

MEETING NOTES

East Oakland AB 617 Community Steering Committee (CSC)
Meeting #27

Date & Time: Thursday, March 13th, 2025, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm PDT

Virtual Facilitators: Aiyahna Johnson, Mr. Charles, Mykela Patton, CSC Co-Chairs

Note-taker: Raven Maier Bell, Just Cities (JC)

Co-Chairs:

Aiyahna Johnson, Mr. Charles, and Mykela Patton

Co-Leads:

CBE: Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)

Air District: Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD)

Location (Hybrid):

- In Person at the Youth UpRising Campus (8711 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland)
- Also, virtually using Zoom at <https://zoom.us/j/98846736960>

Website with Meeting Materials and Meeting Video Recording:

<https://www.baaqmd.gov/community-health/community-health-protection-program/east-oakland-community-emissions-reduction-plan>

Meeting Objectives:

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Time	Topic	Transcribed Meeting Minutes/Summary
6:04 pm	Welcome, Interpretation, Agenda (10 mins; 6:04-6:14 PM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Steering Committee Members Present:</u><ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Aiyahna Johnson2. Andrea Pineda3. Andria Blackmon4. Carol Corr5. Ms. Cecilia Cunningham6. Colleen Liang7. Mr. Charles Reed8. Cynthia Gutierrez9. Gabrielle Sloane-Law10. EriKa Pascual11. Jamie Schecter12. Jamaica Sowell13. Katie Liang14. Khalilha Haynes15. Marina Muñoz16. Merika Goolsby

		<p>17. Mykela Patton 18. Njeri McGee-Tyner 19. Shamar Theus 20. Susan Goolsby 21. Bill (William) Crotinger 22. Tram Nguyen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The East Oakland Community Emissions Reduction Plan Steering Committee Meeting Number 27 commenced with introductions and interpretation instructions. Co-Chair Aiyahna Johnson outlined the meeting objectives, agenda, and participation agreements. Participants introduced themselves in the Zoom chat. • Mr. Charles Reed (Co-Chair), then went over the timeline for the CERP, stating that the CSC is in the process of working on the draft Plan and that this meeting will be to work on the strategies and strategy objectives of the plan. Working on strategies and actions for the CERP will be continued through the second quarter of 2025.
6:14 pm	CSC #26 (February) Recap (2 mins; 6:14-6:16 pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carly Cabral (CBE) provided a recap of CSC Meeting #26 and the special illegal dumping session held on February 27. Carly highlighted the February discussion on environmental justice leader Hazel Johnson and the Public Health & Wellness breakout groups. The Community Description chapter had also been introduced, and several members had shared their lived experiences. Carly then described findings from the Illegal Dumping special meeting, reviewing the City of Oakland’s current programs and challenges. Concerns included limited pickup capacity, safety at dump sites, laws concerning unhoused residents, and the unintended effects of routine dumping cleanups. Members were urged to report persistent dump sites through 311 and work with district representatives who have access to resources like dumpsters.
6:16 pm	Oakland International Airport (OAK) Emissions Presentation (19 mins; 6:16-7:35)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carly Cabral (CBE) and Steven Reid (BAAQMD) delivered a comprehensive presentation on the Oakland International Airport’s environmental impact. Key emissions sources were identified as aircraft, ground support equipment, ground access vehicles, and stationary infrastructure such as backup generators. Aircraft were shown to contribute the majority of NOx and PM2.5 emissions. Additionally, ultrafine particles (UFPs), mostly from jet engines, were highlighted as a major health concern, with exposure disproportionately affecting airport workers and residents downwind—primarily East Oakland neighborhoods.

		<p>Studies and emission inventories were referenced to underscore these concerns, with a note that the airport’s NOx contribution rivals that of all on-road vehicles in the area.</p>
6:35 pm	Airport Activity (30 mins; 6:35-7:05)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSC members reviewed six proposed actions under the Airport Emissions Reduction Strategy. These included developing a Port-led emissions reduction plan (Action 6.1), electrifying ground support equipment (6.2), accelerating the transition of ground access vehicles (6.3), enforcing best practices in construction (6.4), phasing out leaded aviation gas (6.5), and establishing a zero-emissions operations regulation (6.6). Key feedback included a need for clarity about whether strategies apply now or only if airport expansion proceeds, inclusion of labor unions in emissions planning, and concerns about the affordability of electric vehicles. Suggestions included more ethical procurement, regulatory advocacy for limiting flight frequency during poor air quality days, and a stronger public accountability framework. CSC members expressed frustration about unclear roles, desired more time to understand proposals, and requested ongoing space to digest and respond to action language.
7:05	Break (7 mins, 7:05-7:12 pm)	
7:12	Commercial & Industrial Draft Strategies and Actions - Part 1 (20 mins, 7:12-7:32 pm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alicia Parker (AD) introduced the Commercial and Industrial Focus Area, emphasizing how this set of actions integrates emissions inventory data with community feedback. Part 1 of the discussion focused on two key sources of pollution: backup diesel generators and fugitive dust. Alicia noted that Part 2, scheduled for April, will cover health risk assessments, permitting, enforcement, and sources like auto body shops. • Backup generators are distributed across East Oakland and are primarily used for facilities that require constant power, such as data centers. Although each generator may emit relatively small amounts individually, their cumulative effect contributes significantly to cancer risk—accounting for 40% of risk from permitted sources. A map showed a concentration of these generators at the Oakland Airport, indicating it as a significant site for emissions. The airport confirmed these are essential for emergency operations

		<p>and are tested monthly, they do not run continuously.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Eric Lara (AD), lead developer of the Air District’s Fugitive Dust Rules, provided an overview of fugitive dust—larger particulate matter (PM) than ultrafine particles but still small enough to harm human health. This type of dust comes from uncontained activities such as construction, demolition, unpaved roads, and material storage or handling. These sources are often temporary, episodic, and dispersed, making regulation and enforcement challenging. ● Eric explained that existing rules (like Rule 6.1 on visible emissions and Rule 6-6 on track-out prevention) only partially address the issue, leaving gaps—particularly for smaller or temporary operations. Enforcement is also difficult due to reliance on visual inspection methods requiring specific light and timing conditions. ● Eric highlighted Gallagher & Burke as an example of a facility with dust concerns, due to unpaved roads and high truck traffic. Best practices were outlined, such as managing stockpiles, enforcing vehicle speed limits, and regularly cleaning up loose materials. Argent, another facility previously visited by the CSC, was recognized for using dust control measures like water spraying, street sweeping, and rumble grates to reduce dust emissions. These examples illustrated the need for site-specific approaches. ● CSC members raised questions about the actual use and emissions from airport backup generators. Concerns were also shared about the lack of quantification of fugitive dust impacts and whether site inspections were happening regularly. Eric clarified that inspectors do follow up on complaints and conduct routine checks. A representative from one facility noted that they conduct annual respiratory and hearing health tests for workers and emphasized the importance of translating regulatory rules into meaningful community protections—not just paperwork compliance. ● The segment closed with an acknowledgment of the complexity of these issues and an invitation for CSC members to continue engaging with facilities and the Air District as regulations evolve.
7:32	Commercial & Industrial Activity (25 mins; 7:32 - 7:57)	<p>Before transitioning into breakout sessions, Alicia Parker provided instructions for the activity. CSC members were given a handout containing two strategies and five associated actions. Each action in the handout included a title, a strategy</p>

		<p>objective, and a lead agency responsible for implementation.</p> <p>Alicia explained that each breakout room would be facilitated and guided by these discussion prompts. Online participants would use Zoom controls to join their assigned rooms. While this month’s focus featured only a few actions, members were reminded that the bulk of the Commercial & Industrial strategies would be presented in the following month’s meeting.</p> <p>Participants were encouraged to reflect on two core questions during their breakout discussions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What resonates with you about these actions? 2. What concerns or gaps do you see that haven’t been addressed? <p>The facilitation team asked members to keep in mind that the strategies presented were just the first part of a larger conversation continuing in April.</p>
7:57 pm	<p>Next Steps and Close Out (3 mins, 7:57-8:00 pm)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alicia Parker (AD) reminded the CSC that the March meeting only covered Part 1 of the Commercial and Industrial Focus Area. Part 2, to be presented in April, will include the bulk of the remaining actions. She noted that background information for Part 2 draws from community input and discussions over the past two years. Members were encouraged to review the draft actions and background materials ahead of the next meeting to support a more informed and engaging conversation. • Carly Cabral then passed the mic to Yami Henry (AD) to share a brief community engagement update. Yami reported on a successful outreach effort at the “Neighborhood Empowerment Day” event. Alongside fellow CSC member Marina Muñoz, they shared information about the East Oakland CERP, collected survey responses, and engaged with around 70 community members. Marina highlighted the importance of outreach to Spanish-speaking residents, many of whom were unaware of environmental issues or the CERP process. She shared that the event left participants feeling informed and appreciative of the CSC’s work. • The meeting closed with a reminder that the next CSC meeting will take place on April 10, 2025. Members were encouraged to fill out the post-meeting survey and to provide comments on the draft documents by March 20. Equity support reminders were also shared: virtual attendees receive DoorDash stipends, and in-person

		attendees can access childcare and transportation reimbursements.
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