BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

RESOLUTION No. 2020 - 10

Resolution Reaffirming Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Access and Inclusion

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District that Dr. Henry Clark was subjected to egregious, disrespectful, and unacceptable treatment some years ago, when two San Francisco Police Officers were summoned by a Board member. They then approached him while seated, after exercising his right to provide public testimony at a Board of Directors’ meeting.

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors recently adopted Resolution 2020-08 Condemning Racism and Injustice and Affirming Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion. We are committed to building a culture of belonging for all people who partner with the Air District – this includes people of all races, colors, gender identities, ages, abilities, sexual orientations, and religions.

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District strives to ensure all public meetings are conducted in a fair and inclusive manner.

WHEREAS, we firmly believe in respect for the inherent dignity of all individuals, and that marginalization of community members must not just be condemned, but eradicated.

WHEREAS, we commit to listen to, and work alongside, our employees and community to ensure they are equipped with the tools and support needed to dismantle racism in any form that has enabled systemic inequities.

WHEREAS, we will review our policies and practices and commence dismantling institutionalized racism in our own institution by uplifting BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) voices in our communities. We will lead conversations centered around racial justice in the context of air pollution measures to reduce disparities in overburdened communities throughout the Bay Area.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors, executive leadership, and employees of the Air District will engage in ongoing training on racial bias and institutionalized racism and will find ways to share our growth with the communities we serve.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors extends a formal apology to Dr. Henry Clark and once again unequivocally condemns racism, discrimination, and police brutality, in all their destructive manifestations.
WE FURTHERMORE, acknowledge and honor Dr. Henry Clark’s expertise and authentic lived experience. We express our deep gratitude for Dr. Clark’s legacy, leadership, and advocacy for communities in North Richmond, California, that experience disproportionate health impacts from air pollution and other environmental stressors.

The foregoing resolution was duly and regularly introduced, passed and adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District on the Motion of DIRECTOR GIOIA, seconded by DIRECTOR ROSS, on the 7th day of October, 2020, by the following vote of the Board:

AYES: MARGARET ABE-KOGA, TERESA BARRETT, JOHN BAUTERS, DAVID CANEPA, CINDY CHAVEZ, PAULINE RUSSO CUTTER, JOHN GIOIA, SCOTT HAGGERTY, DAVID HUDSON, DAVINA HURT, TYRONE JUE, LIZ KNISSE, NATE MILEY, KAREN MITCHOFF, MARK ROSS, ROD SINKS, JIM SPERING, BRAD WAGENKNECHT, SHAMANN WALTON, LORI WILSON, SHIRLEE ZANE.

NOES: NONE.

ABSENT: CAROLE GROOM, KATIE RICE.

ABSTAIN: NONE.

Rod Sinks
Chairperson of the Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Karen Mitchoff
Secretary of the Board of Directors