

BOARD MEETING DATE: February 6, 2015

AGENDA NO. 7

PROPOSAL: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the December 2014 outreach activities of Legislative and Public Affairs, which include: an 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.

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Executive Officer

LBS:DJA:MC:DM:jf

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for December 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 December. These events involve communities that may suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

December 12

- Staff participated in the Healthy San Bernardino meeting. Staff provided an update on the Clean Communities Plan Commercial Electric Lawn Mower program and the VIP program to replace wood burning residential fireplaces.

December 17

- Staff participated in the Riverside County Health Coalition meeting to discuss public health education and outreach and provided information on the Environmental Justice for All Conference.

December 18

- Staff participated in Go Green, Save Green Small Business Workshop where they distributed information on SCAQMD small business programs, promoted the Martin Luther King, Jr. A Day of Public Service Forum event and shared other informational materials.

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.

December 5

- 40 students from Cal Poly Pomona visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency and air quality, participated in a discussion on alternative fueled vehicles, and toured the laboratory.

December 12

- 15 mayors from cities in China visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency and air quality, participated in a discussion on air monitoring, and toured the laboratory.

December 16

- 20 representatives from the Shanghai Municipal Audit Bureau via Forte Exchange in China visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency and air quality and monitoring, and a review of program performance and compliance through auditing.

December 17

- 22 representatives from the Beijing Municipal Bureau of Finance via Forte Exchange in China visited SCAQMD headquarters where they received an overview on the agency and air quality, participated in a discussion on air monitoring, and toured the laboratory.

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 November 2014 are summarized below:

Main Line Calls	2,671
1-800-CUT-SMOG [®] Line	1,865
After Hours Calls*	475
Spanish Line Calls	<u>52</u>
Total Calls	5,063

* 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 December 2014 is summarized below:

Calls Received by PIC Staff	115
Calls to Automated System	<u>888</u>
Total Calls	1,003
Visitor Transactions	207
E-Mail Advisories Sent	0

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

SCAQMD notifies local businesses of proposed regulations so they can participate in the agency's rule development process. SCAQMD also 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 9 free on-site consultations
Provided permit application assistance to 78 companies
Issued 29 clearance letters

Types of business assisted:

Auto Body Shops	Auto Repair Shops	Metal Plating Facilities
Dry Cleaners	Machine Shops	Furniture Manufacturers
Gas Stations	Printing Facilities	Construction & Architecture
Restaurants/Bakeries		

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

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

Arcadia	La Habra	Riverside
Aliso Viejo	Lake Forest	San Jacinto
Anaheim	Los Angeles	Tustin
Beaumont	Mission Viejo	Yorba Linda
Brea	Norco	
Buena Park	Newport Beach	
Diamond Bar	Ontario	
Fountain Valley	Pasadena	
Hemet	Redlands	

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. Congressman Mark Takano
- State Senator Bob Huff
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Travis Allen
- Assembly Member Eric Linder
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Reggie Jones-Sawyer

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided a presentation to the following governments and business organizations:

Arcadia Chamber of Commerce
Association of Cities, Orange County
Irwindale Chamber of Commerce
Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
Orange County
Orange County Business Council
Orange County Transportation Authority
Redlands Chamber of Commerce
Riverside Transit Agency
Riverside County
Riverside County School District
Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce
San Bernardino Associated Governments
Southern California Gas Company

Southern California Association of Governments
Small Business Association, Ontario
United Nations Associations, Pasadena Chapter
Western Riverside County Council of Governments
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)
-Greater Riverside Chapter, Riverside
-San Geronio Pass Chapter, Beaumont

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

American Heart Association
Culver City Senior Center
Orange County Department of Water and Power
Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition
Pasadena Water and Power Department
Riverside County Health Department
San Jacinto Health Center
Santa Monica Senior Center
San Bernardino County Health Department
Urban Conservation Corp, San Bernardino
Western Riverside County Water District