

**State of California
Air Resources Board
Board Item Summary**

Item # 23-3-4: Public Meeting to Consider the Appointment of New or Alternate Members to the Assembly Bill 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee and Consideration of Adoption of the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Charter

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommend that the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) approve the proposed resolution appointing 13 members and alternate members to the Environmental Justice Advisory Committee (EJAC), as authorized by Assembly Bill (AB) 32 (Nunez, Chapter 448, Statutes 2006, California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, Health & Saf. Code §38500 et seq). Staff recommends that the Board adopt the EJAC Charter.

Discussion:

AB 32 directed CARB, through Health and Safety Code section 38591, to convene an Environmental Justice Advisory Committee, of at least three members, to advise the Board in developing the Scoping Plan of emission reduction measures and any other pertinent matter in implementing Division 25.5 of the Health and Safety Code (known as the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 or AB 32). Per statute, the EJAC shall be comprised of representatives from communities in the state with the most significant exposure to air pollution, including, but not limited to, communities with minority populations or low-income populations, or both. The statute also requires the Board to appoint the advisory committee members from nominations received from environmental justice organizations and community groups. Finally, the statute requires the Board to provide reasonable per diem for attendance at advisory committee meetings by advisory committee members from nonprofit organizations.

The Board appointed the following EJAC members to serve on the 2021 – 2022 EJAC and advise CARB on the development of the 2022 Scoping Plan.

2021-2022 AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee for the 2022 Scoping Plan Update:

- Martha Dina Argüello, Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles
- David Campbell, United Steelworkers
- Connie Cho, Communities for a Better Environment

- Dillon Delvo, Little Manila Rising
- Demi Espinoza, National Parks Conservation Association
- Juan Flores, Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment
- Simeon Gant, Green Technical Education and Employment
- Angel Garcia, Californians for Pesticide Reform
- Catherine Garoupa, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition
- Georgette Gomez, Toyon Strategies
- Kevin Hamilton, Central California Asthma Collaborative
- John Harriel Jr., International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Thomas Helme, Valley Improvement Projects
- Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising
- John Kevin Jefferson III, Urban Releaf
- Mayor Rey León, LEAP Institute
- Tiffany Lee McDaniel, Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education
- Neena Mohan, California Environmental Justice Alliance
- Luis Olmedo, Comité Civico del Valle
- Ameer Raval, Asian Pacific Environmental Network
- Jill Sherman-Warne, Native American Environmental Protection Coalition
- Sharifa Taylor, Communities for a Better Environment
- Paulina Torres, Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment
- Sarina Vega, Casa Familiar

These EJAC members were appointed in three separate appointments. On May 20, 2021, the Board appointed a subset of members following a solicitation process based on the criteria listed above in the statute. On July 22, 2021, the Executive Officer, under a Board delegation from the May 20, 2021, Board Meeting, appointed another subset of members based on statutory criteria and Board direction in the May 20, 2021, Board Meeting to include representatives from tribes, labor, and additional geographic regions of California. On March 10, 2022, the Board appointed a final subset of members based on statutory criteria.

Per the Chair's direction in the December 15, 2022, Board Meeting to continue active engagement with the EJAC following the adoption of the Scoping Plan, CARB is now moving forward with an ongoing EJAC.

Proposed AB 32 Environmental Justice Advisory Committee Members

Staff are proposing the Board appoint a subset of the members from the 2021-2022 EJAC to an ongoing EJAC who are listed below. Staff are also proposing the Board appoint alternate members. The alternate EJAC member can attend and participate in EJAC meetings as an alternative EJAC member on behalf of the associated EJAC member who cannot attend and will receive a reasonable per diem and travel reimbursements for their attendance. If appointed, the EJAC members (and their respective alternates) as listed in the resolution will serve as representatives from communities to continue active engagement with the Board on the Scoping Plan and other pertinent matters in implementing AB 32. EJAC members (and

their alternates) would serve to the term limits set out in the proposed EJAC Charter and Board Resolution.

- Martha Dina Argüello, Physicians for Social Responsibility – Los Angeles
- Juan Flores, Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment
- Angel Garcia, Californians for Pesticide Reform
- Catherine Garoupa, Central Valley Air Quality Coalition
- Kevin Hamilton, Central California Asthma Collaborative
- John Harriel Jr., International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- Thomas Helme, Valley Improvement Projects
- Matt Holmes, Little Manila Rising
- John Kevin Jefferson III, Urban Releaf
- Mayor Rey León, LEAP Institute
- Luis Olmedo, Comité Civico del Valle
- Jill Sherman-Warne, Native American Environmental Protection Coalition
- Sharifa Taylor, Communities for a Better Environment

At the November 2022 EJAC meeting, Chair Randolph committed that CARB would develop a process, informed by the EJAC, that would lead to the adoption of an EJAC Charter by both the EJAC and CARB in March of 2023. This Charter would provide governance for the EJAC and shared accountability for the ongoing EJAC as convened by CARB. Today, CARB staff and the EJAC propose an EJAC Charter for Board consideration to provide governance of the ongoing EJAC.

Summary and Impacts:

Per the Chair's direction, an ongoing EJAC presents an important opportunity for the EJAC to advise on Scoping Plan development and on pertinent matters in implementing AB 32, particularly where the benefits intersect with communities in the state with the most significant exposure to air pollution, including, but not limited to, communities with minority populations or low-income populations, or both. In terms of internal resources, an ongoing EJAC has also required additional staff to provide coordination and assistance.