

Shafter Community Emissions Reduction Program  
Outreach Comments Received on Question Posters  
November 4, 2019

1. What are the key strengths of the community emissions reduction program (CERP)?

(COMMITTEE)

- Action items that benefit a majority of the community to clean the air are appreciated. Giving the funds to heavy polluters to make changes.
- Adding for the pilot notification.
- CERP is weak!! (No strengths). Not enough money for A10, C5, SD1, UG1. Too much money for HD2, HD7, HD1, HD8. No majority community support for HD7, HD8. HD1, HD4 "near-zero" not supported. C2 "electric only" plug-in hybrid no supported.
- Heavy duty mobile sources. Shafter gets a lot of traffic from Wasco and Highway 99.
- Eliminate pollution.
- Community demanded more incentives but more than half is going to already-running programs – (this can be better).
- We would like to be considered for incentives.
- It is a diversified program. It expanded the boundaries to really include the communities that are seriously impacted by air pollution. It includes measures to improve our community's (Mexican Colony and others) infrastructure to combat our serious air pollution.
- The educational process about what is and what is not the air quality issues in the community is one of the greater strengths of the CERP process. This process lead to more effective measures to propose and adopt.
- This is a good program because it is local.
- Air quality issues for our area were finally being noticed and addressed. This committee has been educated individually with more understanding.
- A lot of the measures benefit the nearby community rather than spreading to other towns who'd reap the benefit instead of us.

(PUBLIC)

- Inclusion of pesticides (although no meaningful reductions).
- Community Driven Community Lead.

2. What do you want CARB's Governing Board to know about the CERP?

(COMMITTEE)

- That most of the decisions that were agreed upon were from a select group that met privately away from the steering committee.
- The Shafter community is looking to YOU to ensure the program is implemented and does as promised.

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- Good stuff with highly trained facilitator. As an elected official, disappointed that programs that should have been adopted are not included.
- To this date the air district/CARB have not addressed pesticides in the CERP even though the air district and CARB has jurisdiction when pesticides turn into a gas.
- Having a highly trained and effective facilitator is the most important element to the process. A good facilitator should not be dismissed.
- Solar to only disadvantaged is not fair. If you want charging stations why aren't the solar funds available to more businesses, schools and others to promote them in putting charging stations at their place of business or school. Those are the communities who might actually use them not residents. Better restrictions to implement programs for ENTIRE community benefit to cleaner air.
- Not enough emphasis is placed on pollution reduction.
- More incentives are provided to industry instead of the community.
- Place priority on serving the areas that are in dire need of improving the air quality such as Mexican Colony and other outlying areas, especially in collaborating with other agencies for infrastructure improvement, veg barriers, etc. Also crucial – providing these families with ways to improve the air quality in their homes.
- I want what was promised in the CERP to be implemented.
- The community priorities like direct reduction of pesticides exposure was left out – tarping of toluene. Pesticides should be at the front of the CERP, not the afterthought. EV and solar programs should start ASAP.
- A small group of people drive the agenda and the CERP recommendations.
- CERP does not reflect majority of steering committee. It is an air district wish list. Items included we did not support. Items missing we did support. Token money for some items committee supported. Biggest omission: Nothing for replacing gas heating with electric was included.

(PUBLIC)

- Most of the measures are not permanent to the community.
- CERP does not result in substantial emissions beyond what is already required by law.
- Notification of pesticide applications does not reduce emissions.
- CARB should know Shafter CERP does VERY little to reduce emissions beyond existing district regs/rules.
- Need to study the emissions due to the railroad tracks when the trains run.
- Investigate idling at school locations.

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3. What things have you learned through this process that you would like us to share with other communities or CARB's Governing Board?

### (COMMITTEE)

- Certain percentage of the funding should go to the major air pollution contributors identified by CARB or local air board. Make sure unused money stays in your community to implement more clean air measures.
- People who miss the sign up dates should not be allowed in after the fact, wasted a lot of time. Have a good facilitator that keeps the meeting on task. Groups or organization representatives should not be allowed on steering committee.
- You need to have majority of people who actually live in the city not outlying areas. They don't have complete knowledge of problem areas. Keep items to benefiting AIR quality as a whole (solar? heat system?) not to individuals. Use money wisely. Programs that will carry on, not temporary.
- Look for ideas from other CERPs. More detailed information from Air Board so we can make good decisions on funding.
- The law has more emphasis for environmentalist directions and wants. I feel some local citizens just didn't continue to attend. Need balanced represented industry, ag, residents, etc. on committee.
- Suggestion – the steering group should include government officials and other stakeholders – not just residents.
- People will disagree but can reach consensus with good committee members and good facilitation.
- Collaboration outside of the regular meetings are necessary for recapping the meetings and for understanding and prepping for the next meeting. Take a stand for what you believe will help your community. Get strong representation from communities. Unbiased facilitators.
- No equality because industry has more funding than community.
- I have listened and become more educated since becoming a member of this committee. There are things I didn't know.
- Communities should organize early to get their ideas in order.
- Partnerships. Partnerships. Partnerships.
- Work together as ONE steering committee rather than two.
- I've learned the process of developing and implementing this program. I love the transparency and how inclusive the process was. Please keep this in mind when going to other cities. The community must be allowed to suggest and give recommendations on how the CERP should be drafted.
- First, CARB should change the CERP and send it back to SJVAPCD. Second, CERP needs to be a true community program, not just a plan to get more money for ongoing programs. Third, major utilities influence on process must be recognized and neutralized (i.e. converting natural gas to electric was not approved).

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- Need to work with other agencies.
- AB 617 law should be amended to make this process more effective and streamlined.
- Communities don't be afraid to voice your concerns or wishes to help improve your town.

### (PUBLIC)

- Industries were not a part of the advisory committee.
- Industries would have provided more accurate info on how they do business.
- With the expansion of area, agricultural should have been able to participate.
- CARB should know that community burn out is real. Spent too much time disputing process/formalities.
- District/DPR needs to stop confusing residents over jurisdictional authority over pesticides.
- This local, community led process should be replicated across the state.
- Due to ag related issues – the County Ag Commissioner should have been on the committee.

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- Inventory – missing data
- Data requests – be heard and follow up
- Incentives - \$ to community/residents