

Right to Breathe: East Oakland Community Air Quality Justice Plan

Public Review Draft Open House

November 13, 2025



Bay Area Air District

COMMUNITIES
FOR A BETTER
ENVIRONMENT
established 1978

Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome & Opening Remarks**
- **Introduction to the Public Review Draft Plan**
- **Community Perspectives**
- **Questions**
- **Gallery Walk of the Plan**
- **Closing**



Created by Andika Cahya Fitriani
from Noun Project

Opening Remarks

Arsenio Mataka, Bay Area Air District

Introduction to the Public Review Draft of the *Right to Breathe: East Oakland Community Air Quality Justice Plan*

Diana Perez, Bay Area Air District



Bay Area Air District

CLEAN AIR FOR ALL

- A regional government agency (Est. 1955) committed to achieving clean air to protect the public's health and the environment.
- Responsible for air quality planning, monitoring, and stationary source permitting in all of seven Bay Area counties and a portion of two others (Sonoma and Solano).
- Regulates stationary sources, oversees policies, adopts regulations, and administers grant programs.



What is Assembly Bill (AB) 617?

- State mandated program that responds to the **history of environmental injustice**.
- Focuses on reducing exposure in **communities most impacted by air pollution**.
- Committed to **partnering** with community to develop and implement new strategies to measure air pollution and reduce health impacts.



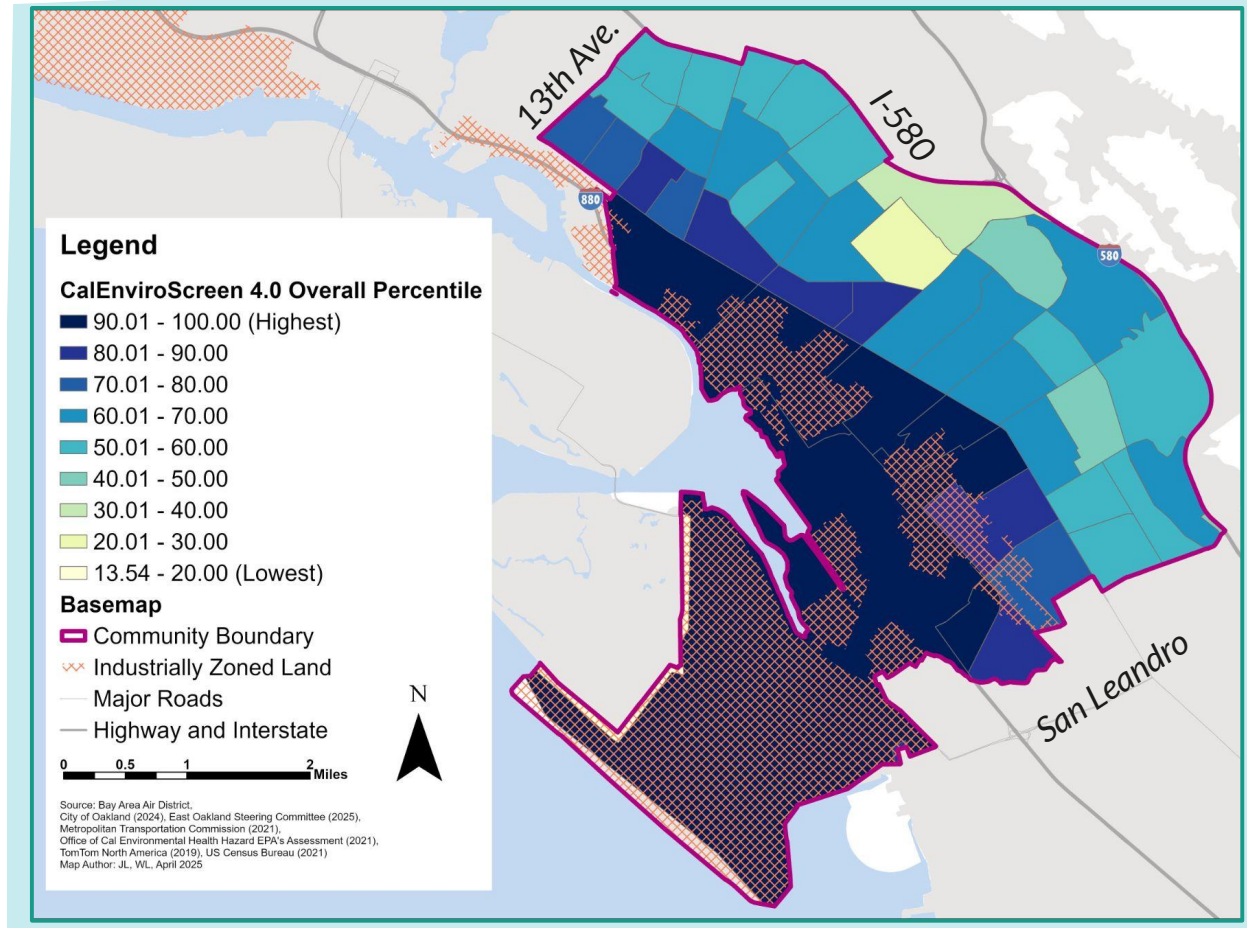
East Oakland

AB 617

Community

2021: Air District selected East Oakland for a plan to reduce local air pollution.

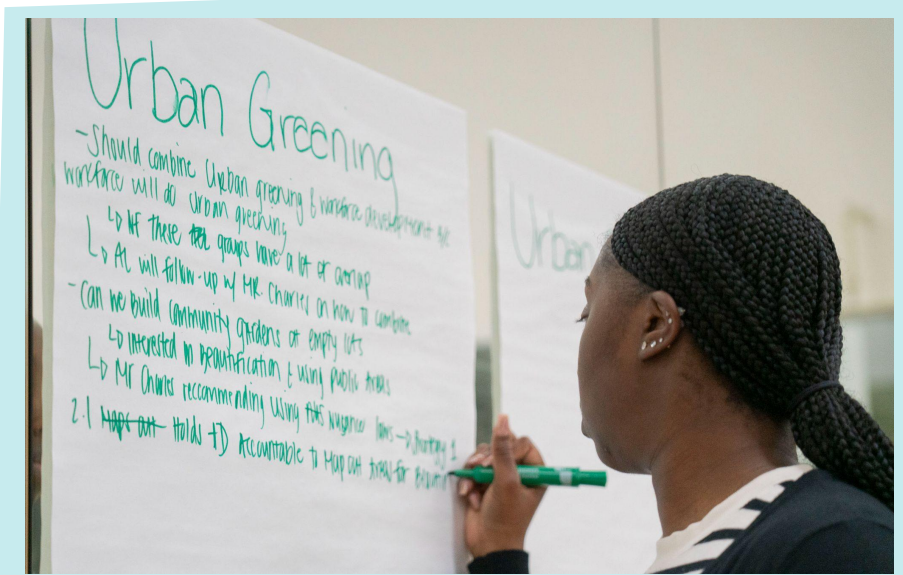
Community members face a high health burden from disproportionate air pollution exposure.



What is the *Right to Breathe: East Oakland Community Air Quality Justice Plan*?

At the heart of the Plan are strategies and actions designed to reduce air pollution and improve health in East Oakland.

Co-developed by the Bay Area Air District, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), and the Community Steering Committee (CSC).



An Air District staff member takes notes during a CSC meeting.

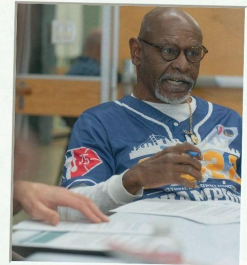
Community Steering Committee

The CSC is a diverse group of **23** East Oakland residents, workers, and students. Members represent:

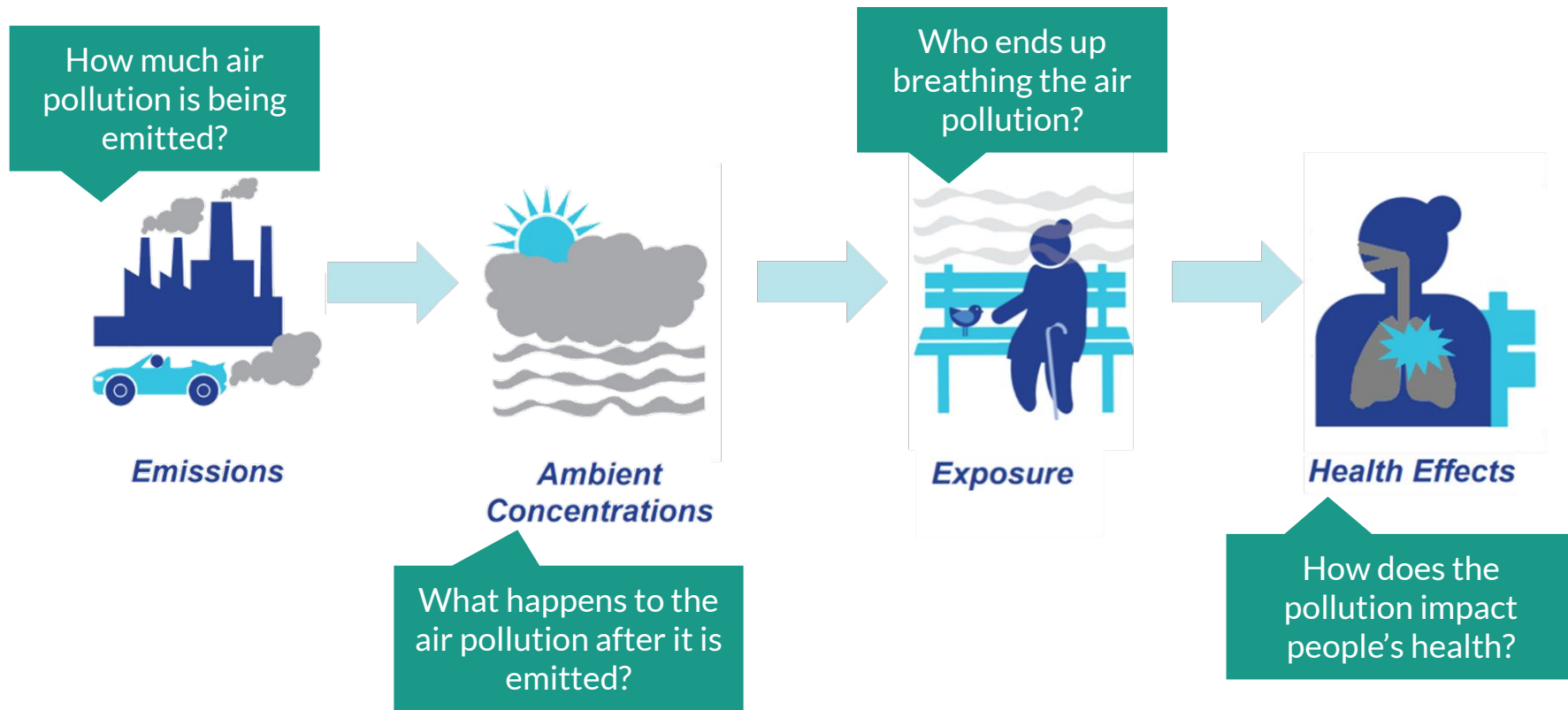
- Faith-based organizations
- Youth
- Community-based organizations
- Local businesses
- Industry *
- Government *
- Seniors

**Non-voting member*

*CSC members attend
a CSC meeting at
Youth Uprising.*



Air Pollution and Public Health



Proposed Draft Plan Goals



Reduce East Oaklanders' exposure to air pollution by decreasing emissions from sources identified by the community as top concerns.



Prioritize actions that have the opportunity to **reduce disproportionately high health impacts associated with air pollution** affecting East Oakland residents to achieve improvements in community health.



Empower East Oakland residents to participate in **holding polluters accountable** by combining their local knowledge with an understanding of emission sources, health impacts, air pollution regulations and reporting mechanisms.

East Oakland *Right to Breathe* Draft Plan

3

Goals

Capture the results the CSC envisions the Plan will achieve.

6

Focus Areas

Organizational framework for developing strategies.

15

Community Concerns

Major air quality and health concerns in East Oakland.

32

Strategies

Identify a path forward.
Objective states a desired future outcome.

105

Actions

Concrete steps to meet each strategy objective.
Specifies a lead agency and timeframe.

Metrics

Show progress on implementing strategies.

Community Concerns



Vulnerable Populations in Proximity to Pollution Sources and Incompatible Zoning



Industrial & Manufacturing Facilities: Toxic Emissions & Hazardous Materials

Community Concerns



**Protecting Sensitive Populations
and Mitigating Pollution Impacts**



Trucks in the community

Community Concerns



**Lack of Trees, Limited Resources and a
Need for More Green Jobs**



Illegal Dumping, Trash, & Odors

Community's Vision for Improved Air Quality

Vision Statement excerpt:

“...we envision a future where transparency, trust, and mutual responsibility is realized, and where every resident can live, work, and play in a healthy and sustainable East Oakland.”

Principles:

- Justice and Equity
- Collaboration and Communication
- Information Sharing and Transparency
- Accountability and Solution

CSC adopted June 2023

Strategies & Actions

Focus Areas 1-3

Community Concerns

1

Built Environment
and Land Use

- Reducing Air Pollution at Home
- Sensitive Receptors in Proximity to Pollution Sources and Incompatible Zoning

2

Commercial and
Industrial Sources

- PM Exposure: Fugitive Dust, Material Handling, and Construction
- Toxic Emissions and Hazardous Materials
- Commercial and Smaller Industrial Facilities
- Accountability of Polluting Industries and Businesses

3

Illegal Dumping,
Trash, and Odors

Unsanitary Conditions, Inequitable Access to Waste Disposal Services, and Lack of Enforcement

Strategies & Actions

Focus Areas 4-6

Community Concerns

4

Public Health and
Community
Wellness

- Contributions of Outdoor Air Pollution to Cumulative Health Impacts
- Protecting Sensitive Populations and Mitigating Pollution Impacts
- Raising Awareness about Health Impacts of Air Pollution

5

Transportation
and Mobile
Sources

- Trucks in the Community
- I-580 Truck Ban
- Road Dust Near Freeways and High Volume Roadways
- Oakland International Airport

6

Urban Greening
and Workforce
Development

- Lack of Trees, Limited Resources and a Need for More Green Jobs

Implementation of Strategies and Actions

Government Collaboration

- Air District
 - Incentives
 - Rule Development
 - Compliance & Enforcement
 - Permitting
 - Air Monitoring
- City of Oakland
- Alameda County Public Health Dept.
- California Air Resources Board
- Port of Oakland

Community Partnerships

CSC and Co-leads

- Educate the community
- Work with Air District to:
 - Track work of partner agencies
 - Create annual implementation schedule that outlines priority topics

How to Submit Your Public Comment

Please follow these steps to share your feedback:

- Go to bit.ly/EastOaklandCERP or scan the QR code to download the *Right to Breathe* Draft Plan.
- Email your Public Comment to: planning@baaqmd.gov
- **Subject line:** [East Oakland CERP Public Comments](#)
- **Helpful tip:** Please include **page numbers** whenever possible to help us track your input. 🖋️

Scan the QR code to
download the Draft Plan



🔔 All comments must be submitted by [11:59 PM on December 7](#)

Community Perspectives

Aneesh Rana, Bay Area Air District

Community Perspectives

- The Community Perspectives section highlights the lived experiences and insights of CSC members through interviews and photographs.
- **Summer 2023:** Interviews provide a platform for CSC members to share their connections to the community, discuss the impact of air pollution in East Oakland, and offer their thoughts on how community leaders, agency partners, and the public can help improve air quality in the region.



"East Oakland Boxing Association"

Artists: Estria

Photo Courtesy of [Oakland Murals](#)

Mr. Charles Reed, Co-Chair and CSC Member

“Agencies’ true commitment to Environmental Justice and Communities of Concern should reflect in the faces of their Community Engagement teams and hiring policies. Otherwise the process and the People will continue to suffer from a lack of Cultural Communication and Understanding!”



Ms. Cecilia Cunningham, CSC Member

"If you can't breathe, you're in trouble. You got to be able to breathe clean air."



Mykela Patton, Co-Chair and CSC Member

"Since high school, I have seen that East Oaklanders have been subjected to unequal amounts of air pollution for far too long. Residents are constantly dealing with the impacts of poor air quality such as asthma attacks, increased emergency visits, poor mental and physical health, and more. The AB 617 Emissions Reduction Plan is only the first step in justifying a legacy of wrongs East Oakland has been subjected to. I hope this plan brings increased health and better quality of life for my community."



Gallery Walk

Activity Instructions

Karissa White, Bay Area Air District



**Built
Environment
and Land Use**



**Commercial
and Industrial
Sources**



**Public Health
and Wellness**

7 Stations

Visit each one.
Ask Questions.
Meet Staff and CSC
Members



**Illegal
Dumping,
Trash, and
Odors**



**Transportation
and Mobile
Sources**



**Urban Greening
and Workforce
Development**



**Community
Perspectives**



Close Out

Alicia Parker, Bay Area Air District

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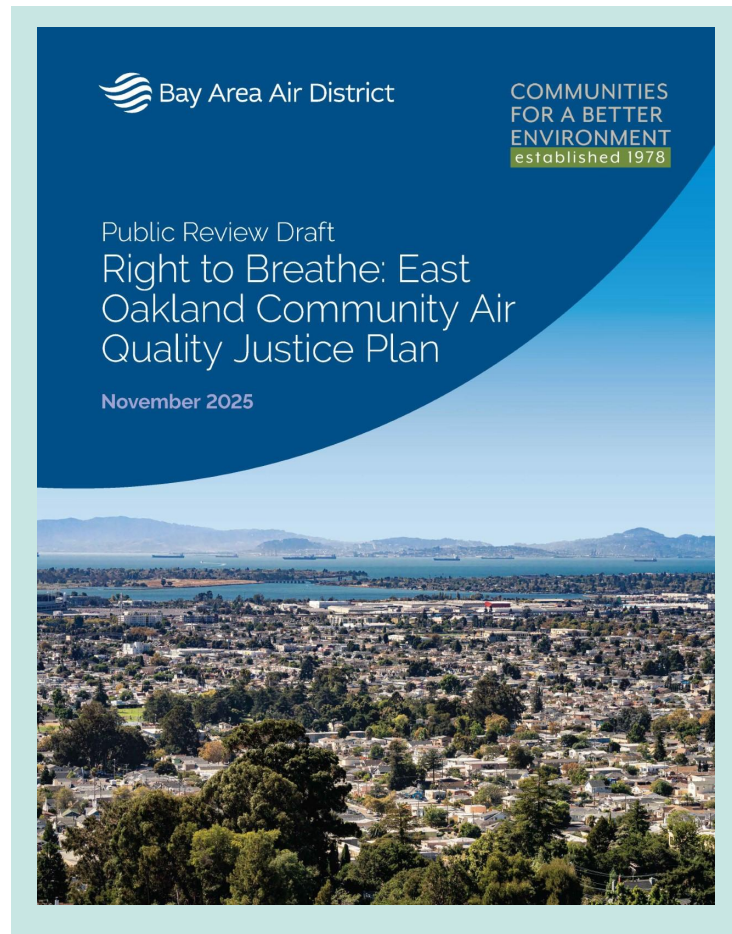


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Next Steps

The final *Right to Breathe: East Oakland Community Air Quality Justice Plan* will be considered and approved or adopted by:

- Community Steering Committee (CSC)
- Air District Board of Directors
- California Air Resources Board (CARB)





Thank you CSC Members!



Aiyahnna Johnson *(Co-Chair)*

Andrea Pineda

Andria Blackmon

Carol Corr

Mr. Charles Reed *(Co-Chair)*

Cynthia Gutierrez

Danny Scott

Erika Pascual

Gabrielle Sloane-Law

Jamaica Sowell

Marina Muñoz

Merika Goolsby

Ms. Cecilia Cunningham

Mykela Patton *(Co-Chair)*

Njeri McGee-Tyner

Shamar Theus

Susan Goolsby

Huan (Katie) Liang

Rebecca Bantum

Khalilha Haynes *(non-voting member)*

William Crotinger *(non-voting member)*

Kimi Watkins-Tartt *(non-voting member)*

Tram Nguyen *(Kimi Watkins-Tartt
Alternate) (non-voting member)*

Colleen Liang *(non-voting member)*

