

August 12, 2021 Consultation Group Meeting Notes, DRAFT

Welcome and Agenda Review, Ariel, Deldi, Dr. Balmes

-by the next meeting, we hope to have the People's Blueprint draft

UC Davis AB 617 Convening, Jonathan London

Presentation (see slides)

Consultation Group Purpose Discussion

Michael Jerrett

- It is hard to make recommendations without concrete numbers about funding

Ms. Margaret Gordon

- Are you asking about budgets for convening or budgets for AB617 program?
- Requested standing budget item for CG meetings
- And included in the convening

Martha Dina Arguello

- We need to have a say in how funds are allocated and having the budget being a standing item feels right.

Jana Ganion

- Interested in statewide mandates, enforcement, and emission reduction metrics, especially for communities that have not been selected
- The supporters of this bill need to see that it is being effective

Janet Whittick

- Wants to talk about these things in the CG: metrics, BARCT, statewide strategy, criteria and toxics reporting

Jesse Marquez

- Mentioned importance of a UFP standard and need for health studies and support for health impact assessment process. Gave example of Port of Long Beach scoping report for an HIA

Deldi Reyes

- Let's get back on the agenda and discuss purpose of CG
- At last meeting heard your comments and reactions to the language from the draft charter, i.e., "guide is not strong enough"
- CARB cannot "cede" authority to others, and neither can ADs – purpose of group is to guide

Kevin Hamilton

- We are a consultation group, but what form and who are we consulting with?
- Should be consulting with our constituencies

- Also consulting with agencies
- Need more structure

Ms. Margaret Gordon

- We've never had a listening session from the AB617 CG members that are part of a selected AB 617 community, framed into an agenda.
- Audience would be agency staff who are not aware of conflicts, so that staff could be more effective and engaged in problem solving

Luis Olmedo

- There are a lot of CARB staff that show up, and it is not clear how it is helping this process
- Show up and help, or don't show up, and push money to consultants instead
- Community questions are not answered
- Are the dollars being spent in effective manner
- CARB should provide technical support or revisit budgets, or use that money for outside consultants

Martha Dina Arguello

- This is an important group
- Co-lead model is good, but find roadblocks with Air District
- More participatory budgeting
- More experts, but ADs should supply data as needed
- The model is clunky

Deidre Sanders

- This group could be more like a [NEJAC](#) listening session where community members speak, and the CG listens

Ms. Margaret Gordon

- No support to build community engagement capacity
- Need uniformity across communities and agencies
- CARB staff are at meetings, but there is no exchange between CARB staff and CSC members
- Where are the convening consultation group

Kevin Hamilton

- Wants to hear from Samir and Wayne

Wayne Nastri

- Funding issues and stressful environment

Samir

- Agrees with CG statements
- Agrees with Wayne
- Connect CG with local aspects
- Are there examples of success that we can point to?

Veronica Eady

- "Consultation" is in the statute
- Replicating the People's Blueprint model
- Tap into the CG expertise

Deldi Reyes

- Need a safe and brave space
- Look at session agreements and revise

Jenny Q

- Guarantee follow-up on comments
- Not closing the loop

Dr. Balmes

- In support of Kevin's point, "If the CG is going to realize its huge potential, it has to be a safe space for EVERYONE to bring their perspectives and information."
- AB617 implementation needs equity and EJ focus
- CARB initially envisioned the Consultation Group as a forum and safe space for stakeholders (communities, air districts, business) to share their perspectives
- Need to be able to navigate areas of disagreement to move forward.
- Uplift EJ but Districts/CARB/business should be able to be heard

Ariel Ambruster, Facilitator

- Will prioritize new voices
- What will help you moving forward (CG)

Luis Olmedo

- ADs can be unresponsive and that can create tension
- All adults in room, need to be open in conversations

Gustavo Aguirre Jr.

- Found the CG to be a good information exchange mechanism
- Perception that residents will have the lead in this program
- ADs still seem to lean on existing structures
- Not a lot of creativity in the program design
- What can everyone do to move the process forward
- Ex: existing use of the nut harvesters as an effective mechanism, but what else can we do?

Jesse Marquez

- Needs CARB to intervene and confirm that AB 617 is being implemented legally

Ms. Margaret Gordon

- Points to comments in chat from Martha Dina and Vincent
 - Vince: One idea was to hire the community members to do the work of outreach and surveys. There is an opportunity to connect to the community

with who they know and trust. Some of the Air District and CARB personnel are not the right people to reach the community especially if there is no time at our meetings for real public input.

- Martha Dina Arguello: What is see over time is that we are saying and asking for the same thing--transparency, participatory budgeting, addressing the past harms like the Sacramento folks being kicked off the committee and increasing the opportunity to learn from other communities. Make some legislative fixes to the time-lines and focus on health metrics.

- Agency staff need to be brought into the process with community orientation
- Community surveys and outreach
- Budget transparency at the state and AD level.
- What is CARB's authority over the ADs?

Kevin Hamilton

- No point to have another meeting where we just complain to each other
- Need to get things down paper, and find a way to track progress

Paul English

- Offered up a "virtual posting board" idea, see <https://www.atlassian.com/software/confluence>

Public Comment

Vincent Valdez (S Sacramento, Florin CSC)

- Budgetary concerns in Sac
- Asked AD for info on spending
 - None of these past successes were due to AB 617 funding
- Doesn't agree with having members of the public speak at the end
- Appreciates Ariel
- CSCs need to be more involved in the CG process

Mark Roust

- Charette
- American Charette Society

Laura Rosenburger Haider

- Grant money for health studies
- Put up signs for truck re-route study
- Write up a grant for a partner

Wayne Nastri

- We need to create a sense of partnership
- In person meetings would be way better
- Better tone in person

Ms. Margaret Gordon

- Still need to make sure we discuss the budget, as a standing item

- Support resolution regarding budget transparency
- DR: we can add subcommittee structure
- Orientation/education on budget

Martha Dina Arguello

- Not about transparency, but about participatory budgeting
- Need harm reduction along with emissions reductions
- Can there be participatory budgeting?