

**Imperial County Air Pollution Control District  
1 Year Work Plan  
July 2018 – June 2019**

**I. Project Title and Information**

<b>Report Number</b>	AB617 – YR 1
<b>Title</b>	ICAPCD Annual Report AB617
<b>Name of Grantee</b>	Imperial County Air Pollution Control District
<b>Grant Number</b>	G18-CAPP-12

**Background**

In response to Assembly Bill (AB) 617 (C. Garcia, Chapter 136, Statutes of 2017), the California Air Resources Board (CARB) established the Community Air Protection Program (CAPP). The Program’s focus is to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution. The Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (ICAPCD) in partnership with Comite Civico del Valle (CCV) submitted a nomination to CARB for the communities of El Centro, Heber, and Calexico, and this corridor was selected CAPP community. AB 617 is designed to implement a strategy to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants and criteria pollutants in environmental justice communities affected by a high cumulative exposure burden, and provide education to these communities to increase awareness on air quality matters. In coordination with Comite Civico del Valle (CCV), the ICAPCD is the responsible agency for administering AB 617 activities, including but not limited to the implementation of the Community Emissions Reduction Program and Community Air Monitoring Plan (Program(s)) in the El Centro, Heber, and Calexico Corridor.

**AB617 Community Steering Committee (CSC)**

In late 2018, ICAPCD in conjunction with CCV assembled the steering committee for the El Centro-Heber-Calexico Corridor. Referred to as the AB 617 Community Steering Committee (“Steering Committee”), this group is intended to be involved with all aspects of the Monitoring Plan and community emissions reduction program (“Emissions Reduction Program”), including participant recruitment, identification of key objectives, monitoring site selection, emission reduction strategy selection, and evaluation and dissemination of results. The Steering Committee is also intended to maintain communication with other Community members throughout the planning process to gather input from concerned citizens and facilitate ongoing discussion.

As Table 2 displays, the Steering Committee consists of 15 members made up of two *ex-officio* co-chairs (representing ICAPCD and CCV) and 13 Community representatives. Some of these Community representatives are affiliated with various organizations around Heber, El Centro, and Calexico, including school districts, local government commissions, businesses, and non-profit organizations. They were selected to participate in the Steering Committee based on their potential to act as leaders and contribute technical expertise during planning. In the event that any Steering

Committee members are unable to perform their duties, alternates were selected to step in. As of November 18, 2018, 13 meetings have been held and 1 workshop.

The AB617 monthly meetings are held at the El Centro Regional Medical Center’s Community Education Center located at the Imperial Valley Mall. This location has been extremely beneficial as it is centralized, provides adequate parking and also adequate space for a growing and increase of attendees to the AB617 meetings. At every meeting the ICAPCD provides dinner, translation services, while attendees can shop around before or after learning about local air quality issues and measures being taken. It has also become a hub for networking as officials from throughout the state (CARB, DPR, CalEPA, etc.) are frequently in attendance and allows locals to speak with them face-to-face. Our meetings start is at 5:30PM and officially end at 7:30 PM, but you will often see individuals speaking with one another until 9:00 PM.

**Table 1: AB617 Community Steering Committee (CSC)**

<b>Table 2. AB 617 Community Steering Committee Members, 2018-2019</b>		
<b>Representing</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>Alternates</b>
Co-Chair (ICAPCD)	Matt Dessert	Reyes Romero
Co-Chair (CCV)	Luis Olmedo	Christian Torres
Community Corridor	Mersedes Martinez	Rosa Guerrero
Community Corridor	Diahna Garcia-Ruiz	Bob Fischer
Community Corridor	Rene Felix	Tomas Oliva
Community Corridor	Mireya Diaz	Sandra Mendivil
Community Corridor	Kristian Salgado	Chris Gomez Wong
Community Corridor	Blake Plourd	Steven Snow
Community Corridor	Sergio Cabanas	Michael Moore
Community Corridor	Mark Baza	Virginia Mendoza
Community Corridor	Aide Fulton	Diego Gamboa
Community Corridor	Mary Salazar	Irene Garcia
Community Corridor	John Hernandez	Paul Monarrez
Community Corridor	Jose Celaya	VACANT
Community Corridor	VACANT	VACANT

**Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP)**

The ICAPCD in conjunction with RAMBOL (ICAPCD consulting services) is developing a Community Air Monitoring Plan (“Monitoring Plan” or “Plan”) presents objectives and

methodologies for community air monitoring in the El Centro-Heber-Calexico Corridor in Imperial County, California (“Community”). This Plan was developed in response to the selection of this Community to conduct community air monitoring under the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Community Air Protection Program (CAPP), a program established to help implement California Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617). This Plan specifically addresses the 14 elements laid out for community air monitoring in CARB’s Community Air Protection Blueprint (“Blueprint”), a guidance document developed for the CAPP. These elements ultimately serve to address three objectives, which are to:

- Determine the reason for conducting community air monitoring;
- Describe how the community air monitoring will be conducted; and
- Identify how the data will support action to reduce air pollution within the Community.

When brought together, the 14 elements demonstrate how the Community plans to conduct air monitoring at the local scale to generate air quality data that is accurate, accessible, transparent, and understandable, and ultimately useful towards improving local air quality. This plan will be presented to the AB617 CSC on August 28, 2019 for approval.

### **Community Emission Reduction Plan (CERP)**

The ICACPD in conjunction with RAMBOLL, ICAPCD’s consulting services, is developing a Community Emission Reduction Program Plan (CERP) which presents objectives and methodologies for the Community Emission Reduction Program in the El Centro-Heber-Calexico Corridor in Imperial County, California (“Community”). This Plan was developed in response to the selection of this Community to implement an emissions reduction program under the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Community Air Protection Program (CAPP), a program established to help implement California Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617). This Plan specifically addresses the planning elements laid out in CARB’s Community Air Protection Blueprint (“Blueprint”), a guidance document developed for the CAPP.<sup>1</sup> The CERP planning elements will be address two main health-based objectives, which are:

- Maximizing progress on reducing exposure to toxic air contaminants that contribute to cumulative exposure burdens within selected communities; and
- Reducing exposure caused by localized particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) sources to achieve healthful levels of PM<sub>2.5</sub> within the community.

This Plan demonstrates how the Community plans to reduce emissions at the local scale by identifying targets and implementing strategies to improve local air quality and ultimately satisfy these health-based objectives. The CERP will be provided to the AB617 CSC on September 11, 2019. The CERP will be taken to the Imperial County Air Pollution Board of Director’s on September 24, 2019 for final submittal to CARB by October 1, 2019.

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<sup>1</sup> California Air Resources Board. 2018. *Community Air Protection Blueprint*. October. Available at: [https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2018-10/final\\_community\\_air\\_protection\\_blueprint\\_october\\_2018.pdf](https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2018-10/final_community_air_protection_blueprint_october_2018.pdf). Accessed: May 2019.

## **Outreach**

As part of the commitment to community engagement and outreach, ICAPCD staff operates a website dedicated to AB 617 activity in Imperial County.<sup>2</sup> The site offers background information on AB 617 and has pages for information on the Steering Committee members, meetings and events (including notes and recordings from past meetings), contact information, and links to important resources such as the CARB home page and websites for local air monitoring networks. Additionally, both District and CCV staff have maintained that they will be available as resources to anyone with questions or just looking to gather more information about CAPP implementation in Imperial County. Information regarding the dedicated District contact person for this Plan is provided below.

The ICAPCD has also created a website devoted specifically to AB 617. On this website you can find all meeting materials, AB 617 background information, CSC Member bios, subscription and comment form, and links to various agencies. Please visit [www.ICAB617Community.org](http://www.ICAB617Community.org) to access our website.

We believe these are the accomplishments that can't be measured. This level of community engagement and building is what makes AB 617 unique and innovative. Allowing those to voice their thoughts, concerns, or simply share their knowledge of a subject while also providing resources and funds to help these objectives come to fruition is what excites the ICACPD the most on continuing our work on AB 617.

## **Implementation of Expenditures**

In addition, both air districts and CARB have implementation costs associated with meeting the requirements of statute, oversight responsibilities, and reporting requirements applicable to all California Climate Investments.

The ICAPCD has incurred expenses through the implementation of AB617. The below expense report reflects the expenses incurred from August 2019 through June 2019.

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<sup>2</sup> ICAPCD. AB 617 Imperial County: Calexico, Heber, El Centro Corridor. Available at: <https://www.icab617community.org/>. Accessed: May 2019.

## AB617 - Imperial County APCD Expenses

<b>Specific Task Grant Cost Recovery</b>	<b>\$ 200,000.00</b>
Finalized and prioritized community areas	
Drafted, reviewed and submitted final recommendations	
Community meetings and developing the community air monitoring plan	
Formed the air quality steering committee for the selected corridor, El Centro, Heber, and Calexico.	
Organized and hosted 13 community meetings, including the development of meeting materials for monthly steering committee meetings (attachment A)	
Organized and hosted 1 workshop (June 19, 2019)	
With the steering committee inputs, drafted and finalized a community steering committee charter and developed a list of air quality concerns.	
community steering committee charter, and developed a list of air quality concerns	
(Approved by AB617 CSC on February 13, 2019)	
Researched potential monitoring options, including professional and low cost sensor and monitoring platform for the enhanced community monitoring.	
Compiled the criteria pollutant emissions inventory for permitted sources in the AB617 community and provided to the community.	
*includes staff time	
<b>Consultants</b>	
<b>Ramboll</b>	<b>\$ 226,394.00</b>
Community Engagement, technical assessment, Development of emission reduction targets and metrics, evaluation and selection of reduction strategies, development of enforcement plan, report preparation, and CEQA Analysis.	
<b>Harder &amp; CO.</b>	<b>\$ 26,960.00</b>
Discussion Methods & Refine Proposed Strategies, Finalize Facilitation Strategies, Prepare for Meeting Facilitation, and Meeting Facilitation.	
<b>BARCT Implementation</b>	<b>\$ 22,000.00</b>
Adopted an expedited schedule for the implementation of BARCT	
Participated in the AB 617 BACT/BARCT working group	
Conducted preliminary development of BARCT rulemaking	
<b>Comite Civico Del Valle</b>	<b>\$ 29,395.00</b>
Community Engagement and Community Outreach	
Troubleshooting and Maintenance of Existing and expanded Corridor	
Attended meetings, workshops, and participated in conference calls	
<b>AB617 Services</b>	<b>\$ 18,288.00</b>
OGMA Translation Services	
<b>AB617 Stipends</b>	<b>\$ 5,175.00</b>
Steering Committee Members and alternates who attend the meetings receive a stipend of \$75 per meeting.	
<b>Other Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 8,559.00</b>
Travel to sacramento (\$2,748)	
Equipment/Supplies/software (\$2,824)	
Food Incentive (\$1,775)	
Advertising (\$1,212)	
<b>Total Grant Funds Expended:</b>	<b>\$ 536,771.00</b>
<b>Total Grant Award: \$2 Million</b>	
<b>Total Grant Fund Remaining:</b>	<b>\$ (1,463,229.00)</b>

## **Work In Progress**

The ICAPCD is currently working on the following activities:

Community monitoring – The ICAPCD continues to work with the AB 617 CSC the development of the CAMP and its objectives. Surveys and dialog will continue until the final version of the plan is approved by the AB CSC.

As a continued effort to the enhancement of the monitoring plan, the ICAPCD is strongly considering the purchase of 2 mobile monitoring units. The placement of these mobile units are in discussion with the AB CSC.

The ICAPCD, Comite Civico del Valle, and the AB CSC is working on the deployment of the first community monitor on the ICAPCD premises. It will be deployed by July 1, 2019.

2. Community Emission Inventory – The ICAPCD with the assistance of RAMBOLL, CCV, and the AB617 is developing the CERP. CERP discussions are occurring during all CSB meetings. We anticipate the AB 617 CSC will approve the CERP on September 11, 2019. On September 24, 2019, the CERP will be taken to the Imperial County APCD Board and it will be submitted by October 1, 2019 to CARB.

3. BARCT Implementation – The APCD is evaluating BARCT sources. If necessary, the ICAPCD will analyze rulemaking if need be, to establish BARCT requirements for these operations.