

Date: November 14, 2019

To: Gateway Cities Council of Governments Board of Directors
South Bay Cities Council of Governments Board of Directors
Westside Cities Council of Governments Board of Directors
Las Virgenes – Malibu Council of Governments Board of Directors
League of Cities LA County Division Board of Directors

From: Judith Mitchell, Governing Board Member, South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and California Air Resources (CARB) Board

Subject: Recap of October/November AQMD and CARB Meetings/Activities

AQMD November Board meetings/Other Key Items

Torrance Air Quality Monitoring Project (Torrance Air): AQMD recently announced an initiative in Torrance to monitor local air quality using four air quality monitoring stations located throughout the community and four fenceline air monitors at the Torrance Refinery. The data will be made available through a mobile-friendly website, www.torranceair.org. The four air quality stations will be located throughout the City of Torrance to measure harmful air pollutants, including hydrofluoric acid (HF). The four fenceline monitors will soon be installed on the north side of the Torrance refinery and will utilize “Open-Path” instruments that can measure similar pollutants. The data gathered via the four community-based monitors is being collected and will be made available through mid-2021 on the website.

The Torrance Air Project formed an Advisory Committee, including members of several Torrance homeowners associations, Families Lobbying Against Refinery Exposures (FLARE), Torrance Refinery Action Alliance (TRAA), as well as representatives from the City of Torrance, Torrance Fire Department, Torrance Police Department, Torrance Refinery, Torrance Unified School District, and Torrance Chamber of Commerce, all to help ensure the community is engaged and to provide input for this project.

This project was funded as the result of a settlement following the 2015 incident at the Torrance Refinery. AQMD is also working with the city of Torrance on upgrading their community alert system, which will include additional sirens around the city, so that all residents are notified in case of an emergency. The alert system will be tied into public safety agencies and data from the monitoring network so that sirens can be activated quickly. For access to data or more information on the Torrance Air Project, please visit: www.torranceair.org

Universal Studios Electric Tram Demonstration: The AQMD recently attended a demonstration of a prototype electric tram at Universal Studios along with CARB Chairman Mary Nichols. The electric power train repower is being done by Complete Coach Works in Riverside and would be wirelessly quick-charged at the pickup/drop off location in the park.

VW Mitigation Trust Funding: AQMD recently released an announcement on the availability of \$65 million in funding for the VW Mitigation Trust Zero-Emission Transit, School and Shuttle Bus program. Information was sent to local school districts, school bus service providers, transit agencies and cities, counties, colleges and nonprofit

organizations. This is a statewide solicitation being administered by the San Joaquin Valley APCD with funding available on a first-come, first-served basis. Grantees can be awarded up to \$400,000 to replace an engine or vehicle. More information can be found at: <http://vwbusmoney.valleyair.org>

CARB October Board meetings/Other Key Items

Funding Plan for Clean Transportation Incentives: CARB approved a \$533 million plan to fund clean car rebates, zero-emission transit and school buses, clean trucks, and other innovative, clean transportation and mobility pilot projects, largely funded with cap-and-trade proceeds. The plan focuses on improving air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector, the state's largest source of air pollution and climate-changing gases. Highlights of the FY 2019-20 Plan include:

- **\$238 million** for the Clean Vehicle Rebate Project (CVRP), with a stipulation that \$25 million be used to fund increased rebates for low-income consumers. CVRP promotes clean-vehicle adoption by offering rebates for the purchase or lease of new, eligible zero-emission vehicles, including electric, plug-in hybrid electric and fuel cell vehicles.
- **\$182 million** for clean trucks, buses and off-road freight equipment, including \$142 million for the Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP) and \$40 million for advanced technology demonstration and pilot projects in the heavy-duty sector.
- **\$65 million** for Clean Transportation Equity Projects to continue efforts to increase access to clean transportation and mobility options benefitting low-income communities and households. These include funding for existing projects such as Clean Cars 4 All, which provides incentives for lower-income drivers to scrap and replace older, high-polluting cars with zero- or near-zero-emission cars, and school bus replacements. Two new projects to increase outreach and support communities in their planning efforts also will receive funding.
- **\$48 million** in Air Quality Improvement Program funding to clean up heavy-duty truck emissions. Demand is expected to rise as a result of a new law that will only allow trucks that are compliant with California's Truck and Bus Regulation to be registered by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

For more information, visit <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/low-carbon-transportation-investments-and-air-quality-improvement-program/low-1>