

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

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, November 12, 2025

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

*This meeting was webcast, and a video recording is available on the website of the  
Bay Area Air District at  
[Board Resolutions, Agendas, and Minutes](#)*

### **CALL TO ORDER**

1. **Opening Comments:** Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee (Committee) Vice Chairperson, John Gioia, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Yerba Buena Room, San Francisco, CA, 94105): Directors Mark Salinas and Shamann Walton.

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

Present, In-Person Satellite Location: (Benicia City Hall, 250 East L. Street, Conference Room 2, Benicia, CA 94510): Vice Chairperson John Gioia; Directors Monica Brown and Steve Young.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location: (Pittsburg City Hall, 65 Civic Ave., Room, 301A, Pittsburg, CA 94565): Director Dionne Adams.

Absent: Chairperson Noelia Corzo; and Directors Brian Barnacle, Brian Colbert, and Ray Mueller.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2025**

#### **Public Comments**

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Young made a motion, seconded by Director Gallagher, to approve the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of May 14, 2025; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

- AYES: Adams, Gallagher, Gioia, Salinas, Walton, Young.
- NOES: None.
- ABSTAIN: Brown.
- ABSENT: Barnacle, Colbert, Corzo, Mueller.

**ACTION ITEM**

**4. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) RECOMMENDATION OF NEW MEMBERSHIP SLATE**

Lisa Flores, Staff Specialist II, gave the staff presentation *Community Advisory Council Recommendation of New Membership Slate*, including: recommended action; outline; background; Board selection criteria; additional guidance for selection of new applicants; proposed additional guidance for selection of existing CAC members reapplying; and recommended action.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed where the recommended at-large candidates live and work, and whether any applicants were from Napa, Sonoma, and other agricultural areas to ensure geographic balance; whether applicants were from Central or South Alameda County, versus from northern Alameda County; suggested creation of a geographic heat map to better visualize representation across the counties; offers to assist with recruitment of underrepresented areas; the suggestion of approving the current at-large nominees while directing staff to explore charter changes to establish a dedicated North Bay seat, leaving one remaining at-large seat; and the belief that improved outreach would help ensure broader regional representation.

Committee Action

Director Young made a motion, seconded by Director Brown, to recommend that the Board of Directors appoint the following candidates to the Community Advisory Council, for the two-year or four-year terms specified:

<b>Alameda County (1)</b> Margaret Gordon (2 years)	<b>Santa Clara County (2)</b> Violet Saena (2 years) Azjargal Tsogtsaikhan (2 years)
<b>Contra Costa County (4)</b> William Goodwin (2 years) Kevin Ruano Hernandez (2 years) Latasha Washington (4 years) Dominique Brooks (4 years)	<b>Solano County (1)</b> Ken Szutu (4 years)
<b>San Francisco County (1)</b> Arieann Harrison (2 years)	<b>At-Large (2)</b> Jeff Sanchez (4 years) Saidy Dianyra Reyes Mazariegos (2 years)
<b>San Mateo County (1)</b> Adriana Fernandez Arriaga (2 years)	<b>Youth (1)</b> Daphney Saviotti-Orozco* (2 years)

The motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Adams, Brown, Gallagher, Gioia, Salinas, Walton, Young.  
 NOES: None.  
 ABSTAIN: None.  
 ABSENT: Barnacle, Colbert, Corzo, Mueller.

*\*Staff note: After the meeting, Daphney Saviotti-Orozco withdrew their candidacy.*

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**5. DRAFT GUIDELINES: LOCAL COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUND FOR BENICIA, RICHMOND, AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 7)**

Emi Wang, Community Investments Officer in the Community Investments Office, gave the staff presentation *Draft Guidelines: Local Community Benefits Fund for Benicia, Richmond, and Surrounding Communities*, including: background; engagement and outreach; Local Community Benefits Fund; grant types; partnership requirement and structure; eligible applicants; community needs and engagement; core strategies; strategies: 1) reduce or mitigate air pollution and improve outcomes and 2) build economic resilience for a just transition; measurable outcomes; Benicia and surrounding communities: available funding; eligible communities; grant awards; Richmond and surrounding communities: available funding; eligible communities; grant awards; application scoring and recommendations; and anticipated timeline.

**Public Comments**

Public comments were given by Hon. Terry Scott, Benicia City Councilmember; Dr. Constance Beutel; Mary Shaw, Benicia resident; Judith Sullivan, Benicia resident; Marilyn Bardet, Benicia Community Air Monitoring Program; Tom Cambell, former Benicia City Councilmember; Sue Everall, Benicia resident; James Lessinger, Benicia resident; Bob Nickerson, David Batchelor, Benicia Community Foundation; Steve Goller; Betty Lucas, Benicia resident; Lori Brunman, Benicia resident; Jan Warren; and Terry Mollica, Benicia resident.

## Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed when the grant guidelines will be approved; whether North Richmond is eligible under the Richmond-area funding map; the difference between ongoing refinery related-harms in communities like Richmond, versus future, non-pollution-related harms in Benicia; the financial crisis that the City of Benicia anticipates from the impending Valero refinery facility closure and subsequent request for an exception in the draft guidelines to allow a budget-funding arrangement using \$5 million annually for five years from its settlement allocation to maintain essential community services, while committing the remaining funds to environmental and workforce-transition projects so that Benicia can remain functional and fully participate in long-term regional goals; how the percentage and threshold allocations were set for each level (catalyst, opportunity, and seed grant tiers), the rationale in the percentage structure, and its importance for ensuring equity and helping cities like Benicia; the fact that federal grants require awardees to build sustainable models for their pilot programs so that successful programs may be institutionalized, and whether the Air District should adopt a similar expectation; the concern that granting Benicia special bridge-funding treatment could set a precedent; whether the Air District has a contract management system in place for the CIO; the belief that the bridge-funding proposal from Director Young be raised with the full Board instead of the Committee; the different types of harms faced by communities with active versus closing refineries; the desire that any amendment, particularly funding for community services, should clearly demonstrate a connection to the Air District's statutory mission by framing such support as community stabilization and public health related resilience within the just transition guidelines; whether sports and athletic facilities, fire suppression, and paramedic services could reasonably be considered public-health necessities under the guidelines; the concern that anticipated City of Benicia staff layoffs would leave the City unable to meet the outreach and application requirements, given the scale of the impacts of the refinery closure; the desire for a statute-aligned approach that allows flexibility for Benicia and other communities facing similar circumstances; the importance of revisiting language so the framework can be applied equitably in the future; and whether public comments would be posted online for Board members to review in advance.

## Committee Action

No action taken.

### **6. COMMUNITY EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN (CERP) UPDATE FOR THE EAST OAKLAND ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 617 COMMUNITY (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 5)**

Alicia Parker, Acting Manager in the Planning and Climate Protection Division, gave the staff presentation *Community Emissions Reduction Plan Update for the East Oakland Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community*, including: overview – East Oakland AB 617 Community; East Oakland Draft CERP; community engagement; East Oakland Draft CERP goals; East Oakland strategy development; focus areas; community concerns and action highlights; and next steps.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

No action taken.

**7. YEAR 1 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE RICHMOND-NORTH RICHMOND-SAN PABLO PATH TO CLEAN AIR (PTCA) ASSEMBLY BILL 617 COMMUNITY (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 6)**

Laura Cackette, Principal Environmental Planner, gave the staff presentation *Year 1 Annual Report for the Richmond- North Richmond-San Pablo Path to Clean Air Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community*, including: overview of PTCA; implementation and annual reporting; summary of Year 1 progress; Community Steering Committee (CSC) Year 1 priority actions; incentives and emission benefits; reflection – key accomplishments; additional reporting included; and next steps.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

No action taken.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDAMATTERS**

Public comments were given by Geoff Ellsworth, California League of United Latin American Citizens (Cal LULAC).

**9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

None.

**10. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF EQUITY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs, waived his report.

**11. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in-person at the Bay Area Metro Center and at satellite locations as may be specified on the meeting agenda using a remote teleconferencing link. Members of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee and the public may attend at any of those in-person locations, and members of the public may also attend virtually via webcast.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

*/s/ Marcy Hiratzka*  
Marcy Hiratzka  
Clerk of the Boards