Air Monitoring Facts

What are air monitors?
- Stationary devices measure ambient air quality
- Comply with national standards
- Regularly checked for accuracy, stringent quality control and control requirements

What do air monitors measure?
- PM$_{10}$ and PM$_{2.5}$ (particulate matter) tiny particles from the combustion of solid or liquid fuels
- Nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide/oxides from fossil fuel combustion
- Hydrogen sulfide from crude oil and natural gas production
- Ozone (or smog) occurs when high temperatures and vehicle exhaust mix

Benefits of monitoring
- Provide highly accurate readings
- Show hourly and daily averages over the region
- Readings are based on national health standards
Limitations of monitoring

- Not designed to measure incidents such as facility fires but may pick up elevated pollution levels when incidents occur
- Not designed to determine the source of any specific pollutant

Other types of Air District monitors

- Temporary monitors for prolonged incidents such as wildfires
- Mobile monitors for short-term incidents such as facility fires
- Trailers for longer term special studies