant Outreach	San Diego		Outreach to companies in Portside Community
June 1 and 2, 2018	Meeting, tour of communities	San Ysidro/ National City	~25	Workshop and Port tour with CARB, EHC, and Casa Familiar
June 5, 2018	SANDAG presentation	San Diego	5	Project update for SANDAG Planning staff
June 7, 2018	SANDAG CBO Working Group presentation	San Diego	12	Provided AB 617 update
June 7, 2018	Grant Outreach	San Diego	~15	Port Tenants Association Environmental Managers Meeting
June 13, 2018	Environmental Health Coalition Community Meeting	National City	10	Instructed residents how to report air quality complaints to District; bilingual inspectors presented
June 18, 2018	IEA/APCD Workshop for industry	San Diego	32	Update on Emission Inventory Tool
June 22, 2018	Project Meeting	San Diego		Progress on monitoring, incentives grants
June 25, 2018	IEA/APCD Workshop for industry	San Diego	~20	AB 617 update including CARB Blueprint
June 27, 2018	Stakeholders Meeting	San Diego	~25	Update; Progress on monitoring, incentives grants, inspections; getting feedback from stakeholders
August 23, 2018	Stakeholders Meeting	San Diego	~25	Update; Progress on monitoring, incentives grants, inspections; getting feedback from stakeholders
October 4, 2018	Stakeholders Meeting	San Diego	~20	Update; Progress on monitoring, incentives grants, inspections;

				getting feedback from stakeholders
October 25, 2018	First Steering Committee Meeting	San Diego	43	16 of 20 committee members; CARB/District staff

During each meeting, the District engaged attendees, solicited ideas and comments, and incorporated their suggestions into the District’s nominations and plans. The District will continue this collaborative approach with the Steering Committee and the Portside Community throughout the entire AB 617 program.

The District developed English and Spanish applications and a draft charter for interested parties to apply as Steering Committee members. The goal of the Steering Committee composition was to have a diverse group that represented the recommended communities. The charter and committee membership makeup have since been updated to comply with CARB’s Community Air Protection Blueprint. This blueprint was created to provide direction for selecting communities, preparing Community Emissions Reduction Programs (CERPs), identifying statewide strategies, and conducting community air monitoring.

Steering Committee and Affiliations

By design, the Steering Committee is comprised of an odd number of members, with a maximum number set at 29 members. The majority of the Steering Committee must be residents who live within the boundaries of the Portside Community. The Steering Committee members include: individuals residing, working, or owning businesses within the Portside Community; community-based environmental justice organizations; public health organizations that work within the Portside Community; academic researchers; labor unions; land use planning agencies; city/county officials; transportation agencies; locally-based business associations; and, workers or managers from larger industrial sources located in the Portside Community.

The current list of Steering Committee members is shown [here](#). The Steering Committee operates under the [Steering Committee Charter²](#), which was updated in June of 2020. The charter specifies the background of the program, Steering Committee objectives, Steering Committee membership criteria and selection, member terms of appointment, meeting information, virtual remote meetings, meeting decorum and attendance, quorum requirements, voting requirements, conflict resolution, charter revisions, and charter subcommittees and working groups.

Steering Committee Meeting Information

The first Steering Committee meeting occurred on October 25, 2018 at Perkins Elementary School in Barrio Logan within the Portside community. There were 43 people in attendance that

² Steering Committee Charter link
 <https://www.sdapcd.org/content/dam/sdc/apcd/PDF/AB_617/Portside%20CSC%20Charter_FINAL_June%202020.pdf>

included 16 out of 20 regular steering committee members, 1 committee alternate, 6 members of the public, 12 District staff, 7 CARB staff, and 1 English to Spanish interpreter.



First Steering Committee Meeting at Perkins Elementary School (10-25-2018)

Monthly Steering Committee meetings continued to be held from 6 pm to 8 pm on Tuesday evenings, the third or fourth Tuesday of each month. The location was set at Perkins Elementary School in Barrio Logan and the meetings occurred in the evening to accommodate residents that have obligations during the day, allowing for attendance and participation. The meeting dates, times, and location are posted on the District [website](#).

Steering Committee meetings have been held monthly, with two exceptions. The Steering Committee agreed during the November 2019 meeting to not convene in December 2019 due to holiday delays on active projects. The March 24, 2020 Steering Committee meeting was cancelled due to the California Executive Order and Public Health Order to stay at home to address the novel coronavirus pandemic. Monthly meetings have been conducted virtually since April of 2020 to comply with COVID-19 health orders.

Steering Committee meeting dates, agendas, minutes, and documents/presentations are maintained on the District website Community Air Protection Program (AB 617) [webpage](#)³.

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Community Air Protection Program (AB 617) Portside Steering Committee Meetings

Meeting Agenda	Notes	Media	Documents/Presentations
7/21/20	Notes	Video Audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Plan to Attain National Ozone Standards in San Diego County Presentation DRAFT: Community Emission Inventory Update Presentation Simple Ways To Reduce Air Pollution The Facts about Ozone
6/23/20	Notes	Video Audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AB 617 Truck Subcommittee Meetings Presentation Naval Base San Diego 2030 Mobility Vision Presentation Letter to CARB Board from Steering Committee - Advanced Truck Rule (Spanish) Letter of Support For The Office of Environmental Justice Letter to Governor from Steering Committee_DRAFT
5/26/20	Notes	Video Audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda Items I to X Agenda Item IV Draft CERP Extension Request Letter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CARB Response
4/28/20	Notes	Video Audio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agenda Items I to IV_ 4282020 Item VI. Incentive Funding Proposal 4282020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed Projects (Excel) Agenda Item VII. CERP Timeline 4282020
2/25/20	Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CARB Presentation - Overview of Blueprint Harbor Drive Multimodel Corridor Board Presentation Draft Portside Charter Air Monitoring Data
1/28/20	Notes		
11/19/19	Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charter Update Discussion #1
10/29/19	Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP) Program
9/24/19	Notes		
8/27/19	Notes		
7/23/19	Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting Photos
6/25/19	Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aclima San Diego Mapping Results Briefing for Steering Committee
5/21/19	Notes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible AB-617 Sites AB617 Incentives 2019 and Beyond Steering Committee Comments

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- County Edges Closer to Getting Off State Monitoring List
- Swipe Right to Help Clear the Shelters
- First Human, Travel-Related West Nile Virus Case of 2020 Reported
- More Stories

³ District Community Air Protection Program (AB 617) Website Steering Committee Documents <<https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/apcd/en/community-air-protection-program--ab-617-/ab-617-steering-committee-documents.html>>

4/23/19	Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Port of San Diego's Presentation - Emission Reductions: Where We've Been and Where We're Going • CARB Presentation - "Highlights on Statewide Strategies Benefitting Communities" • Aclima Presentation • CARB Strategies Presentation Handout for SD CSC • CARB Emissions Reduction Strategies Handout for SD CSC
3/21/19	Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CARB Presentation - Improving On-road Vehicle Emission Estimates • OEHHA Risk Assessments
1/29/19	Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expedited Best Available Retrofit Control Technology (BARCT) Schedule • Presentation • Monitoring Location Worksheet • Toxic VOCs and Their Cancer Risk • Toxics and Their Minimum Risk Level
12/17/18	Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda del borrador de la reunion del Comite Directivo 12/17/18 • Presentation • Monitoring and Equipment Spreadsheet • Spanish Version - Monitoring and Equipment Spreadsheet • Portside Community EI Sources • Spanish Version - Portside Community EI Sources • Map - Community of Portside Neighborhoods with Stationary Source Locations
11/27/18	Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda de la reunion del Comite Directivo 11/27/18 • Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spanish Presentation • Notas de la reunion del Comite Directivo 11/27/18 • Aclima Presentation • What is Source Apportionment • CARB AB 617 Source Apportionment Recommended Approaches • Potential Monitoring Sites and Cost of Equipment
10/25/18	Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation • Notas de la reunion del Comite Directivo 10/25/18

Community Emissions Reduction Program (CERP)

The nomination of the Portside Community for a CERP was discussed and approved by the Steering Committee during the July 23, 2019 meeting. The District submitted the nomination to be considered for a CERP to CARB on August 30, 2019 and was approved by the CARB Board on December 13, 2019. The District announced the acceptance as a CERP at the January 28, 2020 Steering Committee meeting.

During the January 28, 2020 meeting, members of the Steering Committee also announced that they wanted to form a subcommittee to focus on trucks and electrification projects. Further discussion on the formation of subcommittees to help develop emissions reduction strategies occurred at the February 25, 2020 Steering Committee meeting. At this meeting, the Steering Committee came to consensus to add subcommittees to the Steering Committee Charter which would be on the Agenda for the following Steering Committee meeting.

Subcommittee Support for CERP

The following Steering Committee meeting was held virtually on April 28, 2020. At this meeting, the Steering Committee agreed to establish four (4) subcommittees to support the development of the CERP for the Portside Community. These four subcommittees and objectives are:

- CERP - Work with the District and technical experts to develop the Community Emissions Reduction Program (CERP),
- Land Use - Focus on land use issues in Portside community,
- Port - Identify strategies that can be incorporated into the CERP and Maritime Clean Air Strategy Plan (MCAS), created by the Port of San Diego, and
- Trucks - Formalize ad hoc group focused on the technological and institutional challenges of electrification of heavy-duty truck fleets that serve the port's cargo terminals.

These subcommittees have been meeting either weekly or biweekly since April 2020 and have actively worked with the Steering Committee and the District to explore and develop the strategies included in this CERP for the Portside Community. The Subcommittee meeting dates, agendas, and documents/presentations are also maintained on the District website Community Air Protection Program (AB 617) [webpage](#)⁴.

Subcommittee Meetings

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

- [Truck Subcommittee](#)
- [Land Use Subcommittee](#)
- [Port Subcommittee](#)
- [CERP Subcommittee](#)

Public Workshops for CERP Development

In addition to the monthly Steering Committee meetings and Subcommittee meetings where the CERP was discussed and refined, the District held online public workshops on September 21, 2020 from 6:00-8:00 pm and on September 23, 2020 from 1:00-3:00 pm. In order to promote these workshops with the public, announcements were made on the AB 617 CERP webpage and the District's Twitter account. Additionally, a public workshop notice was mailed out to about 45 thousand residences in the area.⁵

The workshops provided the public an opportunity to learn about the goals of the CERP and, more importantly, allowed the public to provide feedback and ask questions about the CERP. In order to further promote public participation, Spanish language interpretation was available during the public workshops.

⁴ Community Air Protection Program (AB 617)

<https://www.sdapcd.org/content/sdc/apcd/en/community-air-protection-program--ab-617-.html>

⁵Notice of Public Webinars for Discussion of AB 617 Community Emission Reduction Program Development

[https://www.sdapcd.org/content/dam/sdc/apcd/PDF/AB_617/AB617%20Workshop%20Notice%20English%20%20Spanish%20082020%20\(2\).pdf](https://www.sdapcd.org/content/dam/sdc/apcd/PDF/AB_617/AB617%20Workshop%20Notice%20English%20%20Spanish%20082020%20(2).pdf)

In each meeting aspects of the CERP were presented by both District staff as well as members of the Steering Committee for the first hour and then an additional hour was available for public comments. Members of the public made up 22 and 28 of the totals of 50 and 61 attendees, respectively for each meeting. The other attendees included government agency staff, Steering Committee members, and the facilitation team. The meeting notes for both the September 21, 2020⁶ and September 23, 2020⁷ are available on the District website.



⁶ AB 617 Portside Community Emissions Reduction Plan Workshop Notes 9.21.20
https://www.sdapcd.org/content/dam/sdc/apcd/PDF/AB_617/CERP%20Workshops%20Notes%209.21.20.pdf

⁷ AB 617 Portside Community Emissions Reduction Plan Workshop Notes 9.23.20
https://www.sdapcd.org/content/dam/sdc/apcd/PDF/AB_617/CERP%20Workshop%20Notes%209.23.20.pdf