Consider Taking 'Support' Position on the Federal "Cleaner Air Spaces Act of 2023"

Board of Directors Meeting
July 5, 2023

Alan Abbs
Legislative Officer
aabbs@baaqmd.gov
Presentation Outcome

• The Board of Directors will discuss and consider staff’s recommendation for the federal Cleaner Air Spaces Act (CASA) of 2023.
Discussion Items:

• Cleaner Air Spaces Act of 2023

• Staff Recommendation
Presentation Requested Action

Staff recommends the following positions on current legislation:

**Support:**

- **Cleaner Air Spaces Act of 2023** introduced by Representative Scott Peters (CA-50) and Senators Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR).
Cleaner Air Spaces Act of 2023

Introduced by Representative Scott Peters (CA-50) and Senators Michael Bennet (D-CO) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR).

This bill enable eligible entities, including air pollution control agencies, to establish accessible cleaner air centers located in areas at risk of being exposed to wildfire smoke and provides the opportunity to distribute air filtration units in low-income communities.

Proposed Appropriation: $30 Million (FY 2024 through 2026)

Maximum Grant Amount: $3 Million per eligible entity
Questions / Discussion
Adoption of Protocols to Ensure Continuity of Executive Leadership

Board of Directors Meeting
July 5, 2023

Sharon Landers
Interim Chief Operating Officer
slanders@baaqmd.gov
• Recommend Approval of the Executive Leadership Continuity Policy
Outline

• Need for Continuity
• Policy
Executive Officer/APCO or District Counsel could be unavailable under the following conditions:

- Anticipated Absence – medical or vacation
- Unanticipated Absence – Such as medical or emergency
- Removal of Incumbent by the Board

Potential Consequence:

- Mission critical decisions could be delayed
- Critical actions could be halted without needed authorization
- Violation of the California Health and Safety Code
## Policy Protocols

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Situation</th>
<th>Protocol</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anticipated Absence</td>
<td>• Executive Officer/APCO or Counsel (incumbent) appoints employee to act in their role for up to 21 days</td>
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<td>• For appointments longer than 21 days incumbent must receive approval by the Chair</td>
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<td>• For appointments longer than 60 days the Board must ratify the Chair’s appointment or appoint a different individual as acting or interim</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unanticipated Absence or Emergency</td>
<td>• Established automatic line of succession of Deputies / Senior Assistant Counsels</td>
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<td>• Automatic appointee must make a reasonable effort to assure that those above in succession are unable to assume the role</td>
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<td>• Chair must affirm or override the automatic appointment within 7 days</td>
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<td>• For appointments longer than 60 days the Board must ratify the Chair’s appointment or appoint a different individual as acting or interim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Removes Incumbent</td>
<td>• Unless the Board has taken action to appoint an acting/interim candidate within 24 hours of the removal of an incumbent, the Chairperson shall appoint a current employee as acting with a salary equal to step E of the deputy but not less than a 10% increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• For appointments longer than 60 days the Board must ratify the Chair’s appointment or appoint a different individual as acting or interim</td>
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Recommended Action

• Adopt the resolution enacting the Continuity of Executive Leadership Policy.
Consider Adoption of a Resolution Establishing a Governance Structure for the Community Advisory Council, the Community Advisory Council Charter and the Community Advisory Council Compensation Policy and Procedures

Board of Directors Meeting
July 5, 2023

Miriam Torres
Senior Advanced Projects Advisor
miriamtorres@baaqmd.gov
Outcome

• Provide an overview of the Resolution Establishing a Governance Structure for the Community Advisory Council (CAC), the CAC Charter, and CAC Compensation Policy and Procedures.

• Recommend adoption of the following:
  • Resolution Establishing a Governance Structure for CAC which includes the CAC Charter, and CAC Compensation Policy and Procedures.
Outline

- Resolution Establishing a Governance Structure for the Community Advisory Council (CAC).
- CAC Charter.
- CAC Compensation Policy and Procedures.
Requested Action

• Consider adoption of a Board of Directors Resolution Establishing a Governance Structure for the Community Advisory Council, which includes the Community Advisory Council Charter, and Community Advisory Council Compensation Policy and Procedures.
The resolution establishes:

• The Governing Structure for the Community Advisory Council (CAC) (Exhibit A).

• Adopts the Community Advisory Council Compensation Policy and Procedures (Exhibit B).

• Approves the Community Advisory Council Charter (Exhibit C).
Resolution Establishing a Governance Structure for the Community Advisory Council (CAC)
Background

• The Air District established the Community Advisory Council (CAC) on November 17, 2021.

• The Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee selected the slate of 17 CAC members and recommended establishing the CAC to the Air District Board of Directors on November 4, 2021.

• The CAC members represent the following seats: Alameda County, 4; Contra Costa County, 4, San Francisco County, 1; San Mateo County, 1; Santa Clara County, 2; Solano County, 1; At-Large, 2; Youth, 2.
Community Advisory Council (CAC) Purpose:

- Provide guidance to the Board of Directors on programs and policies that impact all communities, including overburdened communities within the Air District’s jurisdiction.

- The CAC advises Air District leadership on community-related matters to advance an equity-forward policy agenda.
CAC Membership Composition:

- The CAC membership shall represent all overburdened communities in the Bay Area. The membership of the CAC shall be composed of seventeen (17) members who live or work in California.
- A minimum of 70% (seventy percent) of members shall be residents living in the County represented, and no more than (6) six can represent a County where they work for the benefit of overburdened communities.
CAC Member Appointment Criteria:

• Reflect the diverse demographics of the Bay Area.

• Include generational history and experience living in communities heavily impacted by air pollution.

• Demonstrate diversity of relevant experience – including environmental justice, technical expertise, health, and Air District functions or knowledge of the Air District.

• Have access to other people who have a range of relevant knowledge and technical experience that could help inform the Community Advisory Council.
CAC Member Appointments:

• Council Members shall create a Selection Ad Hoc Committee to recommend candidates or a slate to the Board. The Selection Ad Hoc Committee may include at least one Community Equity, Health, and Justice (CEHJ) Committee member or other Board member chosen by the Board Chair.

• The candidates approved by the CEHJ Committee will be recommended to the Board of Directors for final approval.

• Appointments to the CAC are confirmed by the Air District Board of Directors.
CAC Terms of Membership and Removal:

• The Board of Directors will appoint members to two-year or four-year terms. CAC Members are limited to serving a total of eight years.

• A member’s term can end as follows, upon the earliest of (i) the expiration of their term; (ii) any of the other disqualifying events, such as continued absenteeism as defined by the CAC Charter, or for ceasing to live or work in the County they were chosen to represent; or (iii) removal by vote of the majority of the Board of Directors.
Governing Structure (cont.)

- Provides for Air District staff support of CAC operations.
- Outlines process for updating the CAC Charter.
- Specifies responsibilities and code of conduct in accordance with the CAC Charter.
- CAC Budget and Compensation details provided in the Compensation Policy and Procedures.
Community Advisory Council (CAC) Charter
Governance Ad Hoc Committee

• Began meeting on Wednesday, August 31, 2022.

• Members:
  • Ms. Margaret Gordon, Gov. Ad Hoc Committee Co-Lead
  • Charles Reed, Gov. Ad Hoc Committee Co-Lead
  • William Goodwin, Primary Writer of the Charter
  • John K. Jefferson
  • Kevin Ruano Hernandez
  • Ken Szutu
CAC Charter

• The Community Advisory Council (CAC) Charter establishes the purpose, mission and guiding principles of the CAC.

• The purpose of the CAC is to use Environmental Justice principles to provide guidance to the Board of Directors on programs and policies that impact overburdened communities within the Air District’s jurisdiction to ensure the fair treatment of all persons living in those communities.

• 10 Principles will guide the CAC to elevate voices of overburdened communities and promote fairness in decision-making.
Meetings

- An external professional meeting Facilitator will assist the Community Advisory Council (CAC) with bi-monthly CAC meetings, if budget allows.

- At least 50% plus one of the CAC’s appointed Membership must be present in-person to constitute a quorum and vote on issues.

- The CAC requires active participation and attendance of 75% of all meetings during every year served.

- Continued absenteeism from CAC Meetings (more than three missed CAC meetings in one calendar year) constitutes voluntary abandonment.
Community Advisory Council (CAC) Compensation Policy and Procedures
Overview

• The Air District recognizes that financial compensation to support community engagement increases equitable representation.

• The Board of Directors designates funding for the Community Advisory Council (CAC) through the Air District’s budget.

• The CAC’s budget is intended to cover costs related to the operations of the CAC, such as stipends, travel, reimbursements, contractors, meetings venues, and other related costs.
Compensation Policy

The Air District will provide stipends for:

• Community Advisory Council (CAC) Meetings.
• Co-Chairs Meetings, Committee Meetings and Other Required Meetings.
• Other Activities.
Community Advisory Council Meetings

- Community Advisory Council (CAC) members who participate in meetings of the full Community Advisory Council can receive a stipend of $500 per meeting.
Co-Chairs, Committee, and Other Required Meetings

• Community Advisory Council (CAC) members who participate in Ad Hoc Committees, a standing Committee of the CAC, or other required meetings related to the work of the CAC, will be compensated at $75 per hour.

• Co-Chairs are compensated at $75 per hour to attend meetings of the Co-Chairs.

• Stipends will be pro-rated based on time spent in the meeting.
Other Activities

• Each Council Member can apply for up to $1,000 in funding to cover their time spent on events, activities, or services related to the advancement of the Mission of the Air District and purpose of the Community Advisory Council (CAC). Stipends cover time at $75 per hour. This funding is only available for the first nine (9) months of the fiscal year.
Reimbursements

The Air District will reimburse:

- Transportation, meals, and other incidental expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Community Advisory Council (CAC) and other pre-approved activities.
Questions?
Wildfire Season Preview

Board of Directors Meeting
July 5, 2023

Ranyee Chiang, Ph.D.
Director of Meteorology and Measurement
rchiang@baaqmd.gov
Presentation Outcome

• Informational Presentation
Presentation Outline

• Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality: Recent Trends
• 2023 Fire Season Outlook
• Air District Role During Wildfires
• Air District Programs for Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation of Impacts
Presentation for Information Only

• None – Informational Presentation
Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality

PM$_{2.5}$ Daily Trends
Vallejo: 2017-2022

Large Spikes
Associated with
Wildfire Smoke

Moderate
Increases Also
Associated with
Wildfire Smoke

Year
- 2017
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
2023 Fire Season Outlook

High rainfall in the Bay Area (110% to 200% of average over the last year)

Cool start to season as a result of increased onshore flow during May and June

High rainfall will lead to more potential fuel for fire (particularly grasses). In addition, drying fuels left from the previous three years of drought will lead to more fire potential during late Summer and early Fall.
"Below Normal" fire potential

**October - November**
Depends on severity of offshore wind events and when the next rainy season starts

"Normal" area-wide

Northern California Geographic Coordination Center
Presentation Outline

• Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality: Recent Trends
• 2023 Fire Season Outlook
• Air District Role During Wildfires
  • Monitoring
  • Forecasting
  • Communications
• Air District Programs for Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation of Impacts
Air District Monitoring Network

Air Sensors

Example: PurpleAir
## Air Quality Data Sites

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Air Quality Data Sites</th>
<th>Accuracy &amp; Quality Assurance</th>
<th>Sub-Hourly Air Quality</th>
<th>Hourly Air Quality</th>
<th>Block-by-Block Air Quality</th>
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</table>
Air quality can change rapidly and varies from one location to another.

How is a smoke forecast produced?

- Air quality data
- Weather and smoke models
- Satellite imagery and cameras
- Local geography and wind flow
- Marine layer depth
Communications

• Significant Media Outreach & Response
• Social Media Wildfire Series & Meteorologist Video Updates
• Wildfire Safety Website, Infographics & Videos Series
• Messaging Coordination with Bay Area Health Officers & PIOs
2023 Wildfire Season

- In-Person & Zoom Press Conferences/Briefings
- Promote Clean Air Centers
- Explore New Partnerships
- Informative & Timely Charts/Data Visualization
Wildfire Preparedness Tips

Weatherize your home; seal leaky windows and doors

Upgrade to an HVAC system that allows for both heating and cooling and have the mechanism to switch to RECIRCULATE to prevent smoke from entering the space

Purchase a non-ozone producing air purifier (HEPA) or a MERV 13 or greater filter for your HVAC system to create a cleaner air room

Individuals with health conditions should talk to their physicians to develop a personal plan for smoke

If you cannot seal your home, identify locations in your community that have cleaner filtered air spaces (e.g. indoor shopping malls, local libraries, cooling centers, community centers, civic buildings, local government buildings)
Mask Messaging

1. Staying indoors with windows and doors closed is the best way to protect your health, if temperatures allow.

2. Masks are not a substitute for staying indoors and must be fitted properly for best protection.

3. If unable to visit a cleaner air center or a cooling center, those that must be outside for extended periods of time may benefit from using a tight fitting N95 mask to reduce their exposure.
Presentation Outline

- Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality: Recent Trends
- 2023 Fire Season Outlook
- Air District Role During Wildfires
- Air District Programs for Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation of Impacts
  - Reducing wildfire risk
  - Air filtration initiatives
Reducing Wildfire Risk

Open Burn Program (Prescribed Burning)
- Planned, controlled burning of vegetation to achieve natural resource management goals
- 2022 - present: ~2200 acres burned; 60 prescribed fires exempted from fees

Wildfire Prevention Chipping Pilot Program, $300k
- Free chipping services to dispose of material that would otherwise be burned to help reduce fuel loads and wildfire risks
- 2022 - present: 25 jobs completed; ~$118k remaining
• Create a network of publicly accessible facilities with high-efficiency air filtration systems for people who may not otherwise have access to clean air during wildfire events ($3M from AB 836 (2019))

• Eligible projects include facility retrofits, portable air cleaners and replacement air filters

### Clean Air Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Requested/Awarded</th>
<th>Portable Air Cleaners</th>
<th>Filter Replacements</th>
<th>HVAC Upgrade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alameda County</td>
<td>$494,342</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contra Costa County</td>
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<td>Napa County</td>
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<td>City of Benicia</td>
<td>$414,375</td>
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<tr>
<td>City of Oakland</td>
<td>$265,539</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>992</td>
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Air Filtration Initiatives

Distributed air filters and funded upgrades to HVAC systems (over 2200 air filtration units and 16 HVAC system upgraded/maintained)

Types of locations:
- Evacuation centers, community centers, senior centers, schools, libraries, homes

Partnerships with:
- California Air Resources Board, Counties, American Red Cross, Regional Asthma Management and Prevention Program, California Asthma Mitigation Partners, local health centers, James Cary Smith grantees and other Community Based Organizations

Focus on AB 617 communities, overburdened communities, households with low-income, schools with high percentage of low-income students, clients with poorly controlled asthma
Q & A