

# Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco AB 617 Community Steering Committee Meeting MEETING NOTES

Tuesday, June 18, 2024, 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm PDT

Facilitator: Marsha Maloof

Note-taker: En2Action

*Co-Leads: Marie Harrison Community Foundation,  
Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates, &  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District*

*Meeting Location: Southeast Community Center  
1550 Evans Ave, San Francisco, CA 94124*

*Webpage with Meeting Materials:*

<https://www.baaqmd.gov/community-health/community-health-protection-program/bayview-hunters-point-community-emissions-reduction-plan>

## Topic

### 1. Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review

- a. Co-chair Nina Omomo welcomed everyone and introduced the new CSC member, Jun Zhong. He said that he has lived in the Bayview since 2006 and is excited to be here to continue learning about the community and ways to reduce emissions.
- b. Marsha Maloof of En2action went over the agenda.
- c. Co-lead Karen Pierce of BVHPCA led the discussion about removing one of our co-chairs.
  - i. On Monday, 6/17, CSC members were emailed the specifics on why co-leads will move to demote this co-chair from the co-chair position and notified them that they would be asked to vote on this decision.
  - ii. Agustin Angel asked if Nina was okay with being the only co-chair or if someone would be appointed, and she said she would like another co-chair.
  - iii. The majority of CSCs voted to demote Tacora as co-chair. She said thank you and left.

### 2. Questions and answers

- a. Jenn Ferreira from the Air District discussed the running questions and answers document.
- b. Jenn handed out index cards for people to write more questions that may have

come up in this meeting.

- c. She also explained that CSC members are encouraged to write their names down on their questions if they feel comfortable. This is in case the Air District needs clarity on what is being asked.
- d. Jenn wrote down questions asked during the meeting and will add them to the running Q/A document.

### **3. Mapping Activity Report Back**

- a. Stephen Reid from the Air District's Assessment, Inventory, and Modeling Division discussed what has been discovered from the mapping exercise.
  - i. The mapping exercise was done to identify sources of emissions, areas that needed to be cleaned up, and areas where vulnerable people live.
  - ii. From the multiple mapping exercises done in April and May, Steve pointed out which areas were tagged multiple times for vulnerable populations and sources of concern; they are listed as "unique" locations.
  - iii. Steve discusses the next step, which is to start discussing which areas are the highest priority and what action steps/strategies the CSC can consider.

### **4. Review of Bayview Hunters Points/Southeast San Francisco Facilities Lists**

- a. Stephen discussed the facilities lists requested by the CSC members in previous meetings. He distributed copies of documents that showed unpermitted/exempt facilities, permitted facilities. There were questions about Brownfields that were referred to the Question and Answer document.
- b. CSC member Amelia Erskine asked how they distinguish between sites or how they compare an auto body shop to a brewery.
  - i. Steve says this is done by utilizing the emissions inventory. Scientists categorize the processes, devices, and emissions from each site.
- c. CSC member Chalam Tubati asked if they could tell the differences between permitted/registered/in-compliance sites on the lists since some facilities were registered but not permitted.
- d. Marsha suggested that the Air District team cannot answer the question fully and make it make sense for the CSC members right now. Perhaps it would be better if his questions and the processing of the data were discussed in a sub-committee.
  - i. Since the data is so vast, a sub-committee can work on it outside of the CSC meetings
- e. Long-time Air District permit engineer Barry Young (senior advanced projects advisor) answered the difference between permitted and registered facilities.
  - i. He said that when a facility wants to initiate a project, they typically submit an application for an air quality permit, which goes through the Air District's permit review process. In some cases, it can take multiple years for a permit to make its way through the process.
    - If a site is permitted, it goes through the Air District's permitting process, where an Air District permit engineer has evaluated that

the project complied with all existing air quality laws and regulations before the permit was approved.

- ii. Minor facilities may be required to apply for registration per the Air District's rules and regulations. The Air District's registration process does not include a thorough compliance review by a permit engineer. The registration process is to collect the facility's contact information and basic information about the air emission-related equipment. Registration is typically done for facilities/sites with smaller equipment, such as a laundromat, which may not need a permit.
- f. Amelia asked what "permit operating expired" means
  - i. Barry answered that prior to construction, facilities apply for an authority to construct, which will ensure that all existing air quality laws and regulations are complied with. After an authority to construct is issued, the facility may install the project equipment. After equipment start-up, the facility is issued a permit to operate, which is good for one year. If the facility does not renew the permit to operate, it expires. The Air District investigates why the facility's permits expired.
- g. CSC member Sheila Whittenberg asked why the site "Circosta Metals" is not permitted. This question was added to the questions and answers document.
- h. Arieann Harrison asked how long sites get to have pending permits.
  - i. Barry explained that the Air District has a permit process
    - They determine if the applications are complete
    - The assigned permit engineer will determine completeness when all the data and fees the applicant needs to provide have been received.
      - a. This can take a long time since the engineers may be asking many technical questions about the project, applicants are providing incomplete responses, and there may be a lot of back-and-forth between the applicants and Air District staff.
    - Once the application is complete, the assigned permit engineer evaluates the project to ensure that it will comply with all existing air quality laws and regulations..
  - ii. Marsha emphasizes that from Barry's explanation of that process, it appears that facilities and sites can be in operation, emitting pollutants for months before they could actually be permitted.
- i. Anne Baptiste, from BAAQMD legal team, also added that if the Air District sees an application or facility that is clearly a risk, they will work diligently to shut it down.
- j. Chalam asked what "exempt" means.
  - i. Barry answered that Air District Regulation 2, Rule 1 contains the Air District's list of permit exemptions, which mainly exempt sources based on low throughput or operating capacity. As an example, Barry mentioned

- that an auto body shop with coating usage less than 30 gallons per year would be exempt from permits per Regulation 2, Rule 1.
- ii. Jun asked how exhaustive the facilities list is, and Steve answered that there are facilities on the map that are beyond the community boundary but are still included as a source of concern.
  - iii. Technical Advisory Group member (TAG) Matt Wolf asked if this data was sourced manually or by query.
  - iv. Steve answered that the data was gathered from their inventory.
- k. Marsha added that these questions about data gathering can be allocated to the subcommittee. Karen added that sourcing data, implications, and questions should be discussed in the sub-committee.
  - l. Tiffany Williams asked if facilities that are in compliance are analyzed for their possible effects on the local public?
    - i. Marsha answered that this would be a good question for the subcommittee
  - m. Chalam added that the subcommittee would be necessary to understand what the data tells us and to determine the committee's action plan.
  - n. A CSC member asked about the metal facility(Circosta Iron and Metal Co. Inc.) across the street and why it is unpermitted.
  - o. Marsha emphasized that the subcommittee would be tasked with source data, facility sourcing, and emission data gaps.
  - p. Tiffany asked about how compliance is determined. And about mobile source emissions.
  - q. Tiffany added that there needs to be a conversation on zoning as well. She believes that the zoning is impacting the emissions.

##### **5. Elements of a Community Emissions Reduction Plan**

- a. Michelle Byars from CARB led the discussion on the elements of a Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP)
- b. First, she shared how CARB has 2-5 minute videos on air pollution, health effects, and types of emission sources, and played a video on air quality fundamentals
- c. Furthermore, Michelle discussed how multiple statutes were passed that made it law for the community to be informed about emissions. These statues formed the Community Air Protection Program and are the basis for the Blueprint, which is a guidance document for the Program. Blueprint 2.0 was released in October and was updated to reflect the experiences from the first five years of the Program and working with communities, including the guidance to form a CSC and work in partnership to write CERPs.
- d. Michelle handed out printouts of the three-part Blueprint 2.0 that is available on the CARB website: [Community Air Protection Program Blueprint 2.0 | California Air Resources Board](#).
  - i. Moreover, Michelle emphasized that CERP comes from the people.
    - It is community-focused and led, but it takes everyone in the

room, including government agencies to work in partnership to ensure a CERP that can be approved, and then implemented within the five-year timeframe.

- ii. While discussing the CERP, Michelle highlighted some aspects that must be included. This includes:
  - Health-based air quality actions
  - Documenting CSC activity, and engagement
  - Emissions inventory
  - Exposure and emission reduction targets, actions, and Metrics
  - Implementation schedule
  - Enforcement plan
- iii. Michelle shared different action types that can be included and their corresponding metrics including: Rules and regulations, Air quality permitting, Enforcement, Land use/transportation, Mitigation, Incentives.
- iv. CARB clarified in the discussion portion of the agenda that the blueprint is updated every 5 years and is responsible for implementation of the Blueprint in partnership with air districts.

## **6. Wrap-up, Next Steps, & Announcements**

Marsha went around the room and asking what folks thought of the meeting, how they felt about the information presented, and what they would like to discuss at the next meeting:

- a. Choose a new co-chair.
- b. Sub-committee report-out.
- c. Nina suggests going to the sites and touring them.
- d. Karen suggests we find out what other agencies have data similar to the Air District and how they may overlap.
  - i. In simple terms, What other governmental agencies or regulators have the authority to impact air quality in San Francisco?
- e. Michelle adds some responses to questions previously asked...AB617 cannot change zoning, but utilizing TAG members can help change things. For an agenda item, she can bring information about "mobile sources." She also introduced Helen Victoriano from CARB, who does enforcement and said they can present on that. Michelle shared that she can bring people from other CERP communities who can provide their experience
- f. Matt suggests doing a presentation on the city's regulations and other CERP plans for expanding health services. And in response to a question, he says they have information about how vegetation can help improve air quality.
- g. Chad White asked how the city treats PDR (production, distribution, repair) zoning versus residential.
- h. Danielle of SF Planning said she can present on that, zoning, and specific levers that can support SESF air quality improvement.
- i. Jun asked how to gather data from mobile sources.

- i. Michelle offered the monitoring team from CARB
- j. Amelia asked if there was any way to map adverse health effects.
  - i. Matt Wolf from the Department of Public Health said they can provide the data on that.
- k. Marsha asked if DPH could bring information on natural remedies for reducing emissions.
- l. TAG member Neeta Thakur said that locating this kind of info on remedies would require case scenarios that can be run and then reported on.
- m. Tiffany asks if they can get a list of all SF districts' air quality indexes and place it on a map.
- n. Neeta suggested that community mapping data be incorporated in the air quality index maps by district.