

West Oakland Community Action Plan Steering Committee Meeting #20

Wednesday, February 5, 2019 | 5:30 pm — 8:30 pm
West Oakland Senior Center

Meeting Summary

1. **Welcome** Marybelle Tobias (Facilitator, E / J Solutions) & Ms Margaret Gordon (WOEIP). Marybelle welcomed attendees, and shared meeting objectives and guidelines. Ms Margaret led a round of brief introductions.
2. **East Bay Diesel Exposure Project: Initial Results** Asa Bradman (Center for Environmental Research & Children's Health, School of Public Health, UC Berkeley).
 - a. Brian Beveridge (WOEIP) introduced the presenter, noting that WOEIP was a community partner for the study, which is rooted in the community.
 - b. Asa described the East Bay Diesel Exposure Project, a partnership between *Biomonitoring CA*, UC Berkeley, and WOEIP. WOEIP helped recruit all of the study participants through meaningful outreach. The project:
 - i. Followed one parent and one child (2-10 years) from 40 families in the East Bay who reside in locations near the freeways: I-80, I-580, I-880.
 - ii. Measured different chemicals from diesel exhaust in urine, indoor air, and house dust, during two household visits between January 2018 - February 2019.
 - iii. Found diesel exhaust chemicals in all 40 children, 39 of 40 parents, in almost all house dust samples, and in most of the indoor air samples.
 - iv. Monitored the number of miles traveled by trucks in the vicinity of the study homes and 28 school and childcare locations, finding:
 1. A median of over 16,000 truck miles traveled per day within a two-mile radius of the school and childcare locations.
 2. A median of nearly 300 truck miles were driven within a half-mile radius of study homes.
 - c. Asa concluded by sharing that the researchers will next examine the factors that contribute to high exposures, studying the rich location-based data they gathered, which includes GPS logs of where participants spent their time.
 - i. Researchers will also take on AB 617 projects, organizing listening sessions, identifying pollutants of concern that can be bio-monitored, and helping to evaluate exposure reduction strategies.
 - d. **Q&A.** Following the presentation, several Steering Committee and other attendees asked several follow-up questions.
 - i. One attendee asked why there wasn't a control group for this study.
 - ii. Asa explained that it was a pilot study. A similar study conducted in LA took samples from a broader range of exposure levels. They would expect similar results in the Bay Area, and are currently searching for more funding to be able to expand.
 - iii. Brian Beveridge commented that there is no safe threshold for diesel emissions and no diesel on a given street is the goal. Asa agreed, adding that cancer risks are related to the exposure levels and the ultimate goal is to eliminate exposures.

3. **Subcommittee Instructions** Alison Kirk (BAAQMD). Alison prepared participants to continue the discussion on how to begin to implement strategies, asking committee members to think about the level of effort they want to put into each strategy. Alison also introduced the confirmed Subcommittee volunteer co-chairs.
4. **Session One & Session Two: Subcommittee Discussion of Select Strategies**
 - a. Session One
 - i. Front room: Transit, Walk & Bike Subcommittee
 - ii. Back Room: Land Use Subcommittee
 - b. Session Two
 - i. Front Room: Port & Freight Subcommittee
 - ii. Back Room: Health Protection & Living Buffers Subcommittee
5. **Subcommittee Report Back**
 - a. Port & Freight Subcommittee. Laura Arreola (Port of Oakland) shared the key takeaways. The committee would like to have concrete ways to interact with the Port and the City. Also want to have a better relationship with the communities that are being impacted.
 - i. We reviewed strategies, we need consultation on a lot of the issues. We don't know what we don't know. We need more information on the topic for discussions.
 - ii. Many additional partners should be at the table: community members, agency partners, Department of Transportation
 - b. Transit, Walk & Bike Subcommittee. Kevin Krewson (CalTrans) shared that the committee feels that its task is becoming clearer with every meeting.
 - c. Land Use Subcommittee. Charles Reed (Community Member) Discussed the need to know more about the level of enforcement for laws that are already in place. Is there any punishment? Also, suggested the need for smaller working groups, focused on specific issues, within the sub-committee to accomplish more with time.
 - d. Health Protection & Living Buffers Subcommittee. Michelle Arango (New Voices are Rising) reported that they worked on the strategy of implementing filtration systems in schools and feel that schools should be provided with air filtration systems, especially during wildfire season.
 - i. Need more consolidated information about funding sources from all the different sources.
 - ii. Committee also emphasized the need for a local hire requirement on all new money spent in the community, to help build wealth in local communities.
6. **Wrap-up + Next steps** Marybelle Tobias (Facilitator) & Jhamere Howard (WOEIP). Jhamere made an announcement about WOEIP's Earth Day event in DeFremery Park on April 18.
 - a. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 4, 2020
7. **Adjourn.**

