

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AIR POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
MEETING AGENDA
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020, 9:00 AM
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS NORTH CHAMBER
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

A. REGULAR SESSION: Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Members Greg Cox, Chairman; Jim Desmond, Vice-Chairman; Dianne Jacob; Kristin Gaspar; Nathan Fletcher; also, Andrew Potter, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

(Please note, California Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 on March 17, 2020, relating to the convening of public meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Pursuant to the Executive Order, and to maintain the orderly conduct of the meeting, all members of the Air Pollution Control Board attended the meeting via teleconference and participated in the meeting to the same extent as if they were present.)

B. Non-Agenda Public Communication: No Speakers

C. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of October 27, 2020.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Member Gaspar, seconded by Member Desmond, the Air Pollution Control Board of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of October 27, 2020.

AYES: Cox, Jacob, Gaspar, Fletcher, Desmond

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

Agenda Items

Agenda #	Subject
1.	COMMUNITY EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN FOR PORTSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE NEIGHBORHOODS [FUNDING SOURCE: AVAILABLE GENERAL FUND FUND BALANCE]

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1. SUBJECT: COMMUNITY EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN FOR PORTSIDE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE NEIGHBORHOODS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) was signed into law in 2017 by then Governor Jerry Brown, requiring new community-focused and community-driven actions to improve air quality in communities that experience disproportionate burdens from exposure to air pollution due to environmental, health, and socioeconomic factors. These actions include conducting community air monitoring and developing and implementing a community emissions reduction plan (CERP) to reduce pollution exposure in the community.

AB 617 requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to work with air districts, community groups and others to select locations around the state where the air district will work together with communities to improve local air quality. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District (District) nominated and CARB selected the "Community of Portside Environmental Justice Neighborhoods" (Portside community) comprising Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights and western National City as one of thirteen communities statewide that are currently participating in this program. The Portside community was selected because it experiences higher levels of diesel pollution, higher rates of emergency room visits for asthma symptoms, and higher levels of poverty than most communities in California, according to the State's community environmental health screening tool (CalEnviroScreen, version 3.0).

The District has convened a diverse, multi-stakeholder Portside Community Steering Committee (CSC) to hold regular, public meetings to discuss community air concerns and potential solutions with affected parties. The CSC is made up of residents, community leaders, public agency staff, business representatives and non-profit groups, and is the driving force behind CERP development in collaboration with the District. The first CSC meeting occurred on October 25, 2018 at Perkins Elementary School in the Portside community. After last March, the CSC started conducting virtual meetings to comply with the current COVID-19 health orders. District staff created a public webpage to post information on CSC meetings and updates on CERP development.

The District has coordinated with the CSC and CARB to develop a phased approach for completing CERP development. This approach includes proposed early-action strategies (referred to as the Phase I proposal), which are the subject of today's requested approval; and the completion over the next six months of a proposed, comprehensive Portside CERP that fulfills State requirements including a profile of the community's attributes and public health challenges; a full suite of proposed actions that have been fully developed, goals, and strategies to improve air quality and reduce exposure to air pollution in the community; and metrics for tracking progress (referred to as the Phase II proposal).

Today's requested action is to approve a set of early-action strategies (Phase I proposal) that have been fully developed and are supported by the CSC. Upon approval by the Board, these strategies will be implemented by the District in collaboration with CARB, the CSC and the public to benefit the community sooner than waiting for CERP completion over the next six months: (1) develop a plan to quantify the cumulative health risks posed by air pollution sources in the Portside community; (2) develop and implement a program to provide residential air purifiers and monitors for up to 1,000 residences in the Portside community as

currently budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operational Plan for the District; (3) identify the types of air quality projects in the Portside community that will receive priority for State incentive funding and work with CARB to increase flexibility in the types of projects that may be funded pursuant to State guidelines; (4) develop and implement a regionwide Public Participation Plan to enhance the District's community outreach and engagement activities; and (5) develop and implement an Incident Response Plan that defines the District's protocols and procedures to respond to an incident involving major, unplanned releases of air pollution and other emergencies with air quality impacts.

Similarly, the Port of San Diego, US Navy, and the local shipyards have provided early commitments to strategies under their authorities that they will implement to reduce air pollution and exposure in the Portside community. Those actions will be identified in the CERP and will occur independently of today's proposal and do not require approval by the Board.

In May 2021, staff will present to the District Board the Phase II proposal, which will include a finalized CERP proposal and additional strategies that currently still warrant further investigation to better understand their feasibility, costs, responsible agencies and implementation processes. They include transportation, land use, alternative truck routing, and other strategies such as increased setbacks and vegetative buffers between air pollution sources and residences in the Portside community. Some of these strategies fall outside of the District's purview and the authority to approve and implement them lies with other public agencies such as City of San Diego or National City. In those cases, the proposed CERP will identify the engagement processes that District staff and the CSC will follow to advocate for the specified actions of other public agencies.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER

1. Find that the proposed actions are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 15301, as a project involving leasing or minor alteration of existing facilities; Section 15306, as a project involving basic data collection which does not result in a serious disturbance to an environmental resource; Section 15308, as actions taken to assure the protection of the environment, where the regulatory process involves procedures for the protection of the environment; and pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3), since it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant adverse effect on the environment.
2. Authorize the Air Pollution Control Officer to collaborate with CARB, the Portside Community Steering Committee, and other community stakeholders to:
 - (a) Develop a plan to quantify the cumulative health risks posed by air pollution in the Portside community.
 - (b) Develop and implement a program to provide residential air purifiers and monitors for up to 1,000 residences in the Portside community;
 - (c) Identify the types of air quality projects in the Portside community that will receive priority for State incentive funding and work with CARB to increase flexibility in the types of projects that may be funded pursuant to State guidelines;

- (d) Develop and implement a Public Participation Plan to enhance community outreach and engagement activities; and
- (e) Develop and implement an Incident Response Plan that defines the District's protocols and procedures to respond to emergencies with air quality impacts

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds of \$550,000 for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2020-21 Operational Plan for the Air Pollution Control District for residential air purifiers and monitors. The funding source is available General Fund fund balance. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

No adverse impacts on businesses are expected from today's requested actions. Businesses will benefit by District efforts to increase outreach and engagement and to expand the types of air quality projects that are eligible for State incentive funding.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Member Jacob, seconded by Member Gaspar, the Air Pollution Control Board of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Cox, Jacob, Gaspar, Fletcher, Desmond

There being no further business, the Air Pollution Control Board of the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

ANDREW POTTER
Air Pollution Control Board
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District

Notes: Santiago

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the San Diego County Air Pollution Control Board on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

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