

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 4, 2016

AGENDA NO. 15

REPORT: Legislative and Public Affairs Report

SYNOPSIS: This report highlights the September 2016 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.

Wayne Natri  
Acting Executive Officer

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## **BACKGROUND**

This report summarizes the activities of Legislative and Public Affairs for September 2016. 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 September 2016. These events involve communities which suffer disproportionately from adverse air quality impacts.

#### **September 1**

- The Advisory Council for the Environmental Justice Community Partnership met to plan for the upcoming Environmental Justice for All Conference, taking place on November 16, 2016 at the Center at Cathedral Plaza in Downtown Los Angeles. The Advisory Council discussed possible keynote speakers, panel topics, breakout sessions, and logistics related to the execution of the event.

### September 6

- Staff was trained on the state's environmental justice screening tool, CalEnviroScreen 3.0, by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA). Staff learned about proposed updates to the tool, which aims to identify areas that fit the definition of environmental justice communities. Staff learned how the tool can be used to improve SCAQMD's environmental justice efforts.

### September 7

- Staff participated in the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Exide Advisory Local Government Conference call with representatives from local, state and federal elected officials, and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Information on the status of the Exide clean-up was provided by DTSC including more details regarding the clean-up of schools.

### September 7

- Staff attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> California Adaptation Forum in Long Beach, hosted by the Local Government Commission. Staff networked with local, regional, and state leaders who address California's climate adaptation needs, and learned about climate adaptation topics that reflect California's diverse needs and challenges.

### September 14

- Staff assisted with outreach, and organized and implemented the logistics for the Proposed Rule 1430 – Control of Toxic Emissions from Grinding Operations at Forging Facilities Working Group meeting in Paramount. The meeting was attended by industry representatives and residents of Paramount.

### September 14

- Staff presented to County of Riverside Code Enforcement in Palm Desert at the Desert Permit Assistance Center. In addition to providing background information on SCAQMD, the discussion focused on illegal dump sites and Coachella Valley and opportunities to partner where the agencies' jurisdictions overlap.

### September 21

- Staff from three departments, Legislative, Public Affairs & Media; Planning, Rule Development and Area Sources; and Compliance and Enforcement, attended the Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Enforcement Task Force meeting. Air quality was one of many issues discussed at the meeting. The meeting was well attended by representatives from Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia's office, City of Coachella, U.S. EPA Region 9, CARB, Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and La Union Hace La Fuerza.

### September 24

- Staff hosted the “Our Voices, Our Lives, Our Air: A Community Workshop on Air Pollution and Health,” as part of the Environmental Justice Community Partnership. The event honored Oscar Rodriguez, Community Organizer for the Oakview ComUNIDAD Group, as a way for community members to learn about the leaders who address environmental justice issues in their community. The event was also an opportunity for community members to express their air quality concerns.

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

Each year SCAQMD staff engage with thousands of residents, providing valuable information about the agency, incentive programs, and ways individuals can help reduce air pollution through events and meetings sponsored solely by SCAQMD 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;
- SCAQMD incentive programs;
- Ways to participate in SCAQMD’s rule and policy development; and
- Assistance in resolving air pollution-related problems.

SCAQMD staff attended and/or provided information and updates at the following events:

### September 10

- SCAQMD and Electric Vehicle Association of California, National Electric Drive Week Event, utilizing the SCAQMD parking lot and meeting rooms
- SCAQMD, Clean Air Car Show & Green Living Expo, Garfield Park, South Pasadena

### September 11

- City of Los Angeles & Adopt a Charger, National Electric Drive Week Event, Exposition Park, Los Angeles.

### September 16-17

- 11<sup>th</sup> Annual City of Santa Monica Alt Car Expo & Conference, Santa Monica.

### September 17

- SCAQMD Hearing Board Meeting, SoCal Gas Aliso Canyon Storage Facility, Hilton Woodland, Woodland Hills
- National Electric Drive Week Event, Houghton Park, Long Beach

#### September 18

- Plug-In America & Sierra Club & Electric Auto Association, Watts Electric Drive & Ride Event, Ted Watkins Park, Los Angeles

#### September 19

- SCAQMD & U.S. EPA, Public Meeting on Torrance Refinery Risk Management Program, Torrance Civic Center

#### September 21

- SCAQMD, Bidder's Conference for Torrance Environmental Projects, Torrance Civic Center
- City of Anaheim, 2016 Anaheim Transportation Faire, Anaheim Center Street Promenade

#### September 27

- California Air Resources Board (CARB), Advanced Clean Car Symposium, SCAQMD Headquarters, Diamond Bar

#### September 29

- City of Los Angeles, Department of Aging, Sixteenth Annual Senior Appreciation Luncheon, Los Angeles Convention Center.

### **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.

#### September 1

- Staff presented an overview on SCAQMD, air quality, and clean alternative fuel vehicles to thirty members at the Sunrise Rotary Club in Fullerton.

#### September 13

- Staff provided an overview presentation on SCAQMD, air quality, clean alternative fuel vehicles to 50 industry workers at the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County in Whittier.

#### September 21

- Staff gave a presentation on SCAQMD's Small Business Assistance Programs to 15 small business members at the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation in Los Angeles.

## COMMUNICATION CENTER STATISTICS

The Communication Center handles calls on SCAQMD's main line, 1-800-CUT-SMOG® line, the Spanish line, and after-hours calls to each of those lines. Total calls received in the month of September were:

Calls to SCAQMD's Main Line and 1-800-CUT-SMOG® Line	3,833
Calls to SCAQMD's Spanish-language Line	<u>57</u>
Total Calls	3,890

## PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER STATISTICS

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

Calls Received by PIC Staff	137
<u>Calls to Automated System</u>	<u>898</u>
Total Calls	1,035
Visitor Transactions	204
E-Mail Advisories Sent	1,084

## 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:

- Provided permit application assistance to 219 companies
- Conducted 6 free on-site consultations
- Issued 16 clearance letters

### Types of businesses assisted

Auto Body Shops	Dry Cleaners	Furniture Refinishing Facilities
Engineering Firm	Gas Stations	Auto Repair Centers
Construction Firm	Restaurants	Printing Facilities
Architecture Firm	Breweries	Manufacturing Facilities
		Plating Facilities

## **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:

Alhambra	Glendora	Redlands
Anaheim	Hemet	Redondo Beach
Arcadia	Huntington Park	Riverside
Azusa	Industry	Rosemead
Baldwin Park	Irvine	San Bernardino
Bellflower	Irwindale	San Dimas
Bradbury	La Cañada Flintridge	San Gabriel
Carson	La Puente	San Jacinto
Cathedral City	La Verne	San Marino
Chino	Laguna Niguel	Santa Clarita
Chino Hills	Laguna Woods	Sierra Madre
Claremont	Long Beach	Signal Hill
Coachella	Los Angeles	South El Monte
Colton	Monrovia	South Pasadena
Corona	Montclair	Temple City
Covina	Monterey Park	Torrance
Diamond Bar	Moreno Valley	Ventura
Duarte	Norco	Vernon
Eastvale	Paramount	Walnut
El Monte	Pasadena	West Covina
Fountain Valley	Perris	Yucaipa
Gardena	Pomona	

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

- U.S. Congressman Ed Royce (CA)
- U.S. Congressman Steve Knight (CA)
- U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu (CA)
- U.S. Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (CA)
- U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu (CA)
- U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein (CA)
- U.S. Congressman Mark Takano (CA)
- U.S. Congressman Tony Cardenas (CA)
- U.S. Congressman Xavier Becerra (CA)
- U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA)
- U.S. Congresswoman Maxine Waters (CA)
- Assembly Member Chris Holden
- Assembly Member David Hadley
- Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia
- Assembly Member Mike Gipson
- State Senator Fran Pavley
- State Senator Richard Roth
- Assembly Member Ed Chau
- Assembly Member Jose Medina
- Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
- Assembly Member Mike Gatto
- State Senator Ben Allen
- State Senator Isadore Hall
- State Senator Ed Hernandez

Staff represented SCAQMD and/or provided updates or a presentation to the following governmental agencies and business organizations:

Anaheim Chamber of Commerce  
Arcadia Chamber of Commerce  
California Air Resources Board  
Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce  
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce  
Gardena Chamber of Commerce  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
Lawndale Chamber of Commerce  
Long Beach Chamber of Commerce  
Metrolink, Los Angeles  
North Orange County Legislative Alliance  
Orange County Business Council (OCBC)  
Property Network, Environmental Issues, Los Angeles  
Redlands Chamber of Commerce  
Riverside County Transportation Commission  
Riverside Transit Agency (RTA)  
Riverside County Code Enforcement  
San Bernardino Associated Governments  
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership  
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments  
South Bay Cities Council of Governments  
South Bay Business Environmental Coalition  
South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Five Mountain Communities Chambers of Commerce Meeting (San Bernardino County)  
Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)  
Upland Chamber of Commerce  
Western Riverside County Transportation NOW (RTA)

- Greater Riverside Chapter
- Hemet/San Jacinto Area Chapter
- Northwest Chapter
- Southwest Chapter
- Moreno Valley/Perris Chapter

Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce

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

American Lung Association in California, Inland Empire, Los Angeles, Orange County  
Coachella Valley Environmental Justice Enforcement Task Force  
Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control Center District