

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 8, 2021 CONTACT: Erin DeMerritt, 415.517.4147

Air District Board appoints Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Community Steering Committee members

Community members will help guide the development of a community emissions reduction plan

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors today announced the establishment of a community steering committee to help guide the development of the *Community Emission Reduction Plan* for the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo area.

Under the Air District's Community Health Protection Program, the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo area was selected as a priority community due to its high cumulative exposure burden to air pollution. In accordance with California Assembly Bill 617, the state directs local air districts to work with heavily impacted communities on emission reduction programs and/or air quality monitoring campaigns.

"We look forward to working with the steering committee to leverage community power to address health disparities in Richmond and San Pablo," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "This work will evolve into locally grown community action to improve air quality for generations to come."

"We now have a steering committee made up of people with diverse backgrounds who will be instrumental in helping us reduce health disparities in an area that has historically experienced a disproportionately high exposure to air pollution," said Cindy Chavez, chair of the Air District Board of Directors.

The appointed members for the Community Steering Committee include:

- Alfredo Rafael Angulo-Castro
- Amanda Booth
- Arto Rintella
- Bret Andrews
- Darlena David
- Darlene Rios Drapkin
- Dave Severy
- Erika Ramirez
- Fabiola Reyes
- Francisco Avila

- Gloria Ruiz
- Hakim Johnson
- Heidi V Swillinger
- Henry Clark
- Jeffrey L Kilbreth
- Jessica Range
- Jim Holland
- Kevin Ruano Hernandez
- Lizbeth Ibarra
- Lizette Bernal

- Lucia Castillo
- Micaela Zaragoza-Soto
- Nancy Aguirre
- Omoniyi Omotoso
- Patricia A. Daniels
- Phillip Mitchell
- Roberta Feliciano
- Suzanne Coffee
- Vernon Whitmore
- YAnad Burrell

In September, the Air District and a committee of individuals including community organizers, environmental justice advocates and neighborhood groups as well as education, public health, government and industry stakeholders in the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo area released *Path to Clean Air*, a first-of-its-kind air monitoring plan which defined the geographic boundary for air monitoring, air pollution sources of concern and air monitoring objectives. The ongoing monitoring and results from this plan will help inform the new emission reduction plan as well as other ongoing air quality improvement efforts outside of the AB 617 process.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

###

Air District Communications Office 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 <u>Air District Homepage</u> | <u>News Releases</u>