

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 749-5073

Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

This meeting was webcast, and a video recording is available on the website of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District at www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Opening Comments:** Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee (Committee) Chairperson, Vicki Veenker, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center (375 Beale Street, 1st Floor Board Room, San Francisco, California, 94105): Committee Chairperson Vicki Veenker; Committee Vice Chairperson Sergio Lopez; and Directors Ken Carlson, Noelia Corzo and Juan González III.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location (Napa County Administration Building, 1195 Third St., Suite 310, Crystal Conference Room, Napa, CA 94559): Director Joelle Gallagher.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location (Mountain View City Hall, 500 Castro Street, 2nd Floor Council Chambers, Mountain View, California, 94041): Director Margaret Abe-Koga.

Absent: Directors Erin Hannigan and Katie Rice.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE POLICY, GRANTS, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2024**

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director González made a motion, seconded by Director Carlson, to **approve** the Draft Minutes of the Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee Meeting of February 21, 2024; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Carlson, Corzo, Gallagher, Gonzalez, Lopez, Veenker.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Hannigan, Rice.

ACTION ITEMS

4. TRANSPORTATION FUND FOR CLEAN AIR ALLOCATION FISCAL YEAR ENDING 2025 - 60% FUNDS

Dr. Minda Berbeco, Manager in the Strategic Incentives Division, gave the staff presentation *Allocation of Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2025 Transportation for Clean Air (TFCA) 60% Funds*, including: action items; outline; TFCA background; eligible strategies for reducing emissions; proposed FYE 2025 TFCA funding allocation; proposed cost effectiveness Air District-sponsored programs; FYE 2025 TFCA timeline; and action items.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed whether the Air District has evaluation/outcome data for trip reduction category (Spare the Air and Commuter Benefits program) projects; the manner in which the Air District determines cost-effectiveness; whether the Air District has additional TFCA objectives, besides emission reductions; whether heavy duty passenger vehicles and commercial trucks are eligible for Clean Air Vehicles category funding; the comparison of cost-effectiveness levels of commercial vehicle replacement projects and those of passenger vehicles replacement projects; cost-effectiveness limits for heavy-duty trucks, and the suggestion of not letting large ambitions (cost-effectiveness maximums) prevent the implementation of smaller but attainable improvements to air quality, especially in overburdened communities; the current cost-effectiveness of the Vehicle Buy Back (VBB) Program, and whether it is anticipated that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will increase its Mobile Source Incentive Fund (MSIF) and Carl Moyer Program (CMP) cost-effectiveness limits; whether the Air District may add funds on top of the State-allocated funding for the VBB program; why the proposed FYE 2025 TFCA funding allocation is not more balanced (between trip reduction and clean air vehicle categories); the number of trip reductions that could be funded by \$3M; whether funds allocated to one category may be carried over to a different category; whether bicycle facility projects are limited to new bikeways, or whether they may they enhance existing or planned bikeways; whether

projects that enhance bicycle safety are eligible, and challenges presented by current limitations in this area; and whether cost-effectiveness limits of Air District-sponsored programs distinguish between funding sources.

Committee Action

Director Gonzalez made a motion, seconded by Director Carlson, to recommend the Board of Directors **approve** the proposed allocation of the estimated new TFCA monies to the programs and projects for FYE 2025 that will be funded by the 60% portion of the TFCA, and **authorize** the proposed cost-effectiveness limits for the Air District-sponsored programs and projects that would be paid for by the TFCA 60% Fund; and the motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Carlson, Corzo, Gallagher, Gonzalez, Lopez, Veenker.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Hannigan, Rice.

5. STATE LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW

Alan Abbs, Legislative Officer, gave the staff presentation *State Legislative Bill Review*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; Assembly Bill (AB) 2958 (Calderon); AB 3076 (Essayli); Senate Bill (SB) 1298 (Cortese); AB 1921 (Papan); AB 2188 (Ta); AB 2401 (Ting); AB 2480 (Garcia); AB 2781 (Irwin); AB 2851 (Bonta); AB 3243 (Ta); and presentation requested action recap.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed (**SB 1298 - Certification of thermal powerplants: data centers**) alternate power supply options, and whether data centers would still have to comply with Air District regulations and permitting requirements; (**AB 1921 - Energy: renewable electrical generation facilities: linear generators**) advantages and disadvantages of linear generators, and whether they are really a zero-emission technology; and (**AB 2851 - Metal shredding facilities: fence-line monitoring**) whether Schnitzer Steel Industries in Oakland applies to the bill.

Committee Action

Director Gonzalez made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Lopez, to recommend the Board of Directors **adopt** the following positions on the following bills:

1. Support AB 2958 (Calderon) – State Air Resources Board: board members: compensation.
2. Oppose AB 3076 (Essayli) – Energy: gas stoves.
3. Oppose SB 1298 (Cortese) – Certification of thermal powerplants: data centers.

The motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Carlson, Corzo, Gallagher, Gonzalez, Lopez, Veenker.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Hannigan, Rice.

6. AIR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION POLICY DISCUSSION

Mr. Abbs gave the staff presentation *Air District Board Member Compensation Policy Discussion*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; current statute – Health & Safety Code 40227; and Options #1, 2, and 3.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the anticipated timeline, should the Board wish to support AB 2522 (Carrillo) - South Coast Air Quality Management District: district board: compensation, and/or sponsor a Bay Area-specific bill to amend Health & Safety Code (HSC) Section 40227 with different Board compensation amounts; whether a dollar amount would have to be stated beforehand, should the Board wish to sponsor a separate bill in the future to amend HSC 40227, relative to board compensation for the Bay Area AQMD Board; reasons to weigh in on another air district's board's compensation, and reasons not to do so; equity issues and pay disparity between county supervisors and city councilmembers; suggested methods of making compensation among Board members more equitable; the suggestion of looking to AB 2958 (Calderon) – State Air Resources Board: board members: compensation, for structural alignment and reference; potential impacts of not aligning the Bay Area AQMD's Board compensation with that of the South Coast AQMD's, and whether the Board should support AB 2522 if it proposes amounts that deviate from what South Coast AQMD is proposing; whether the stipends of the Bay Area AQMD Board members have reached their maximum (historically); and the request ongoing discussion regarding pay equity for Bay Area AQMD Board members, regardless of what action is taken by the Board.

Committee Action

The Committee considered the following options related to Air District Board Member compensation:

- Request to participate and provide amendments to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) sponsored AB 2522 (Carrillo) - South Coast Air Quality Management District: district board: compensation – to include changes to Health and Safety Code Section 40227 relative to board compensation for the Bay Area AQMD Board; or
- Sponsor a separate bill in the future to amend Health and Safety Code 40227 relative to board compensation for the Bay Area AQMD Board; or
- Decline to take any action.

Chair Veenker made a motion, seconded by Director González, to recommend the Board of Directors:

- **Approve** the Air District's participation in AB 2522 (Carrillo), to provide amendments to that bill that would align the Air District's board member compensation provisions in the Health

and Safety Code with the bill's proposed amendments to the South Coast Air Quality Management District's board member compensation provisions.

- **Direct** staff to initiate a review of the Air District's Administrative Code provisions on Board Member compensation to evaluate equity considerations with respect to how Board members are compensated for their service on the Board of Directors.

The motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Abe-Koga, Carlson, Corzo, Gallagher, Gonzalez, Lopez, Veenker.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Hannigan, Rice.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

7. AIR DISTRICT SPONSORED AND CO-SPONSORED BILLS

Alan Abbs, Legislative Officer, gave the staff presentation *Air District Sponsored and Co-Sponsored Bills*, including: presentation for information only; outline; AB 1465 (Wicks); AB 2298 (Hart, et al.); SB 382 (Becker); and SB 1095 (Becker).

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

None; receive and file.

8. UPDATE ON U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCTION GRANT

Jamesine Rogers-Gibson, Senior Advanced Projects Advisor, gave the staff presentation *Update on United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant*, including: outcome; outline; requested action; US EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant overview; Bay Area Regional Climate Action Planning (BARCAP) Initiative; BARCAP planning deliverables; input from the Advisory Work Group and local governments; building upon community engagement efforts; measure design working sessions; priority measure focus areas for Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP); holistic building decarbonization for clean, healthy, and secure housing; safe, affordable, clean, and equitable multi-modal transportation; implementation grant proposals; and next steps.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the Air District's role in the multi-agency effort to produce two regional plans that incorporate input from and reflect the priorities of the region's local governments and communities (Priority Climate Action Plan and Comprehensive Climate Action Plan); and details about the implementation grant applications.

Committee Action

None; receive and file.

OTHER BUSINESS

9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

No requests received.

10. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

11. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

At the end of the meeting, the next meeting was scheduled for April 17, 2024. After the meeting adjourned, the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at 375 Beale Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. The meeting will be in-person for the Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee members and members of the public will be able to either join in-person or via webcast.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards