



Vote on the Creation of a Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee

Community Advisory Council Meeting

March 20, 2025

Lisa Flores
Staff Specialist II
Environmental Justice Division

AGENDA: 5



Presentation Outcome

- Create a Community Advisory Council (CAC) Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee.

Presentation Outline

- Requested Action
- Background
- CAC Terms
- CAC Seats
- CAC Composition
- Recruitment and Outreach
- Process & Timeline
- Board of Directors (Board) Selection Criteria
- CAC's Role in Selection Process
- Board's Role in Selection Process

Requested Action

- Vote to approve the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee that will select CAC candidates to fill 13 open CAC seats. After which, the selected CAC candidates will be recommended to the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee (CEHJ) and then to the Board for their consideration.

Background

- The inaugural CAC was established by the Board on November 17, 2021
- The CAC held their first meeting in January 2022
- At the end of this year, 13 CAC seats will be open for two or four-year terms

Background (continued)

The majority of current CAC Members will complete their initial 4-year terms and are eligible to reapply, including the following Council members:

- Dr. Juan Aguilera
- William Goodwin
- Ms. Margaret Gordon
- Arieann Harrison
- John Kevin Jefferson, Co-Chair
- Rio Molina
- Mayra Pelagio, Co-Chair
- Dr. Jeff Ritterman
- Kevin G. Ruano Hernandez
- Violet Wulf-Saena
- Ken Szutu
- Latasha Washington

11 CAC members intend to reapply and are not eligible to participate in the Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee.

Community Advisory Council Terms

“CAC Members apply or reapply for either a two-year term or a four-year term. CAC Members are limited to serving a total of eight (8) years. This will ensure that others have the opportunity to participate in the CAC and that there is continuity of County or institutional knowledge. The inaugural CAC will serve for four (4) years with the ability to reapply.”

Source: CAC Charter

Community Advisory Council Seats

CAC seats per Board resolution:

- (4) Alameda County
- (4) Contra Costa County
- (1) San Francisco County
- (1) San Mateo County
- (2) Santa Clara County
- (1) Solano County
- (2) At-large
- (2) Youth

Available seats for selection:

- (1) Alameda County
- (4) Contra Costa County
- (1) San Francisco County
- (1) San Mateo County
- (2) Santa Clara County
- (1) Solano County
- (2) At-large
- (1) Youth

Community Advisory Council Composition

- The membership of the CAC shall be composed of seventeen (17) members, including two designated youth members.
- Youth are considered to be individuals between the ages of 14 and 24 at the beginning of their term.
- *At-large member seats – priority should be given to individuals living or working in Marin, Napa, or Sonoma counties or individuals with special expertise, such as wildfire management.
- 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.

Source: CAC Charter

Recruitment and Outreach

The recruitment and outreach will consist of:

- Available on the CAC webpage at baaqmd.gov
- Social Media outreach (LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, X [formerly Twitter], Threads, and Nextdoor)
- Air District's Currents Newsletter
- Air District's Latest News post
- Emails to James Cary Smith Grantees and Assembly Bill (AB) 617 partners
- CAC members sharing information with their networks

Process & Timeline

2025

- April: First Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee meeting
- May: Application period opens
- June: Application period closes and second ad hoc committee meeting
- July: Third ad hoc committee meeting
- September: CEHJ considers recommended candidates
- October: Board considers recommended candidates for approval
- November-December: CAC member onboarding

January 2026: New slate attends CAC meeting

Board of Directors Selection Criteria

Selection criteria included in Board Resolution No. 2023 – 14:

1. Reflect the diverse demographics of the Bay Area;
2. Include generational history and experience living in communities heavily impacted by air pollution;
3. Demonstrate diversity of relevant experience—including environmental justice, technical expertise, health, and Air District functions or knowledge of the Air District; and
4. Have access to other people who have a range of relevant knowledge and technical experience that could help inform the CAC.

Priority should be given to individuals from Bay Area communities overburdened by air pollution, environmental justice communities, and/or those with a history of partnering with environmental justice communities.

CAC's Role in Selection Process

- The CAC:
 - Supports with outreach and recruitment
 - Creates a CAC Selection Ad Hoc Committee (March 2025)
- The CAC Selection Ad Hoc Committee will be tasked with:
 - Reviewing applications
 - Selecting candidates for recommendation to CEHJ
- The CAC considers selected candidates and recommends slate to the CEHJ and the Board

Source: CAC Charter

Board of Directors' Role in Selection Process

- The CEHJ Committee provides guidance for selection process
- The Board Chair selects at least one CEHJ Committee member (or other Board member) to participate in the CAC's Selection Ad Hoc Committee
- Board member(s) attend three (3) Selection Ad Hoc Committee meetings to finalize criteria, review applications, deliberate and select slate of 13 candidates.
- The CEHJ Committee will consider the selected slate of candidates to recommend to the Board for final approval
- CAC members are appointed by the Board.

Source: CAC Charter



Questions?



Ad Hoc Committee Selection



Public Comment

Vote

Vote

- Vote to create the Member Selection Ad Hoc Committee comprised of Council Member Sejal Babaria and Cynthia Prieto-Diaz and a designated the Board member to select CAC candidates to fill 13 open CAC seats.

Questions?

For more information:

Lisa Flores at lflores@baaqmd.gov



Community Benefit Fund Disbursement Plan Recommendation

Community Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting

March 20, 2025

William Goodwin, CAC Member

Latasha Washington, CAC Member

**Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and
Community Programs**

Presentation Outcome

- CAC learns about alternative funding distribution options discussed and considered by the Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee.
- Community Advisory Council votes to recommend the Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation, "The People's Air Grant Program" (PAGP) as the plan for the Community Benefit Fund to the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee (CEHJ) to recommend to the Board of Directors for approval.

Presentation Outline

- Presentation Outcome, Outline, and Action
- Background
- Basic Elements of All Funding Distribution Options
 - Grant Program Goals
 - Eligible Applicants and Projects
 - Funding Tiers
 - Grant Administration and Accountability
- Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation and Alternatives

Presentation Outline (cont.)

- Recommendation: The People's Air Grant Program (PAGP) Grantmaking Process & Timelines
- PAGP Implementation Challenges
- Alternative Option 2: Participatory Project Type Selection Grantmaking Process & Timeline
- Alternative Option 3: Direct Grantmaking Process & Timeline
- Next Steps
- Questions and Vote

Requested Action

- Vote to recommend the Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation, "The People's Air Grant Program" as the plan for the Community Benefit Fund (\$3 million) to the CEHJ Committee to recommend to the Board of Directors for approval.

Background

- The Bay Area Air District (Air District) Board of Directors established the Community Benefit Fund, a one-time allocation of \$3 million intended to be community-directed and to benefit communities overburdened by air pollution.
- The CAC established the Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee to develop a recommended plan for the Community Benefit Fund for consideration by the Air District Board of Directors.
- The Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee membership has included over time: Council Members Fernando Campos, William Goodwin, John Kevin Jefferson, Mayra Pelagio, Charles Reed, Jeff Ritterman, Joy Massey, and Latasha Washington.

Background (cont.)

- The Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee explored different funding distribution pathways for the Community Benefit Fund:
 - Foundation-Managed Grant Process
 - Air District Managed Grant Program
 - Creating a new Air District-managed grant program
 - Directing funds to the James Cary Smith Community Grant Program
 - Participatory Budgeting

Background (cont.)

- The Committee's proposed plan for the process and guidelines of the Community Benefit Fund is an Air District managed grant program based on participatory budgeting principles and design.
- The Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc considered various names for the proposed program: Participatory Community Grant, Community Grant, Community Clean Air Grant, and The People's Air Grant. The Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc voted to select the name: The People's Air Grant Program.



Basic Elements of All Funding Distribution Options

Grant Program Goals

- Grantees of the program would seek to advance one or more of the following:
 - Improve air quality and reduce local air pollution disparities, with a focus on communities most affected by air pollution and environmental injustices (impacted communities).
 - Equip impacted communities with tools and resources to reduce air pollution and improve public health outcomes.
 - Provide health care resources for people experiencing health problems resulting from exposure to air pollution.

Eligible Applicants & Projects

- Applicants must be community members from Bay Area counties and require a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or public agency partner.
- Projects must focus on improving air quality, reducing pollution disparities, and supporting environmental justice communities.
- Projects should align with at least one of the Air District's Strategic Plan goals and the CAC's Environmental Justice Priorities.
- Projects must demonstrate majority of benefits directed to low-income communities.

Eligible Applicants & Projects (cont.)

Eligible project examples:

- Health education on air pollution
- Community-led air quality research and monitoring
- Healthcare support for pollution-related illnesses
- Pollution mitigation (e.g., air filters, electrification, tree planting)

Funding Tiers

- Tier 1: \$75,000 annually (\$150,000 over 2 years per project)
- Tier 2: \$100,000 annually (\$200,000 over 2 years per project)
- Tier 3: \$200,000 annually (\$400,000 over 2 years per project)

Grant Administration & Accountability

- **Award Process:** Grants awarded through formal agreements with monitoring requirements
- **Reporting Requirements:**
 - Interim reports (6 months) and annual evaluations
 - Review of project outcomes related to making progress toward pollution reduction and/or health improvements
- **Non-Compliance Measures:**
 - Return of unspent funds
 - Possible termination of agreements for failure to meet commitments

Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee Recommendation and Alternatives

- All options maintain PAGP core recommendations for eligibility, funding tiers, and grant administration
- Recommendation: PAGP (recommended by the Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee)
- Alternative Option 2: Participatory Project Type Selection
- Alternative Option 3: CAC Proposal Review & Selection



Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Recommendation:

PAGP

Recommendation: PAGP Grantmaking Process

- **Stage 1: Brief Project Summary Submission**
 - Basic project details, including summary, need, benefits, and alignment with program goals
- **Stage 2: Detailed Proposal Development by Invitation**
 - Includes full project description, budget, timeline, and impact assessment
- **Stage 3: Proposal Review by CAC Ad Hoc Committee and staff**
 - Evaluated based on strategic alignment, feasibility, and benefit to impacted communities
- **Stage 4: Public Voting for Project Selection**

Recommendation: PAGP Timeline

Timeframe	Option 1 Grantmaking Process
May 2025	Air District Begins Implementing Program
May 2026	Stage 1: Brief Project Summary Submission
August 2026	Stage 2: Detailed Proposal Development by Invitation
September 2026	Stage 3: Proposal Review by CAC Ad Hoc Committee and Staff
December 2026	Stage 4: Public Voting for Project Selection
January 2027	Projects Selected by the Public Assessed by the CAC for Recommendation to CEHJ to Recommend to the Board of Directors
February 2027	CEHJ Considers Slate of Projects for Recommendation to the Board of Directors
March 2027	Board of Directors Considers Projects for Approval
April 2027	Grant Agreements Final
April 2027 - March 2029	Project Implementation

PAGP Implementation Challenges

- **Administrative Expense**
 - It would cost 1.3 million to implement PAGP as fully envisioned
 - The proposal to use \$600,000 from the Community Benefit Fund allocation for administration is not sufficient to fully implement PAGP as envisioned
- **Length of time**
 - It takes two years from program initiation to disbursements of funds
- **Public Voting**
 - Online voting requires a complex, tailored new system
 - Ballot stuffing, bot voting, low turnout, and voters deciding for other Counties



Alternatives Discussed and Considered

Funding Pathways Considered

A. Foundation-Managed Grant Process

- Pros: Reduced administrative burden, financial compliance, and flexibility
- Cons: Loss of control over fund administration and high administrative fees

B. Air District Managed Grant Program (direct grantmaking)

- Considered two options:
 1. Creating a new Air District-managed grant program
 2. Directing funds to the James Cary Smith Community Grant Program
- Pros: Existing infrastructure and faster fund disbursement
- Cons: Long setup time for the new program, insufficient staffing capacity to implement immediately

Funding Pathways Considered

C. Participatory Budgeting Model

- A democratic process where community members decide on budget allocations
- Pros: Ensures community engagement, transparency, and direct decision-making
- Cons: Resource-intensive and time-consuming
- The committee ultimately selected the Participatory Budgeting model for its alignment with community empowerment and environmental justice goals with the Air District managed grant components for administration



Alternative Option 2: Participatory Project Type Selection

Alternative Option 2: Participatory Project Type Selection Grantmaking Process

- **Stage 1: Public Voting on Project Types**
 - CAC identifies a list of potential project types, the public votes to determine funding prioritization
- **Stage 2: Detailed Proposal Development based on Public Priorities**
 - Includes full project description, budget, timeline, and impact assessment
- **Stage 3: Proposal Review by CAC Ad Hoc Committee and staff**
 - Evaluated based on strategic alignment, feasibility, and benefit to impacted communities

Alternative Option 2: Participatory Project Type Selection Timeline

Timeframe	Option 2 Grantmaking Process
May 2025	Air District Begins Implementing Program
August 2025	Stage 1: Public Voting on Project Types
October 2025	Stage 2: Detailed Proposal Development based on Project Types
November 2025	Stage 3: Proposal Review by CAC Ad Hoc Committee and Staff
January-February 2026	CAC & CEHJ Consider Slate of Projects for Recommendation to the Board of Directors
March 2026	Board of Directors Considers Projects for Approval
April 2026	Grant Agreements Final
April 2026 - April 2028	Project Implementation



Alternative Option 3: Direct Grantmaking with CAC Review

Alternative Option 3: Direct Grantmaking Process with CAC Review

- **Stage 1: CAC Prioritizes Project Types**
 - CAC identifies and prioritizes eligible project types
- **Stage 2: Detailed Proposal Development based on Project Types**
 - Includes full project description, budget, timeline, and impact assessment
- **Stage 3: Proposal Review by CAC Ad Hoc Committee and staff**
 - Evaluated based on strategic alignment, feasibility, and benefit to impacted communities

Alternative Option 3: Direct Grantmaking Timeline

Timeframe	Option 3 Grantmaking Process
May 2025	Air District Begins Implementing Program
May 2025	Stage 1: CAC Prioritizes Project Types
July 2025	Stage 2: Detailed Proposal Development based on Project Types
August 2025	Stage 3: Proposal Review by CAC Ad Hoc Committee and Staff
October-November 2025	CAC & CEHJ Consider Slate of Projects for Recommendation to the Board of Directors
December 2025	Board of Directors Considers Projects for Approval
January 2026	Grant Agreements Final
Feb 2026 - Feb 2027	Project Implementation

Next Steps

- Recommended option presented to CEHJ Committee
- Recommended option presented to Air District Board of Directors for final approval
- If approved, program development and implementation begins



Questions?

Vote

Vote

Vote to recommend the Community Benefit Fund Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation, "The People's Air Grant Program" as the plan for the Community Benefit Fund (\$3 million) to the CEHJ Committee to recommend to the Board of Directors for approval.

Questions/Feedback

For more information:

Miriam Torres, miriamtorres@baaqmd.gov



Update of the Regulatory Air Monitoring Network

Community Advisory Council Meeting

March 20, 2025

Greg Nudd

Deputy Executive Officer

Science and Policy

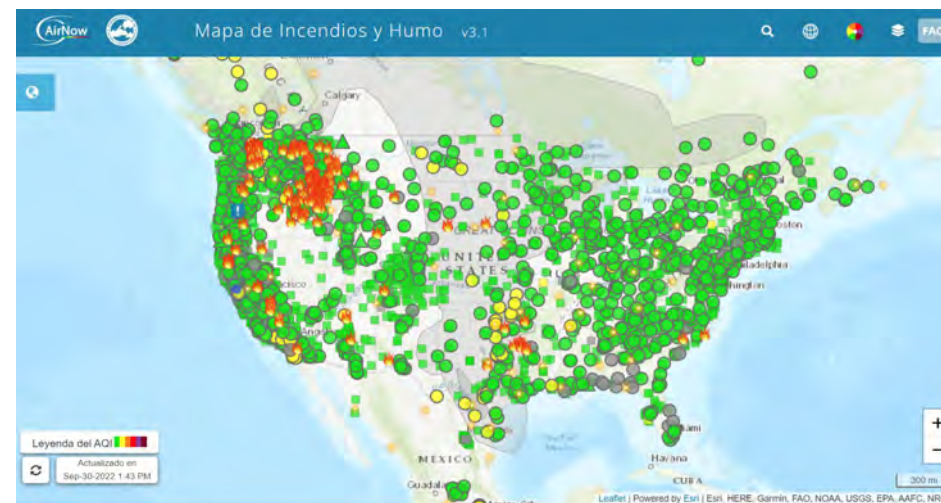
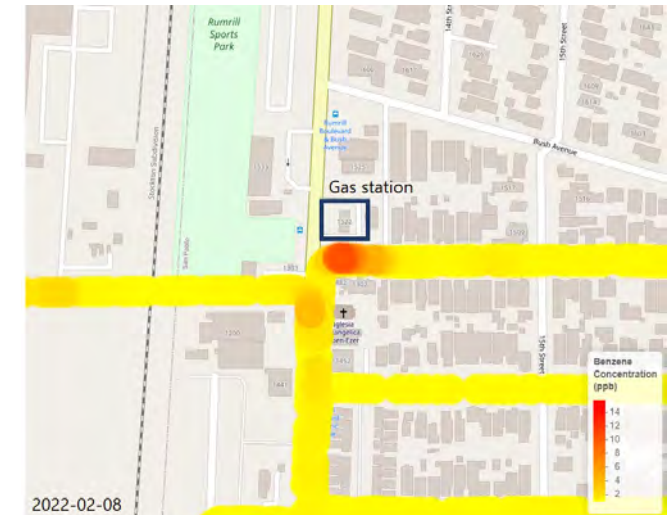


Presentation Outline

- Purpose and description of the Air District's regulatory air monitoring network
- Assessing and aligning the regulatory air monitoring network to free up resources for additional community air monitoring
- Regulatory air monitoring within the past, present, and future of Air District air monitoring efforts

Air Monitoring Approaches

- **Regulatory air monitoring by air agencies**
- Source-oriented long-term air monitoring like refinery community air monitoring (ambient and fenceline)
- Short-term studies using stationary or mobile monitors
- Public crowdsourced and community air quality sensor networks



What is Regulatory Air Monitoring?

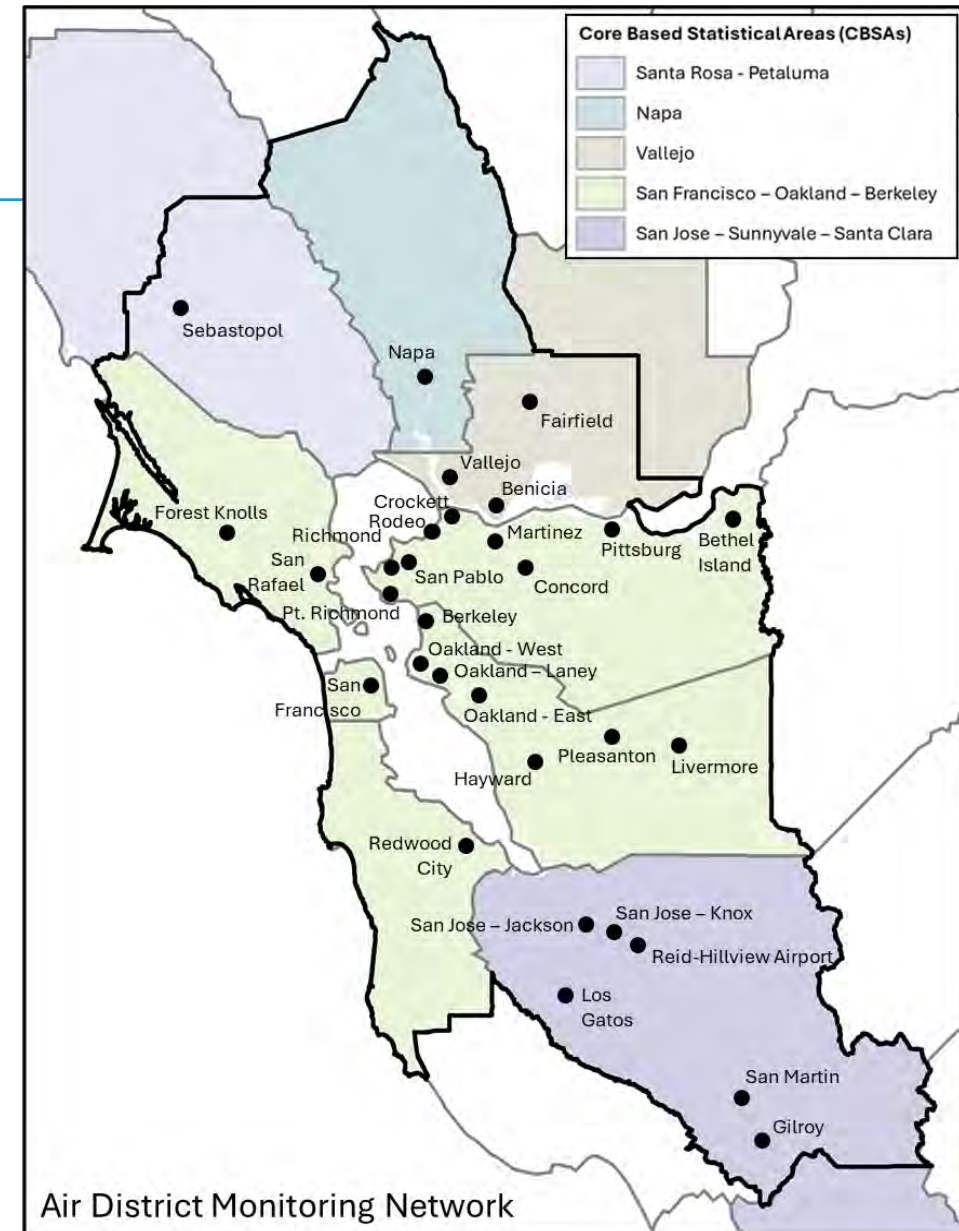
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) sets requirements for which pollutants are monitored, instrument siting, type and minimum number of monitors needed, and how data are reviewed
- Minimum number of monitors required for a given census area is based on population, measured pollutant levels, and/or estimated emissions

Criteria Air Pollutants

- Particulate matter (PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5})
- Ozone (O₃)
- Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
- Sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
- Carbon monoxide (CO)
- Lead

Air District Regulatory Air Monitoring

- The Air District currently operates a regulatory network of over 30 monitoring sites, more than required by US EPA
- Different sites monitor for different pollutants
- Continuous monitors provide real-time data; others collect samples that are analyzed in a laboratory with data reported later



Uses and Limitations of Regulatory Air Monitoring Data

Regulatory air monitoring provides standardized, accurate data that uses certified equipment and undergoes rigorous review; useful for:

- Determining compliance with federal and state air quality standards
- Comparing air pollution levels across locations nationally
- Evaluating trends in air quality over time
- Providing real-time data on air pollution levels

Regulatory air monitoring is costly and cannot answer every question about air quality, and other approaches are better for telling us about local air quality impacts related to community concerns

Past, Present, and Future

- Regulatory air monitoring has historically been the primary form of ambient air monitoring conducted by the Air District and most air agencies
- The regulatory air monitoring network is still critical for informing certain questions and issues, but is not designed, nor is the best approach, for informing many key community air quality issues today
- Looking forward:
 - Make changes to the regulatory air monitoring network to align with data needs and priorities, including with an environmental justice lens, as part of the network review required by US EPA
 - Free up resources for community and source-oriented air monitoring that can better inform air quality issues that communities are concerned about

Next Steps

Air District will:

- release the Annual Network Plan in May 2025 for a 30-day public comment period with proposed changes to right-size the network and free up resources for environmental justice priorities
- finalize the Annual Network Plan and the 5-Year Network Assessment by July 1, 2025
- present a roadmap of ideas for aligning resources for air monitoring to provide data responsive to community needs at future Community Advisory Council meetings

Next Steps (cont.)

Strategic Plan implementation will have further engagement around:

- improving community and source-oriented air monitoring
- supporting communities doing air monitoring
- making data accessible

Resources

- AirNow for viewing real-time data from regulatory monitors: <https://www.airnow.gov/>
- AirNow Fire and Smoke map for viewing real-time data from regulatory monitors and PurpleAir sensors: <https://fire.airnow.gov/>
- EPA AirData for visualizing and downloading historical data from regulatory monitors: <https://www.epa.gov/outdoor-air-quality-data>
- EPA Air Quality Trends for interactive report to view status and trends of key air pollutants: <https://www.epa.gov/air-trends>
- Air District website for viewing real-time and historical monitoring data: <https://www.baaqmd.gov/about-air-quality/current-air-quality/air-monitoring-data/>
- Air District Annual Monitoring Network Plans: <https://www.baaqmd.gov/about-air-quality/air-quality-measurement/ambient-air-monitoring-network>
- EPA Air Monitoring Technology Information Center (AMTIC) website for information on air monitoring methods, quality assurance and control, and federal regulations: <https://www.epa.gov/amtic>

Questions?

For more information:
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