



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT



WEST
OAKLAND
ENVIRONMENTAL
INDICATORS
PROJECT

May 31, 2018

Dear Esteemed West Oakland Community Stakeholder:

On behalf of the West Oakland Environmental Indicators project (WOEIP) and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District), we formally invite you to serve on the West Oakland Community Action Plan (Action Plan) steering committee to help improve air quality in West Oakland. State Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) provides a new community-focused approach to reduce exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants in communities most impacted by air pollution. As a recognized West Oakland stakeholder, your participation is essential to inform this community-based approach.

Background on AB 617 and Community Air Plans

Passed in 2017, AB 617 is a State-mandated program that focuses resources through the regional Air District to help better understand, address, and mitigate local air pollution in the State's most disadvantaged communities. The program also enables communities to address enforcement and land-use issues that enable ongoing air pollution. We believe West Oakland—which includes the Port of Oakland, Oakland Army Base, East Bay Municipal Utility District's (EBMUD) waste treatment facility, surrounding freeways and various industrial facilities—should be our initial focus in the Bay Area region, therefore we are starting our work here. The Action Plan can build upon many of the existing studies and community air monitoring efforts (EDF/Google/Aclima and UC-Berkeley) —many of which WOEIP has helped lead—but will require a robust community stakeholder input process to gather input and formulate a collaborative plan of action. The key elements of the Action Plan will need to be completed by early 2019 in preparation for State adoption in October 2019.

Steering Committee Responsibilities

The steering committee will include community stakeholders to help inform, guide and review the Action Plan. The steering committee will be co-chaired by WOEIP and the Air District and consist of committee members representing various sectors such as residents, business, labor, schools, faith-based organizations, government, and health organizations.

Steering committee meetings are planned every two-months for two-hour meetings (time and place to be determined). We ask steering committee members to commit to six meetings in addition to 2-4 community townhall meetings over the course of the year. Members who wish to be further involved may choose to participate in ad-hoc sub-committees or steering committee governance. For all formal meetings, childcare, food and interpretation can be made available. Stipends may be available for folks not paid for attendance as part of their job.

Steering committee members will be responsible for developing the proposed content of the community plan as well as disseminate information and transmit input from your representative sectors as appropriate. Prospective members need to be able and willing to review ongoing plans, studies, reports on air quality, and think critically and strategically to provide input. All educational levels and backgrounds are welcomed and any desired trainings on aspects of this planning process will be made available.

If you are interested in being part of this important steering committee, please respond to Margaret.woeip@gmail.com or 510-257-5647 by Tuesday, June 12, 2018. Please also indicate your preference for meeting availability:

- Flexible
- Mornings (Before 12 pm)
- Afternoons (After 12 pm)
- Evenings (After 5 pm)

Thank you for your interests and your contributions to the health and vitality of the West Oakland community.

Sincerely,

Ms. Margaret Gordon and Brian Beveridge,
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project

David Ralston and Yvette DiCarlo,
Bay Area Air Quality Management District