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**Community Emission Reduction Plan (CERP)
Community Steering Committee Meeting #7**

October 18, 2021

Today's Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of September 20, 2021, Meeting Minutes
3. Introduction to the Monitoring Outreach Team (MOT)
4. Overview of the Key Issues Approach
5. Air Quality Monitoring and Modeling: Starting the Conversation
6. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items and Next Steps

Welcome!

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Approval of September 20, 2021 Meeting Minutes

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Public Comment


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Plan Process: Where are We Today?



KEY:  = You are here!

Introduction to the Monitoring Outreach Team (MOT)

Daniel Alrick, Principal Air and Meteorological Monitoring Specialist
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What is the Monitoring Outreach Team?

- The Monitoring Outreach Team (MOT) was formed in Summer 2020 as the Community Air Monitoring Plan moved from development to implementation phase
- Team purpose and goals:
 - Review updates on monitoring projects, data, and analyses and make technical materials more understandable
 - Distribute these updates to the community

Monitoring Outreach Team Members

- Dr. Henry Clark (North Richmond, West County Toxics Coalition)
- Oscar Garcia (Iron Triangle Neighborhood Council)
- Matt Holmes (former member)
- Kevin G. Ruano Hernandez (San Pablo, student, joined in Fall 2020)
- Dr. Julia Walsh (No Coal in Richmond)
- Linda Whitmore (Santa Fe Neighborhood Council)



Monitoring Outreach Team Efforts

- A key piece of the MOT's work with the Air District has been developing and reviewing the quarterly monitoring updates
 - Information on the different monitoring projects with links to data, analyses, and other resources
 - Fact sheets with initial analyses from the Air District

Update on Air Monitoring Projects in Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo for April – June 2021

Hello from the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Monitoring Outreach Team! We are monitoring the air in our area to learn more about the air we are breathing and inform actions that can improve it.

Every three months, we share updates in the area's **Community Air Monitor**.

What is the Monitoring Outreach Team?
Development of the Community Air Monitor is a project of the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Air District. It is led by four community members who are passionate about air quality, and is joined by Kevin as a member of the team. The team is supported by the Air District's Management Director (Air District).

Contents of This Update

- Updates on local air quality
- Fact sheets prepared by the Air District

Key Takeaways

- Recent severe wildfire events have made it difficult to determine whether and to what extent wildfire smoke is contributing to higher PM_{2.5} levels in the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo area.
- Staff are analyzing air monitor data to identify areas that may have higher PM_{2.5} levels.
- The Air District will soon be releasing a fact sheet on the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo area.

Questions? Feedback?

- There are several ways to contact us:
 - Ask questions via a [FAQ](#)
 - Email us at air@airdistrict.org
 - Call us at 415-748-4444
- You can also visit the Air District website at airdistrict.org

Exploring PM_{2.5} Levels within the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Area

The previous quarterly update included an overview of PM_{2.5} data collected by the network of Clarity air quality sensors operated by Groundwork Richmond and Ramboll. The dataset was explored further and combined with other datasets to examine two areas where higher PM_{2.5} levels were noted:

Carlson Boulevard (Cortez-Stege neighborhood)

Periods of higher PM_{2.5} levels in the vicinity of Carlson Blvd. and Spring St. may indicate a nearby intermittent source(s) of PM_{2.5}. A comparison of data from lower-cost air quality sensors in the area found that:

- One air quality sensor along Carlson Boulevard frequently showed higher PM_{2.5} levels compared to data from sensors in nearby neighborhoods (see graph below; Carlson Blvd sensor is in orange).
- These higher PM_{2.5} levels often (but not always) occurred during the evening and overnight hours, possibly due to a source(s) that is more active during those hours. Also, wind speeds and atmospheric mixing often decrease overnight, which can allow emitted PM_{2.5} to become more concentrated.
- The higher PM_{2.5} levels were most evident in sensor data from summer 2020. In summer in this area, winds are predominantly from the south to southwest. There are many possible sources of PM_{2.5} nearby from that direction, including rail operations, roadway traffic, dust from unpaved sections of Spring Street, road construction, and operations at nearby facilities along Spring Street (see maps on next page).

Hourly PM_{2.5} levels from air quality sensors, July 23 – 31, 2020

Lower-cost air quality sensors, like any measurement device, can sometimes malfunction and report erratic readings. However, since the readings at Carlson Blvd. sometimes do match with the readings at nearby sensors, it is more likely that the data are reflecting actual changes in air quality, rather than a malfunction. [Further report report on the PM_{2.5} data](#) they collected also indicated higher PM_{2.5} levels in this area.

Health metrics for PM_{2.5} are generally based on longer-term exposure (such as days to years). However, exposure to higher levels of PM_{2.5} at these shorter time periods, such as hours, can still cause health impacts, especially in individuals who already have respiratory or cardiovascular health conditions.

Monitoring Outreach Team Efforts

- The quarterly monitoring updates and other resources related to the Monitoring Plan are on the Air District's website:
<http://www.baaqmd.gov/ab617rsp>
- Another update will be posted this month and shared with the Path to Clean Air CERP Steering Committee

Monitoring Outreach Team Efforts (cont.)

- The team is working on and exploring efforts to communicate and distribute information
 - Email send outs to the Steering Committee
 - Neighborhood council and City newsletters
 - Informational video
 - KCRT Richmond community news



Public Comment

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Overview of the Key Issues Approach

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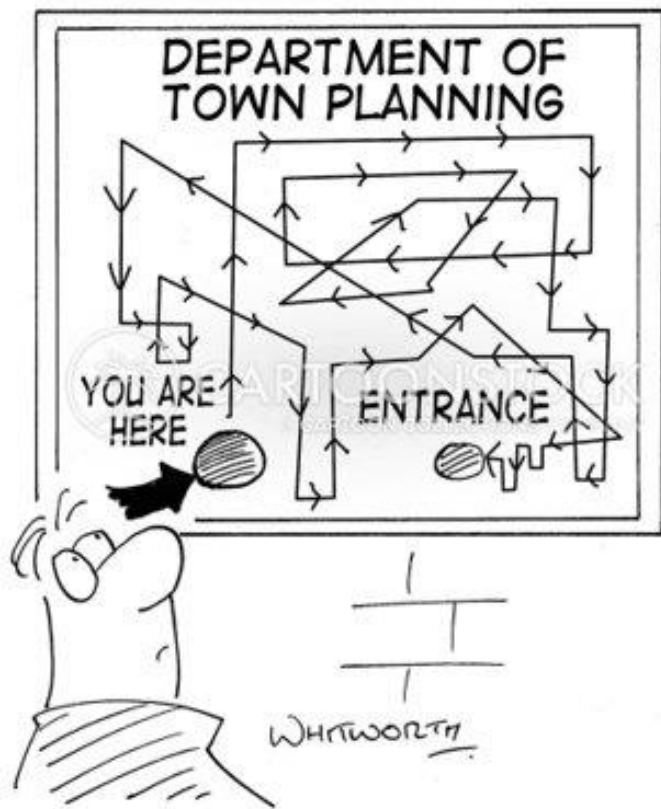
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Outline

- Typical Planning Processes
- The Key Issues Approach
- An Example Key Issue
- Next Steps

Typical Planning Process

CS116354



Source: https://www.cartoonstock.com/directory/p/planning_department.asp

Strategic Plan



Source: <https://www.jokejive.com/topic/strategic+planning>

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What is a Key Issue?



- Key Issues as a framework to summarize and organize findings, and pivot to strategy development
- Keep this approach in mind, as we dive into the Community Description and Technical Assessment

What is a Key Issue?

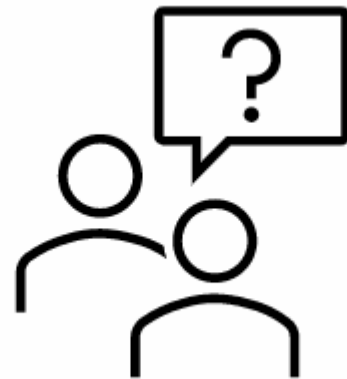
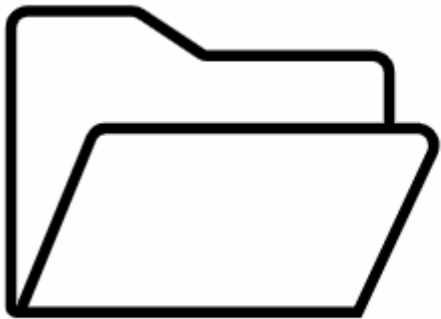
- A complex issue, stated clearly as a problem statement, that supports identification of a collaborative and effective solution.

“If I were given one hour to save the planet, I would spend 59 minutes defining the problem and one minute resolving it.”

-Albert Einstein

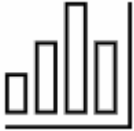



What is the Key Issues Approach? A Better Planning Process

The Key Issues Approach is a **process through which to summarize and organize findings**. This process also helps **identify questions** to be further explored.



What is the Key Issues Approach? (cont.)

Example Steps in Creating a Key Issue

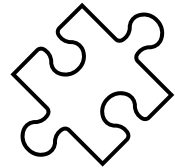
- ✓ Collect Information 
- ✓ Organize information by themes
(i.e. organize by community concern) 
- ✓ Draft a 'Key Issue' statement to summarize information 
- ✓ Check the 'Key Issue' statement aligns with the Vision and Principles 

What is the Key Issues Approach? (cont.)

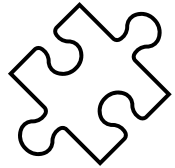
Putting Together the Puzzle Pieces

Community Description

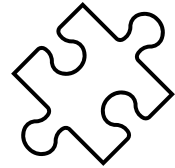
Land Use



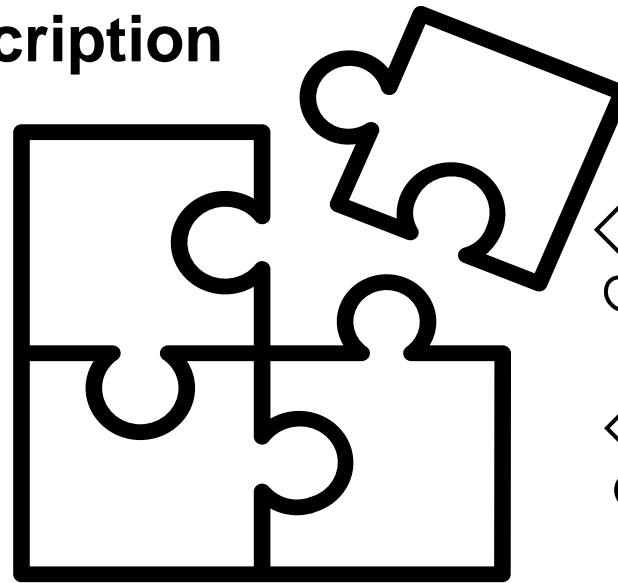
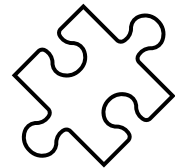
Health Data



Community Perspectives

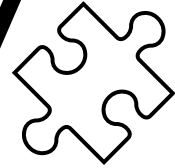


Population Characteristics

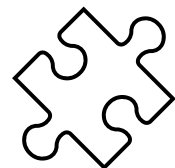


Technical Assessment

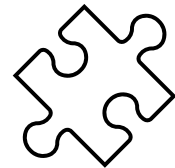
Emissions Inventory



Community-Designed Monitoring



Modeling (air quality and risks)

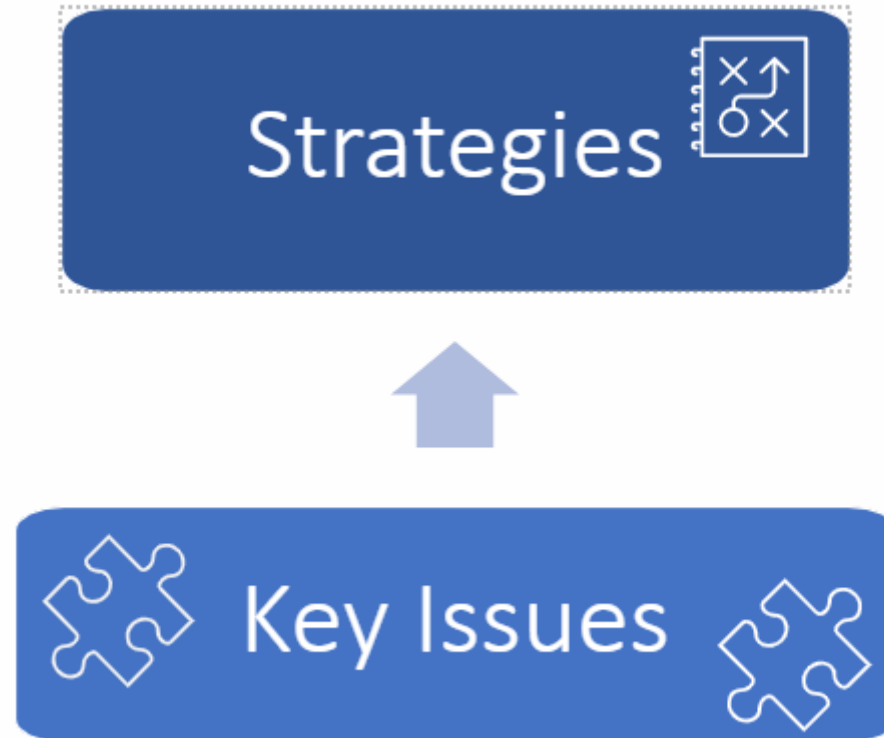


Why Use a Key Issues Approach?

- Helps tell the story of the assessment
- Provides a framework to identify priorities across all data inputs: Community Description and Technical Assessment
- Serves as a direct connection between the assessment findings – the issues and problems identified - and the strategies to solve them
- Ensures action address the full complexity of the issues

Why Use a Key Issues Approach? (cont.)

Foundation for Developing Strategies



Example Key Issues

"Flooding from sea level rise has the potential to impact life in the Islais Creek and Bayview community. As sea levels continue to rise, there will be additional flood risks near Islais Creek and along the shoreline, including to SF Muni and key utility infrastructure. Flooding could disrupt local commercial corridors, commutes and transit options, parks and open spaces, and emergency services, posing serious challenges to the Islais Creek and Bayview community and the city as a whole."



Questions

- What questions or comments do you have about this approach?
- Have you used or seen this approach before?
- What thoughts do you have about using it to develop our CERP?

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Air Quality and Monitoring: Starting the Conversation

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Goals for Today's Presentation

- How to Start the Conversation?
- Preview of Methods and Data
- Continuing the Conversation – Next Steps

How to Start the Conversation?

Goals for Air Monitoring and Modeling

From the Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Blueprint:

- Strong scientific foundation
- Characterize the community-specific air pollution challenges
- Identify key pollutants to be addressed in the community emissions reduction program
- Identify contributing stationary, mobile, and area-wide sources

Steering Committee and community members are the clients for this work...

Ideas for Starting Conversation



Preview of Methods and Data

Air Pollution

Emissions to Health Effects



Emissions



Ambient Concentrations



Exposure

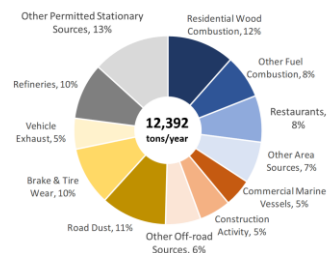


Dosage

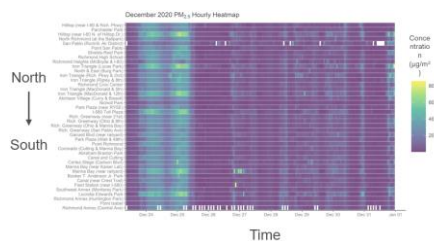


Health Effects

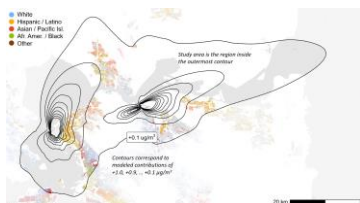
Examples of methods/data



Emissions Inventory



Community-designed monitoring



Modeling (air quality and health risks)



Next Steps

Upcoming Meetings

- Understanding air pollution fundamentals
- Examples of using technical information to support concerns or strategies
- Iterating on issues and insights

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Next Meeting

1. Our next meeting will be on Monday, November 15th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
2. A poll will be sent out to determine the time for the next Ad Hoc meeting for the Community Description.
3. Air District needs to recruit 5 member for Steering Committee Application Review Process.



Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

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