



BAY AREA  
AIR QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT  
DISTRICT

**AGENDA: 5**

# **Election of Community Advisory Council Co-Chairs**

**Community Advisory Council Meeting  
May 16, 2024**

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# Presentation Outcome



- Election of Community Advisory Council Co-Chairs

# Requested Action



- To consider electing John Kevin Jefferson III and Mayra Pelagio as Co-Chairs of the Community Advisory Council.

# Presentation Outline



- Leadership and the CAC Charter
- Review of CAC Leadership Duties
- Co-Chair Election
- Results

# Leadership and the CAC Charter



- In 2022, the CAC approved a three Co-Chair model. (1.3 Leadership)
- Leadership is appointed for a two (2) year term and no member may serve for more than two, 2-year terms consecutively. (1.3.2 Leadership)

# Leadership and the CAC Charter (cont.)



- Co-Chair Washington and Co-Chair Jefferson's two-year terms ended in March 2024. There are currently two Co-Chair vacancies.
- If a leadership position becomes vacant, that position must be filled within two meetings after the vacancy occurs. The leadership position shall be filled through a nomination, selection, and voting process. (1.3.3 Election of Leadership)

# Leadership and the CAC Charter (cont.)



- Members seeking a vacant leadership position shall submit an essay, which provides a summary of their background and outlines the reasons they seek the position. The full CAC shall be presented with the essays 72 hours in advance of the meeting in which the CAC will vote on each prospective candidate. The candidate receiving the majority of the votes will be selected to fill the vacant leadership position. (1.3.3 Election of Leadership)
- John Kevin Jefferson III and Mayra Pelagio each submitted an essay for consideration by the CAC for the two vacant leadership seats (essays are included in packet).

# 1.3.1 Duties of Leadership (select)



- The Co-Chairs shall preside over bi-monthly meetings of the CAC in rotation.
- The Co-Chairs shall work with Air District staff and the CAC meeting facilitator to plan, structure, and coordinate CAC meetings.
- The Co-Chairs shall attend and provide updates to the Air District Board of Directors as needed and/or requested and interact with the Air District Board of Directors in representation of overburdened communities within the nine Bay Area counties, and on behalf of the CAC members.



## 1.3.1 Duties of Leadership (select, cont.)



- The Co-Chairs shall oversee activities of the ad hoc committees.
- The Co-Chairs shall perform all other necessary and incidental duties as prescribed by the CAC Charter.
- The Co-Chairs shall ensure that CAC decisions are made in a democratic, equitable, and timely manner.
- The Co-Chairs shall understand and adhere to the Brown Act and Robert's Rules of Order.



# Questions?



# Public Comment



# Election



# Proposed Motion

Motion to elect John Kevin Jefferson III as a  
Co-Chair of the Community Advisory Council



# Results



# Proposed Motion

Motion to elect Mayra Pelagio as a Co-Chair  
of the Community Advisory Council



# Results





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AGENDA: 6

# Community Advisory Council (CAC) Recommendation for New CAC Members

Community Advisory Council Meeting  
May 16, 2024

John Kevin Jefferson III, CAC Council Member  
Kevin Ruano Hernandez, CAC Council Member

# Presentation Outline



- A. Creation of Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee
- B. Prior to First Meeting
- C. Outreach
- D. Applications
- E. Selected Applicants
- F. Public Comment
- G. Questions
- H. Vote
- I. Results

# Requested Action



- Vote to recommend to the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee that it recommend to the Board of Directors the following individuals for appointment to the Community Advisory Council:
  - Sejal Babaria, Alameda County seat for 2 years
  - Patrick Messac, Alameda County seat for 2 years
  - Dominick Ramirez, Youth seat for 2 years

# Creation



- The Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee was created during the November 30, 2023, CAC meeting.
- The Ad Hoc consisted of Council Members Gordon, Pelagio, Ruano Hernandez, and Jefferson, as well as Board Chair Hurt
- The Ad Hoc worked to select candidates for the Board to consider their appointment to the Community Advisory Council candidates.
- The Ad Hoc selected candidates for two vacant Alameda County seats and one vacant Youth seat.

# Prior to First Meeting



- The Ad Hoc Committee scored the applicants based on the initial criteria approved by the Board of Directors:
  1. Reflect the diverse demographics of the Bay Area;
  2. Include generational history and experience living in communities heavily impacted by air pollution;
  3. Demonstrate diversity of relevant experience – including environmental justice, technical expertise, health, and Air District functions or knowledge of the Air District; and
  4. Have access to other people who have a range of relevant knowledge and technical experience that could help inform the Community Advisory Council.

# Outreach



- The outreach consisted of:
  - Online efforts (LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, X [formerly Twitter], Threads)
  - Nextdoor
  - Air District's Currents Newsletter
  - Air District's Latest News post
  - Emails to James Cary Smith Grantees and AB617 partners
  - CAC members sending information to their networks

# Applications



- The Ad Hoc Committee scored 33 applications
  - 25 applications for the Alameda County seat
  - 8 applications for the Youth seat
- The applications were scored over a two-week period
- On the third and final meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, they analyzed their scores and came to consensus on the selection of the candidates for the three vacant CAC seats.

# Selected Applicants



- The Ad Hoc Committee is here to recommend the following candidates to be appointed to the CAC:
  - Sejal Babaria (Alameda County seat) for 2 years
  - Patrick Messac (Alameda County seat) for 2 years
  - Dominick Ramirez (Youth seat) for 2 years
- There will be three votes for the CAC to consider the recommendation of each individual separately.





# PUBLIC COMMENT



# QUESTIONS?

# Council Vote



**Vote to recommend to the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee that it recommend to the Board of Directors the following individual for appointment to the Community Advisory Council: Sejal Babaria (Alameda County seat) for 2 years**

## Council Vote (cont.)



**Vote to recommend to the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee that it recommend to the Board of Directors the following individual for appointment to the Community Advisory Council:  
Patrick Messac (Alameda County seat) for 2 years**

# Council Vote (cont.)



**Vote to recommend to the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee that it recommend to the Board of Directors the following individual for appointment to the Community Advisory Council:  
Dominick Ramirez (Youth seat) for 2 years**



# RESULTS



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**AGENDA: 7**

# **Advancing Environmental Justice (EJ) Strategies in the Strategic Plan**

**Community Advisory Council Meeting**

**May 16, 2024**

**Rio Molina, Environmental Justice Policy Ad Hoc Committee Co-Chair**

**Vernice Miller-Travis, Executive Vice President, The Metropolitan Group**

**Gregory Nudd, DEO of Science and Policy**

**Meredith Bauer, DEO of Engineering and Compliance & Enforcement**

**Alexander Crockett, General Counsel**

# Presentation Outcome

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) will:

- Receive an update from the Community Advisory Council (CAC)'s Environmental Justice (EJ) Policy Ad Hoc Committee and The Metropolitan Group consultants on the development of an Air District EJ Action Plan.
- Review key EJ Strategies in the Air District's Strategic Plan, a draft EJ Action Plan Outline, and next steps for both the EJ Action Plan and Strategic Plan.



# Presentation Outline

- Timeline: EJ Action Plan Development
- Strategic Plan Update and Process Diagram
- Visionary EJ Document Outline (DRAFT)
- Discussion of Draft EJ Strategy Ideas
  - EJ Policy Ad Hoc's top three priority areas:
    - **Data Collection and Usage** – Gregory H. Nudd
    - **Permitting** – Meredith Bauer, Ph.D.
    - **Enforcement** - Alexander Crockett
- Next steps for the EJ Action Plan and Strategic Plan

# Presentation Requested Action

- None; this is an informational presentation only

# Timeline: EJ Action Plan Development

Importance of engaging in a shared-learning phase and an Environmental Justice process in developing the EJ Action Plan.

- **September 2022:** The Metropolitan Group presented to Community Advisory Council (CAC); CAC voted to create EJ Policy Ad Hoc Committee.
- **Winter & Spring 2023:** EJ Policy Ad Hoc Committee discussed potential EJ solutions and built capacity for socialization of EJ Action Plan with District.
- **Summer 2023:** Conducted interviews with District staff and a Theory of Change exercise with EJ Policy Ad Hoc Committee, focusing on outcome of “Desired Impacts of an EJ Action Plan.”

## Timeline: EJ Action Plan Development (cont.)

- **September 2023:** Conducted team-building exercise at CAC Retreat to include input from all Council Members on prioritizing “Desired Impacts of an EJ Action Plan.”
- **October 2023:** EJ Policy Ad Hoc Committee met with Division Directors and staff to discuss EJ solutions regarding permitting, compliance, and enforcement procedures.
- **January 2024:** CAC develops 9 EJ Priorities to guide EJ Action Plan and Strategic Plan and presents EJ Priorities to the Board of Directors.
- **Winter & Spring 2024:** Meetings between EJ Policy Ad Hoc and District Divisions continue to develop EJ Strategies for the EJ Action Plan and Strategic Plan.



# Strategic Plan Update

- During March CAC meeting, Air District shared information on Strategic Planning process that began in Fall 2023.
- Strategic Plan will have four goals.
  - One goal is to [Advance Environmental Justice](#).
- All goals and strategies will be informed by and support the [CAC's nine draft EJ priorities](#).
- Strategies are also informed by CAC EJ Policy Ad Hoc conversations in [three priority areas](#).

# Strategic Planning Process: Fall 2023 to Present



Input &  
Analysis

October –  
December 2023



Draft  
Mission,  
Vision,  
Goals &  
Objectives

December 2023  
– February 2024



Goals, Vision  
& Framework  
Development

January –  
March 2024



Draft  
Strategies

March –  
April 2024



Draft and  
Prioritize  
Strategies

April 2024



Draft  
Strategic  
Plan for  
Review

Summer 2024

# Visionary EJ Document Outline

- Welcome Letter
- Introduction
  - Background and purpose
  - Relationship to the Strategic Plan
  - Project activities and timeline
- Environmental Justice:  
A North Star for the Air District\*
  - The Seventeen Principles of Environmental Justice
  - The CAC's EJ Priorities
  - The Air District's EJ Journey

*\* This section would be aligned with similar content in the Strategic Plan.*



# Visionary EJ Document Outline (cont.)

- EJ Action Plan Strategies\*\*
  - Data Collection and Usage
  - Permitting
  - Enforcement
  - Additional EJ Strategies from the Strategic Plan
- Looking Ahead
  - Implementation guidance and accountability
  - Conclusion

*\*\* The EJ Action Plan itself will be a working implementation document that goes into more detail about implementation of these strategies.*

# Select, Overarching EJ Strategy Ideas in the Draft Strategic Plan

- Approximately 70-80% of the draft strategies for the Strategic Plan have an EJ focus
- Topics covered in the strategy ideas include, but are not limited to:
  - Use targeted assessments, including health impacts, to better tailor local needs for air pollution actions.
  - Partner with community on local data collection and usage.
  - Prioritize actions that reduce inequitable exposures to air pollution.
  - Review and update rules and permitting processes with an EJ lens.

# Select, Overarching EJ Strategy Ideas in the Draft Strategic Plan (cont.)

- Improve investigation methods for violations in impacted EJ communities.
- Collaborate with community on developing expanded enforcement response policies.
- Increase communication with community members on violations and investigation procedures.
- Prioritize the recruitment, development and retention of a diverse workforce and leadership reflecting the communities we serve.
- Develop programs for cross-training staff and establish temporary assignments and other mobility opportunities to break down silos across the Air District.

# Draft Strategy Ideas: Data Collection and Usage

- Develop targeted, detailed assessments of air quality in overburdened communities.
  - Actions may include:
    - Catalog and assess available data and identify gaps.
    - Partner with communities for additional monitoring and for reporting and tracking results.
    - Develop pathways for incorporating participatory research.
- Use assessments to prioritize reducing inequitable exposures.
- Support the collection and use of community data.

# Draft Strategy Ideas: Permitting (1 of 2)

- Review and possibly update rules to ensure significant emission sources, including sources currently exempted from permitting, are adequately regulated to protect public health and consider EJ.
  - Actions may include:
    - Review exemptions in permitting rule to ensure they are health protective and don't exclude impactful sources from an adequate level of protection.
    - Review timing of when and how often the Air District reviews or revisits exempted sources and how a source is determined "exempt."

# Draft Strategy Ideas: Permitting (2 of 2)

- Review and possibly update rules to ensure significant emission sources, including sources currently exempted from permitting, are adequately regulated to protect public health and consider EJ. (cont'd.)
  - Additional possible action:
    - Review source categories and develop/update source-specific rules as needed to ensure health protection.
- Improve the communication and transparency of the permitting process.
- Ensure consistency and improve timeliness of permit decisions.

# Draft Strategy Ideas: Enforcement

- In conjunction with community input, develop and implement an enforcement policy including deterrence-based penalties, community-focused injunctive relief, and consideration of repeat violations in determining enforcement response.
- Prioritize inspection resources in EJ communities.
- Communicate regularly with impacted communities about compliance and enforcement activities in the community.

# Draft Strategies

- Strategies supporting the CAC's nine draft Environmental Justice Priorities are under development throughout the strategic plan.
- These EJ strategies and actions to carry them out will be incorporated in the EJ Action Plan.



# Timeline and next steps

- May 15<sup>th</sup> Workshop: Discussed EJ strategies and possible actions with CAC EJ Policy Ad Hoc, DEOs and Division staff.
- June 10th and future EJ Policy Ad Hoc Committee Meetings to discuss and develop the EJ Action Plan.
- Summer: Continue to work and engage on Strategic Plan.
- Fall: Finalize Strategic Plan for consideration by Board of Directors.

# Public Comment

# Discussion