



**ENFORCEMENT SYMPOSIUM 2019** 

# Wildfire and Smoke Management: District Role Larry Greene – CAPCOA



# CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

# LOOKING FORWARD: The Evolution of Enforcement

- Districts in California vary widely: population, industry, vegetation, geography.
- All are impacted with the increase in wildfires, rural and urban directly or indirectly.
- Local efforts have been underway responding to this emergency, following on similar work dealing with fire and smoke for many years.
- CAPCOA is working with CARB/CalEPA/CalFire on a coordinated state response that integrates air districts with state efforts.
- In this capacity CAPCOA advocates for districts regarding how finances are distributed, how policy is written and how "new initiatives" impact current district programs and policies.





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- In 2018 the legislature provided \$2 million to be directed through CARB to Air District programs for increasing prescribed burning.
- CAPCOA goals for this effort:
  - The program would not succeed without leveraging and expanding district expertise in agricultural/prescribed burning, air monitoring and public outreach.
  - Districts funding should match the tasks and objectives of the program
  - Like for CARB and other agencies, increased response requires increased capacity.
  - Integration of local capability/experience with state coordinated resources will increase efficiency of response and confidence of public.
  - Funding must be multiyear to maintain capacity over this multiyear program



- CARB/CAPCOA negotiated and approved a potential program design in January 2019. This was reviewed at the Winter Retreat and approved by CAPCOA and CARB
  - \$1,210,000: Local districts burn permits, smoke management plans, public outreach, air monitors, enhanced coordination between CAPCOA/CARB.
  - \$640,000 to CAPCOA admin and indirect costs, coordination of the program, training, monitoring.
  - \$150,000 to CARB To fund districts who store and maintain monitoring equipment at remote sites in California.
- CARB/CAPCOA then negotiated the structure of the grant documents and flow of funding





- CAPCOA funding breakout:
  - \$40,000 Administration and overhead
  - \$100,000 for operation and managing the program
  - \$200,000 reimbursable district funding for training
  - \$300,000 reimbursable district funding for monitoring prescribed fires
  - \$190,000 reimbursable funding for large districts
- The original allocation formula was based on anticipated locations of prescribed burning across the state and biomass density charts showing likely burn locations.
- The next funding cycle will be adjusted based on 2019-2020 results. Discussed at the 2020 Winter Board meeting.





- Program status:
  - 29/32 "small districts" agreements in place/MOU's with 2 large districts approved.
  - CAPCOA master grant completed and funded.
  - CARB/CAPCOA kickoff meeting completed...CAPCOA/District program underway.
  - CAPCOA participating in Forest Management Task Force, Prescribed Fire Working Group, Air and Land Managers Meeting.
  - Jointly working on: Enhanced PFIRS, public outreach and messaging, increased monitoring and reporting, more consolidated permitting processes, training program and schedule.





- Next steps:
  - District kick off meetings completed
  - Program management documents sent to districts/reviewed and amended.
  - Prescribed fire working group meetings scheduled.
  - CARB/CAPCOA team designing 5-6 two day workshops across the state.
  - Complete advanced funding for districts that want to be funded
  - Integrate programs for where this makes sense for districts





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- Key milestones coming up:
  - First reporting period July to September 2019.
  - Plan for and hold training meetings: Sacramento, Shasta, Mendocino, Mariposa, Santa Barbara, San Joaquin.
  - Get the 60+ monitoring events identified to meet yearly targets.
  - Continue work with CARB on the Smoke App
  - Continue planning for a potential CAPCOA/CARB Smoke conference in January-March timeframe.

Contacts: Larry Greene <u>larry@capcoa.org</u> Tung Le <u>tung@capcoa.org</u>