

AB 617 Implementation Funds Annual Report

I.	Report Number:	AB617 – YR3
	Title:	ICAPCD Annual Report AB617
	Reporting Period:	2018-2019
	Name of Grantee:	Imperial County APCD
	Grant Number:	G18-CAPP-12 -AJ
	Date of Submission:	April 21, 2021

II.	<p>Costs associated with specific tasks: <i>(for example: identifying location for monitoring, deploying community air monitoring systems, fence- line monitoring, reporting emissions, developing a community emissions reduction program, establishing best available retrofit control technology requirements, adopting an expedited schedule for the implementation of best available retrofit control technology, community meetings or other Community Air Protection implementation efforts and outreach). Information for outreach events must include the date, location, topics, and number of attendees, for each event.)</i></p>
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Costs associated with this grant period include the installation of continued community monitoring in the Imperial County Corridor of El Centro, Heber, and Calexico. The AB617 monthly meetings are held at the El Centro Regional Medical Center’s Community Education Center located at the Imperial Valley Mall, Heber Community Center in Heber, or at the Calexico Neighborhood House. Lately because of Covid, we had to modify our meetings and have them through ZOOM. As part of the commitment to community engagement and outreach, ICAPCD staff operates a website dedicated to AB 617 activity in Imperial County. 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. As part of the ICAPCD outreach efforts, attached hereto is an AB617 CSC Facebook Engagement metrics. Ramboll was hired as our consultant to assist with the development of the CERP and CAMP.

In addition, As part of CERP development, the Community was granted funding by the California legislature for the implementation of projects for reducing pollutant emissions or community exposure through mobile source, stationary source, and community-identified projects and strategies. Various strategies were identified during development of the CERP through Community engagement. These strategies were included in the final CERP that was approved by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Board in January 2020. These strategies were as follows: Urban Greening, Paving Projects, and the Enhanced Flag Program. Ramboll was hired as a consultant to assist in with the development of the Project Plans – Chapter 6.

III.	<p>How is grant being utilized to meet goals of AB 617: <i>(If applicable, include emissions reductions being achieved)</i></p>
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- 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_{2.5}) sources to achieve healthful levels of PM_{2.5} within the community.

Urban Greening

Exposure reduction will be estimated for each project based on the number of sensitive receptors within 1,000 feet of the Urban Greening project site. Urban Greening will result in a reduction in CAP emissions.

Exposure to PM, NO_x, ROG, and ozone, which is formed via chemical reactions between NO_x and ROG, can cause a variety of human health problems, particularly to the lungs and respiratory tract.

Sensitive receptors, such as people with pre-existing conditions, children, and older adults are most susceptible to CAP pollution exposure.

Paving Projects

Paving of unpaved roads, parking lots, and other unpaved areas will result in a reduction in PM emissions from vehicle travel and fugitive windblown dust emission. Sensitive receptors, such as people with heart or lung diseases, children, and older adults are most susceptible to PM pollution exposure. Estimates of exposure reduction will be comprised of the following metrics: 1) Number of visitors to the location that is served by the project, the number of sensitive receptors within 1,000 feet of the project boundary. Exposure reduction is estimated based on the number of individuals in these two categories. Paving will have qualitative benefits in addition to reducing particulate matter emissions. The reduction in emissions can improve the health and well-being of the Corridor while reducing strain on the local healthcare system. Additionally, if health impacts are avoided or mitigated, this can reduce the number of days of school and work lost to sick time, providing an economic benefit.

Paving will also keep the unpaved areas in good condition. Unpaved parking lots often cannot be used by people with special needs due to the poor condition of the surface. Less maintenance will be required for parking lots and roads as there will be fewer potholes and no need for gravel to be reapplied.

School Flag Program:

Estimates of exposure reduction will be comprised of the following metrics:

- Number of students enrolled at the school
- Number of faculty and staff employed by the school
- Grades served by the school (as a proxy for average age of students)

Exposure reduction will be estimated only on number of individuals in these broad categories. Each school will be required to include this information on their application for funding. However, as an added benefit to the nature of the program, family members involved in pick-up/drop-off duties and other community members not associated with the school can still be notified of air quality conditions. Community members walking or driving by the school are likely to notice the flags or electronic marquees displaying the air quality information and may tailor their outdoor behaviour based on them. Therefore, additional exposure reduction benefits are likely to occur beyond those listed above.

The benefits of expanded and improved air quality notification programs at schools across the Community will be qualitative in nature and result from the community being more informed about daily air quality conditions. Community members knowing the daily AQI and understanding how to make smart choices about outdoor activities when the air quality is unhealthy is important for reducing the negative impacts of poor air quality, such as exacerbation of health problems like asthma. This can improve the health and well-being of the Community while reducing strain on the local healthcare system. Additionally, if health impacts are avoided or mitigated, this can reduce the number of days of school and work lost to sick time, providing an economic benefit.

IV. Summary of work completed and in progress since the last progress report:

Work In Progress:

The ICAPCD, Comite Civico del Valle, and the AB 617 CSC is working on the deployment of the 14 community monitors. 6 out of 15 monitors have been installed. Dialog will continue with the implementation of the CAMP and the installation of the remaining 9 community monitors.

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.

As a continued effort to the enhancement of the monitoring plan, the ICAPCD considered the purchase of a mobile monitoring unit for the New River area in Calexico. The ICAPCD had a Request For Proposal for the New River monitor where 5 applicants/Consultants submitted an application. Sonoma Technology was selected for the New River Project and will begin the project in June/July 2021. At this time the agreement is being developed and will take the information to the Board of Supervisors for approval in May.

V.	Grant funds remaining and expended:
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All funds have been expended in accordance with the grant requirements (0 grant funds are available).

VI.	Expenditure summary showing all Community Air Protection Program Implementation Funds for which reimbursement is being requested:
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Please refer to Attachment A of this report for an expenditure summary.

AB617 - Imperial County APCD Expenses

Specific Task Grant Cost Recovery	\$ 849,020.00
Finalized and prioritized community areas	
Drafted, reviewed and submitted final recommendations	
Community meetings and developing the community air monitoring plan	
Organized and hosted 12 community meetings, including the development of meeting materials for monthly steering committee meetings (attachment A)	
With the steering committee inputs, drafted and finalized a community steering committee charter and developed a list of air quality concerns.	
Developed a list of air quality concerns	
Researched potential monitoring options, including professional and low cost sensor and monitoring platform for the enhanced community monitoring and New River monitoring.	
Compiled the criteria pollutant emissions inventory for permitted sources in the AB617 community and provided to the community.	
New River Monitoring Project implementation logistics.	
Finalized the Chapter 6 Project Plans for Urban Greening, Paving, and Flag Program.	
*includes staff time	
Consultants	
Ramboll	\$ 150,000.00
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. In addition to project plans - Chapter 6.	
Harder & CO.	\$ 86,000.00
Discussion Methods & Refine Proposed Strategies, Finalize Facilitation Strategies, Prepare for Meeting Facilitation, and Meeting Facilitation.	
Comite Civico Del Valle	\$ 237,000.00
Community Engagement and Community Outreach	
Troubleshooting and Maintenance of Existing and expanded Corridor	
Attended meetings, workshops, and participated in conference calls	
BARCT Implementation	\$ 12,000.00
Adopted an expedited schedule for the implementation of BARCT	
Participated in the AB 617 BACT/BARCT working group	
Conducted preliminary development of BARCT rulemaking	
AB617 Services	\$ 18,288.00
OGMA Translation Services	
AB617 Stipends	\$ 11,700.00
Steering Committee Members and alternates who attend the meetings receive a stipend of \$75 per meeting.	
Other Expenses	\$ 55,000.00
Travel for AB617 necessities.	
Equipment/Supplies/materials/software	
Advertising	
Community Outreach	
Total Grant Funds Expended:	\$ 1,419,008.00
Past Expenses (Year 1: \$536,771 & Year 2: \$713,549)	\$ 1,250,320.00
Total Expenses:	\$ 2,669,328.00
Budget:	\$ 2,000,000.00
Total Grant Fund Overage:	\$ 669,328.00