

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 749-5073

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 9, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

*This meeting was webcast, and a video recording is available on the website of the
Bay Area Air Quality Management District at
www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas*

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Opening Comments:** Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee (Committee) Chairperson, John Gioia, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. General Counsel, Alexander Crockett, announced that due to a problem with the Air District's agenda production system, Agenda Item #7, Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters, was inadvertently not printed on the agenda. However, the Air District allowed public comments on items *not* on the agenda, immediately following Item 6, called by the Chairperson.

Roll Call:

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, Yerba Buena Room, San Francisco, California, 94105): Vice Chairperson Noelia Corzo; and Directors Mark Salinas and Shamann Walton.

Present, In-Person (Cambria Pines Lodge, Sycamore Conference Room, 2905 Burton Dr., Cambria, CA, 93428): Chairperson John Gioia.

Absent: Director Joelle Gallagher.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2024**

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Vice Chair Corzo made a motion, seconded by Director Walton, to **approve** the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of September 11, 2024; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Corzo, Gioia, Salinas, Walton.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Gallagher.

ACTION ITEM

4. **APPOINTMENT OF NEW COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) MEMBER**

CAC Council Member, Kevin Ruano Hernandez, gave the presentation *Community Advisory Council Recommendation for New CAC Member*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; creation of Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee; prior to first meeting; outreach; and selected applicant.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the number of years of a CAC member's term of office.

Committee Action

Director Walton made a motion, seconded by Director Salinas, to recommend the Board appoints Cynthia Prieto-Diaz to the vacant Alameda County CAC seat; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Corzo, Gioia, Salinas, Walton.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Gallagher.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. FIFTH YEAR ANNUAL REPORT ON *OWNING OUR AIR: THE WEST OAKLAND COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN (WOCAP)*

Alicia Parker, Principal Planner, and community partners from West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project, gave the presentation *Fifth Year Annual Report on Owing Our Air: The West Oakland Community Action Plan (WOCAP)*, including: outline; background on WOCAP quick facts; emissions reduction highlights: significant reductions in diesel Particulate Matter (DPM), DPM reductions, Fine PM_{2.5} reductions; emissions reduction grants – investment summary; enforcement progress over five years; community description update – demographic and economic indicators, health indicators; strategy evaluation summary; next steps; acknowledgements; community perspective; Schnitzer Steel – clean up or get out; metal shredding bill – Assembly Bill (AB) 1234; West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP)-led strategy implementation progress; WOEIP strategy revisions; and WOEIP meetings.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed shore power regulations for ocean-going vessels by the California Air Resources Board; the source of the health data used in the report, particularly regarding asthma rates; the fact that, from June through August 2024, the Air District and WOEIP led the WOCAP Community Steering Committee (CSC) through a review of 29 of the 108 proposed strategies to improve local air quality and health in West Oakland that had not yet made progress, and recommend that 10 strategies be closed out; examples of strategies that are being recommended to be closed out; examples of strategies that have been revised; and why the implementation for certain strategies has not yet begun.

Committee Action

No action taken.

6. PROPOSED ORGANIZATIONAL RESTRUCTURE OF AIR DISTRICT EQUITY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs, gave the staff presentation *Proposed Organizational Restructure of Air District Equity and Community Programs*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; background; Community Investment Office; Office of Civil Rights; Environmental Justice Division; Environmental Justice Specialist Program; and Equity & Community programs organizational restructure.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Y'Anad Burrell, Richmond Area Path to Clean Air CSC; LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible; Kevin Ruano-Hernandez, CAC; and Ken Szutu, CAC.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the use of penalty funds from the newly Board-approved Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy in May 2024, which directs a significant portion of penalty funds to the communities most impacted by air quality violations (the funds are to be reinvested in local projects specifically designed to reduce pollution and enhance public health in the impacted areas); how Air District staff will address language access needs regarding this issue; the Air District's fining of the Marathon Martinez Refinery (operated by Marathon subsidiary Tesoro Refining & Marketing Company LLC), for air quality violations, based on the Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy; the proposed physical locations of the new Office of Civil Rights and Community Investments Office; the suggestion of creating a mobile unit office that can travel throughout the Bay Area; the anticipated timeline for transition into the creation of these offices; an example of an affirmative approach to civil rights within Office of Civil Rights; the status of the penalty for an incident that occurred in San Bruno that is currently being investigated by Air District staff; and when Air District staff plans to update the Board on the \$20M Richmond Community Air Quality Fund.

Committee Action

No action taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

Public comments were given by Jan Warren, Interfaith Climate Action Network of Contra Costa County; and LaDonna Williams, All Positives Possible.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

9. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF EQUITY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs, announced the following:

- The Air District is announcing the availability of \$1.5 million through Cycle 2 of the James Cary Smith Community Grant Program for community groups, neighborhood associations, and nonprofits to participate in decisions that impact their environment and health.
- A document of the CAC's Environmental Justice Policy Ad Hoc Committee, entitled *A Call to Action: Charting a New Course Towards Environmental Justice at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District*, centering on environmental justice in the Air District's Strategic Plan, and proposing specific recommendations and priorities. Suggestions for changes from the public and from the CAC will be considered for inclusion into the final version of the document. A final version will be presented to the CAC in November for a vote to consider its adoption as a CAC approved document. CAC EJ Policy Ad Hoc Committee members will continue to meet with Air District staff over Fall 2024 on the development of detailed and measurable

implemental activities for three priority topic areas: data collection and usage, permitting, and enforcement.

10. **TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. The meeting will be in-person for the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting members and members of the public will be able to either join in-person or via webcast.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards