

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 7, 2014

AGENDA NO. 12

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the January 2014 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: Environmental Justice Update, Community Events/Public Meetings, Business Assistance, and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Government.

COMMITTEE: No Committee Review

RECOMMENDED ACTION:  
Receive and file.

Barry R. Wallerstein, D.Env.  
Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM

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## **BACKGROUND**

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for January 2014. The report includes four major areas: Environmental Justice Update; Community Events/Public Meetings (including the Speakers Bureau/Visitor Services, Communications Center, and Public Information Center); Business Assistance; and Outreach to Business and Federal, State, and Local Governments.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE UPDATE**

The following are key environmental justice-related activities in which staff participated during the month of January. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

#### January 8

- Staff participated in the Better Breathers Club meeting at Parkview Hospital in Riverside. Staff provided information on air quality and its health effects, while responding to questions.

#### January 22

- Staff represented SCAQMD at the Riverside County Health Coalition quarterly meeting in Moreno Valley. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the adoption of the Healthy City Resolution in Riverside County.

#### January 23

- SCAQMD held a Town Hall meeting related to Carlton Forge Works at the Elks Lodge in Paramount. Staff presented information on air quality and monitoring in the community while responding to questions.

#### January 30

- Staff participated in a meeting at the Children's Hospital of Orange County to discuss the upcoming Air Power Games for children and families with asthma.

### **COMMUNITY EVENTS/PUBLIC MEETINGS**

Each year, thousands of residents engage in valuable information exchanges through events and meetings that SCAQMD sponsors either alone or in partnership with others. Attendees typically receive the following information:

- Tips on reducing their exposure to smog and its health effects.
- Clean air technologies and their deployment.
- Invitations or notices of conferences, seminars, workshops and other public events.
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD's rule and policy development.
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

The events that SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates include:

#### January 11

- Mayor's Race and Wellness Festival Event, Rudy Hardy Wellness Park, Palm Springs.

#### January 13-14

- Transportation Research Board 93<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C.

#### January 17

- City of Anaheim, 2014 State of the City luncheon event held at the City National Grove of Anaheim.

January 18

- SCAQMD-sponsored Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service Public Forum, Hawthorne Memorial Center.

January 29

- SCAQMD's Port Backstop Measure Working Group Meeting held in Banning's Landing Community Center, Wilmington.
- Pasadena's Forward Community Meeting, Pasadena

January 30

- San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce Officers Installation, San Bernardino.

**SPEAKERS BUREAU/VISITOR SERVICES**

SCAQMD regularly receives requests for staff to speak on air quality-related issues from a wide variety of organizations, such as trade associations, chambers of commerce, community-based groups, schools, hospitals and health-based organizations. SCAQMD also hosts visitors from around the world who meet with staff on a wide range of air quality issues.

January 9

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality, provided a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters, and displayed alternative fuel vehicles to 23 representatives from the Qinghai Provincial Government in China.

January 23

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality, provided a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters, and displayed alternative fuel vehicles to three representatives from the Japanese Business Delegation.

January 24

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality and provided a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters to three representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency in Beijing, China.

January 31

- Staff presented an overview of SCAQMD, air quality and provided a tour of the agency's Diamond Bar headquarters to three attendees participating in the SCAQMD's "Take a Tour Day" Program

## COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on the SCAQMD main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG® line and Spanish line. Calls received in the month of December 2013 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,613
1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	1,766
After Hours Calls*	535
Spanish Line Calls	<u>41</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	4,955

\* Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and after 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Public Information Center (PIC) handles phone calls and walk-in requests for general information. Information for the month of January 2014 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	35
Calls to Automated System	<u>1,722</u>
<i>Total Calls</i>	1,757
Visitor Transactions	286
E-Mail Advisories Sent	717,859

## BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

SCAQMD notifies local businesses of proposed regulations so they can participate in the agency's rule development process. SCAQMD works with other agencies and governments to identify efficient, cost-effective ways to reduce air pollution and shares that information broadly. Staff provides personalized assistance to small businesses both over the telephone and via on-site consultation. The information is summarized below.

- Conducted three free on-site consultations
- Provided permit application assistance to 194 companies
- Issued 27 clearance letters
- Provided assistance in filing one request for a variance

### Types of business assisted:

Restaurants	Coffee rosters	Plastic manufacture
Hotels	Dry Cleaners	Abrasive blasters
Cheese manufacturer	Gas Stations	Vitamin manufacturer
Dental products manufacturer	Auto body shops	Chrome plating

## **OUTREACH TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

Field visits and communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following cities:

Alhambra	Cypress	La Palma	Pasadena
Agoura Hills	Dana Point	La Puente	Perris
Aliso Viejo	Desert Hot Springs	La Quinta	Pico Rivera
Anaheim	Diamond Bar	La Verne	Placentia
Arcadia	Downey	Laguna Beach	Pomona
Artesia	Duarte	Laguna Hills	Rancho Cucamonga
Avalon	Eastvale	Laguna Niguel	Rancho Mirage
Azusa	El Monte	Laguna Woods	Rancho Palos Verdes
Baldwin Park	El Segundo	Lake Elsinore	Rancho Santa Margarita
Banning	Fontana	Lake Forest	Redlands
Beaumont	Fountain Valley	Lakewood	Redondo Beach
Bell	Fullerton	Lawndale	Rialto
Bell Gardens	Garden Grove	Loma Linda	Riverside
Bellflower	Gardena	Lomita	Rolling Hills
Beverly Hills	Glendale	Long Beach	Rolling Hills Estates
Big Bear Lake	Glendora	Los Alamitos	Rosemead
Bradbury	Grand Terrace	Los Angeles	San Bernardino
Brea	Hawaiian Gardens	Lynwood	San Clemente
Buena Park	Hawthorne	Malibu	San Dimas
Burbank	Hemet	Manhattan Beach	San Fernando
Calabasas	Hermosa Beach	Maywood	San Gabriel
Calimesa	Hidden Hills	Menifee	San Jacinto
Canyon Lake	Highland	Mission Viejo	San Juan Capistrano
Carson	Huntington Beach	Monrovia	San Marino
Cathedral City	Huntington Park	Montclair	Santa Ana
Cerritos	Indian Wells	Montebello	Santa Clarita
Chino	Indio	Monterey Park	Santa Fe Springs
Chino Hills	Industry	Moreno Valley	Santa Monica
Claremont	Inglewood	Murrieta	Seal Beach
Coachella	Irvine	Newport Beach	Sierra Madre
Colton	Irwindale	Norco	Signal Hill
Commerce	Jurupa Valley	Norwalk	South El Monte
Compton	La Cañada	Ontario	South Gate
Corona	Flintridge	Orange	South Pasadena
Costa Mesa	La Habra	Palm Desert	Stanton
Covina	La Habra Heights	Palm Springs	Temecula
Cudahy	La Mirada	Palos Verdes Estates	Temple City
Culver City		Paramount	

Torrance	Villa Park	Westlake Village	Yorba Linda
Tustin	Walnut	Westminster	Yucaipa
Upland	West Covina	Whittier	
Vernon	West Hollywood	Wildomar	

Visits and/or communications were conducted with elected officials or staff from the following state and federal offices:

- U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
- U.S. Senator Tom Carper
- U.S. Congressman Ken Calvert
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu
- U.S. Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson
- U.S. Congressman Kevin McCarthy
- U.S. Congressman Jerrold Nadler
- U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano
- U.S. Congressman Ed Royce
- U.S. Congressman Raul Ruiz
- State Senator Ed Hernandez
- State Senator Carol Liu
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Mimi Walters
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member Brian Jones
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Brian Nestande
- Assembly Member Sharon Quirk-Silva
- Assembly Member Freddie Rodriguez
- Assembly Member Don Wagner

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following groups:

American Cancer Society, Diamond Bar  
 American Cancer Society-Cancer Action Network, Washington, DC  
 American Heart Association, Riverside  
 American Lung Association, Inland Valley  
 Anaheim Chamber of Commerce  
 Association of California Cities, Orange County  
 Bike San Gabriel Valley's Health Community Task Force  
 Better Breathers Club, Parkview Hospital, Riverside  
 Carson Library  
 Carson Senior Center

Chino Valley Area Chamber of Commerce  
Children's Hospital of Orange County, Orange  
Coachella Valley Association of Governments  
Culver City Senior Center  
Dollarhide Neighborhood Center, Compton  
Faithful Central Bible Church, Inglewood  
Gardena Kiwanis Club  
Gardena Library  
Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce  
Hawthorne Historical Society  
Hawthorne Public Library  
Hawthorne Senior Center  
Healthy African American Families, Los Angeles  
Hemet/San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce  
Inglewood Senior Center  
Japanese Cultural Institute, Gardena  
Lawndale Senior Center  
League of California Cities, Orange County Division  
League of California Cities, Riverside County Division  
Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Orange County City Managers Association  
Orange County Council of Governments  
Orange County Sanitation District  
Orange County Transportation Authority  
Orange County Transportation Corridor Agencies  
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Peoples Coordinated Services, Los Angeles  
Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Perris/Moreno Valley Transportation NOW  
Riverside County Health Coalition  
Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)  
Riverside County Transportation Commission  
San Bernardino Associated Governments  
San Bernardino Chamber of Commerce  
San Bernardino Valley College  
San Gabriel Valley City Managers Association  
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
Southern California Gas Company  
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
South Orange County Economic Coalition  
Southern California Association of Governments, Orange County

Southern California Association of Governments, Riverside County  
Temecula Middle School  
University of California, Irvine  
Upland Chamber of Commerce  
Westchester Senior Center  
Western Riverside County Council of Governments  
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW

- Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
- Hemet/San Jacinto Chapter, Hemet
- Northwest Chapter, Corona
- Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter, Moreno Valley
- Southwest Chapter, Murrietta

Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce  
Yvonne Burke Senior Center, Inglewood