

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING**

Board of Supervisors Chambers
700 H Street - Suite 1450
Sacramento, California



AGENDA

Thursday

March 27, 2025

9:00 AM

DIRECTORS

Chair
Sarah Aquino

Vice-Chair
Caity Maple

Rich Desmond
Roger Dickinson
Eric Guerra
Patrick Hume

Patrick Kennedy
Porsche Middleton
Mathew Pratton
Sergio Robles

Rosario Rodriguez
Dr. David Sander
Phil Serna
Mai Vang

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members of the public may participate in the meeting in-person, by video conference via Zoom, conference line, and by submitting written comments electronically by email at boardclerk@airquality.org.

Comments submitted will be delivered to the Board of Directors by staff. Public comments regarding matters under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors will be acknowledged by the Chairperson during the meeting. Public comments will be accepted live until the adjournment of the meeting, distributed to the Board of Directors, and included in the record.

Submit public comments via email to: boardclerk@airquality.org

Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86884266153?pwd=bLKH9ZeoGHAKAOH1aUv0X3u6AzlbnS.1>

Meeting ID: 868 8426 6153

Passcode: 500162

Call In Number

(669) 900-6833

(408) 638-0968

Teleconference Location:

Sacramento New City Hall, 915 I Street, 5th Floor, Room 5229, Sacramento, CA 95814

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD CLERK ANNOUNCEMENTS

BROWN ACT

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. February 27, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the February 27, 2025 Board of Director Meeting Minutes.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

2. Board Member Administrative Updates

Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation on recent and upcoming Board member compensation legislation, teleconferencing options, and future Board orientation meetings.

3. Board Update on New Federal Air Quality Priorities

Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation regarding recent reconsiderations of EPA actions and the setting of different air quality priorities.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT

4. Air Pollution Control Officer Presentation

Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation from the Air Pollution Control Officer.

BOARD IDEAS, COMMENTS AND AB 1234 REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURN

Agenda Revision: This agenda may be revised. A final agenda will be posted on the website (www.airquality.org) and at the meeting site 72 hours in advance of the meeting. Materials submitted within 72 hours of the meeting and after distribution of the agenda packets will be made available on the Sac Metro Air District website subject to staff's ability to post the documents prior to the meeting. The order of the agenda items are listed for reference and may be taken in any order deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. The agenda provides a general description and staff recommendation; however, the Board of Directors may take action other than what is recommended.

Testimony: The Board of Directors welcomes and encourages participation in Board meetings. When it appears there are several members of the public wishing to address the Board on a specific item, at the outset of the item the Chair of the Board will announce the maximum amount of time that will be allowed for presentation of the testimony. Matters under the jurisdiction of the Board and not on the posted agenda may be addressed by the general public immediately prior to the close of the meeting. The Board limits testimony on matters not on the agenda to three minutes per person and not more than 15 minutes for a particular subject.

Meeting Broadcast: The meeting is videotaped in its entirety and will be cablecast without interruption on Metro Cable 14, the Government Affairs Channel and will be webcast at <https://metro14live.saccounty.gov>. This morning's meeting is being cablecast live and will be rebroadcast on March 30, 2025 at 11:30am on Channel 14.

Closed Captioning: Metro Cable now provides closed captioning of the Sac Metro Air District Board meetings for the deaf and hard of hearing community. The captioning will be available on both the live and playback broadcasts on the Metro Cable television channel (Channel 14).

Assisted Listening: Assisted listening devices are available for use by the public. Please see the Clerk of the Board for further information.

Board Action: The Board of Directors may take action on any of the items listed on this agenda.

Information: Full staff reports are available for public review on the District's website (www.airquality.org), including all attachments and exhibits, or for public inspection at the District's office at 777 12th Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA. Copies of items prepared by staff and distributed for the first time at the meeting will be available at the back of the meeting room or may be obtained from the Board Clerk. Copies of items that were not prepared by staff may be obtained after the meeting from the Clerk. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to Sac Metro Air District after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Clerk of the Board's office during normal business hours. For information regarding this agenda, please contact Salina Martinez, Clerk of the Sac Metro Air District Board of Directors, at 279-207-1164.

Meeting Date: 3/27/2025
Report Type: CONSENT CALENDAR
Report ID: 2025-0327-1.



Title: February 27, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the February 27, 2025 Board of Director Meeting Minutes.

Rationale for Recommendation: Meeting minutes serve as the official record of the actions and decisions made during board or committee meetings. It is the Board of Directors' practice to approve the minutes at a subsequent Board meeting. The minutes from the February 2025 Board meeting are provided as Attachment A for the Board's review and approval.

Contact: Salina Martinez, Administrative Supervisor/Clerk of the Board, 279-207-1164

Presentation: No

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: February 27, 2025 BOD Meeting Minutes

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Executive Director or Designee: Alberto Ayala, Report Approved 3/20/2025

District Counsel or Designee: Kathrine Pittard, Approved as to Form 3/20/2025

[Board Meeting Video](#)



MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
700 H Street, Suite 1450
Sacramento, California

Thursday

February 27, 2025

9:00 AM

DIRECTORS

Chair

Sarah Aquino

Vice-Chair

Caity Maple

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Roger Dickinson
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Meeting ID: 868 8426 6153

Passcode: 500162

Call In Number

(669) 900-6833

(408) 638-0968

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order.

Directors present: Sarah Aquino, Rich Desmond, Roger Dickinson, Eric Guerra, Patrick Hume, Caity Maple, Porsche Middleton, Mathew Pratton, Sergio Robles, Dr. David Sander, and Phil Serna.

Directors absent: Patrick Kennedy, Rosario Rodriguez, and Mai Vang.

Directors Dickinson, Robles, and Sander arrived after the consent calendar was passed and did not vote.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT CALENDAR

ACTION:

Caity Maple Moved /Rich Desmond Seconded

Ayes: Sarah Aquino, Rich Desmond, Eric Guerra, Patrick Hume, Caity Maple, Porsche Middleton, Matthew Pratton, and Phil Serna.

Absent: Roger Dickinson, Patrick Kennedy, Sergio Robles, Rosario Rodriguez, Dr. David Sander, and Mai Vang.

1. January 23, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Approve the January 23, 2025 Board of Director Meeting Minutes.

Approved

2. Contract Amendment with Prosio Communications Inc. for Public Education, Outreach and Advertising Services

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer to amend the contract with Prosio Communications Inc. to 1) extend the term one year through June 30, 2026; 2) increase the contract amount by \$249,000 for the one-year extension, for a new not to exceed contract amount of \$1,506,000; and 3) in consultation with District Counsel, make minor revisions so long as the action is consistent with the purpose of the contract and does not increase the maximum amount authorized by the Board.

Authorized

3. Transportation Incentive Grant Agreement with EcoMotiv LLC to Develop Renewable Hydrogen Refueling and Production Facility

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer to execute a contract agreement under the Low Emission Vehicle Incentives Program with EcoMotiv LLC for an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.

Authorized

4. Reclassification of Office Assistant III

Recommendation: Pass a motion amending the District's Classification Plan to: 1) reclassify the Office Assistant III position to Administrative Assistant; 2) remove

references to the Office Assistant III classification from the Office Assistant I-II job description; 3) authorize the Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer (APCO) to update the Classification Plan accordingly.

Motion Passed

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

5. Sacramento County's Vehicle Emissions Project Results and Report
Richard Falcon, United Latinos, Elizabeth Savin, Breathe California, and Professor Wayne Linklater, Sacramento State University, Environmental Sciences Program, gave a presentation on Sacramento County Vehicle Emissions Project Results and Report.

Presentation was received and filed.

DISCUSSION CALENDAR

6. Air District and Education and Training in the Region
Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation on the Air District and Education and Training in the Region.

Megan Shepard, Administrative Services Division, gave a presentation on the Air District and Education and Training in the Region.

Presentation was received and filed.

7. Emerging Opportunities for Agricultural Biomass Utilization in Northern California
Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation on Emerging Opportunities for Agricultural Biomass Utilization in Northern California.

Amy Roberts, Engineering and Compliance Division, and Jaime Lemus, Transportation and Climate Change Division, gave a presentation on Emerging Opportunities for Agricultural Biomass Utilization in Northern California. Jeff Durtchi, Ecomotiv and Steve Rumbaugh, Woodbridge Energy also contributed to the presentation.

Presentation was received and filed.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT

8. Air Pollution Control Officer Presentation
Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation from the Air Pollution Control Officer.

The Air Pollution Control Officer report was deferred to the next meeting.

BOARD IDEAS, COMMENTS AND AB 1234 REPORTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

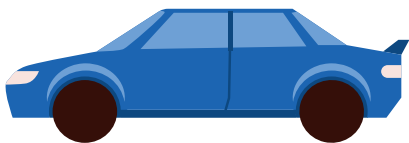
ADJOURN

Breathing Together:

Insights from the Community Respiratory Wellness Survey in Sacramento County

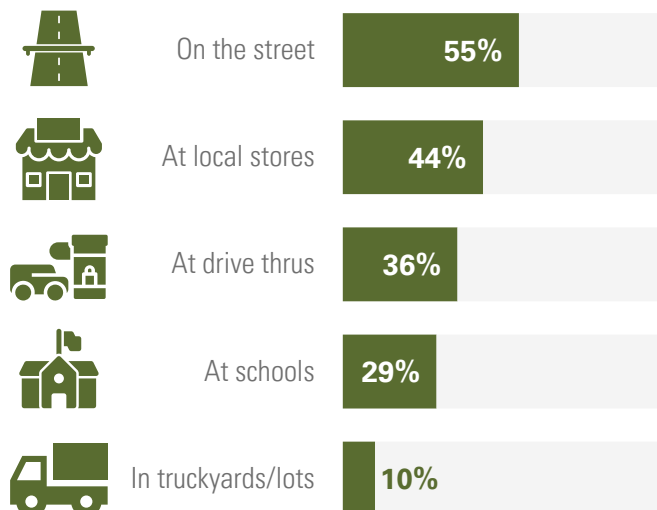
Sacramento residents face various public health challenges due to poor air quality. Some communities are more impacted than others due, in part, to their proximity to major roads and the resulting vehicle emissions exposure.

In 2023 the Sacramento Environmental Justice Community Air Monitoring Project surveyed residents in four priority communities to understand the link between health and vehicle pollution. A coalition of Sacramento-based organizations collected the **1,276 surveys** from Sacramento County residents summarized in this report.

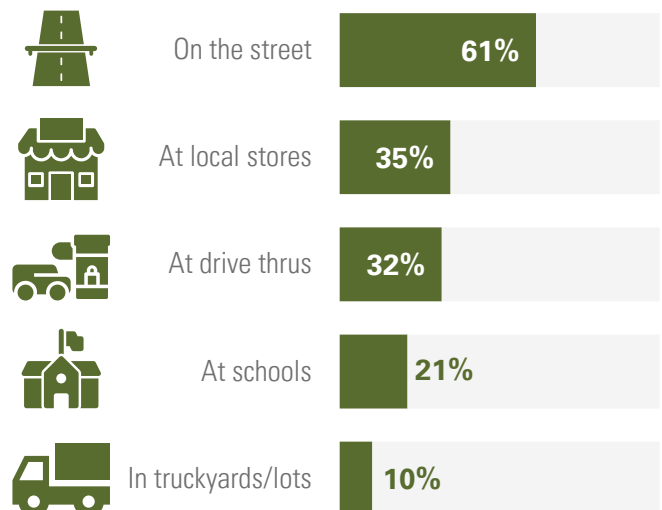


Where do residents see and smell vehicles?

69% of Sacramento residents have seen vehicles idling....

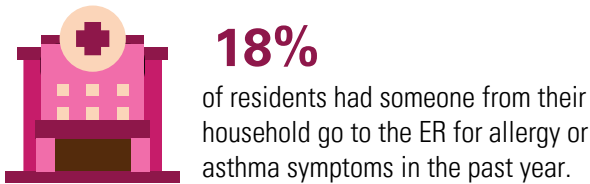
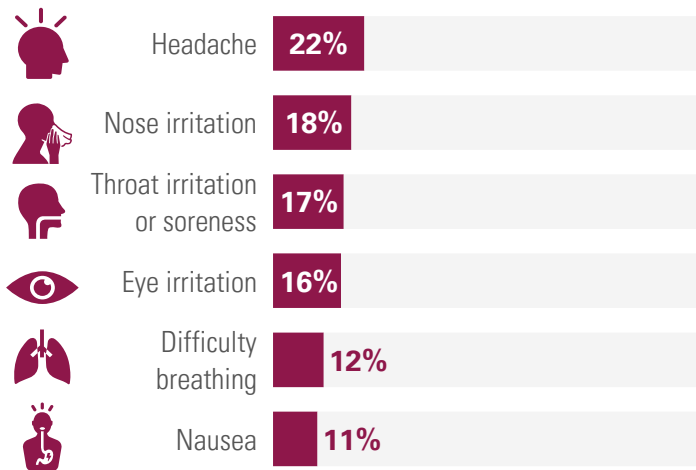


65% of Sacramento residents have smelled odor from vehicles....

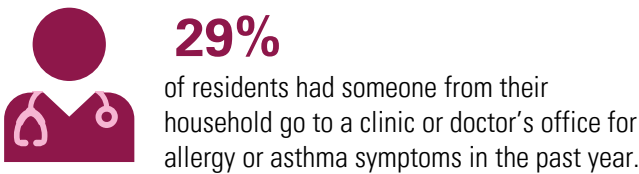


How does this impact community health and homes?

Some Sacramento residents said they had these **symptoms** in the past month.



Some Sacramento residents see black dust/soot around their home...

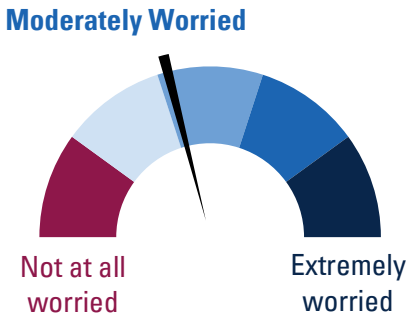


How do residents feel?

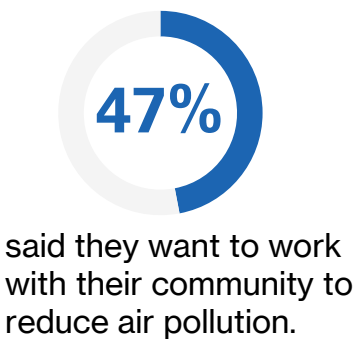
Sacramento residents rated their level of air pollution knowledge as **“fair”**.



Residents are also **moderately worried** about the environment.



What would residents like to do about pollution?

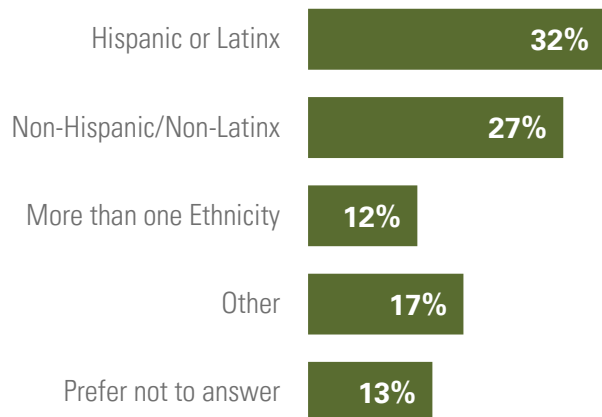


Sacramento residents are most interested in doing these activities to help reduce air pollution.

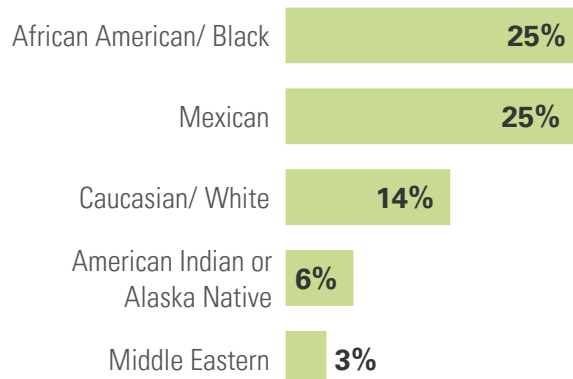


Who took the survey?

Ethnicity

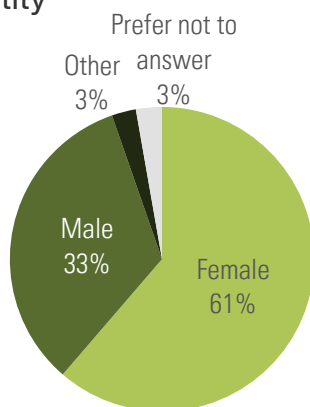


Race (top 5 selections)*

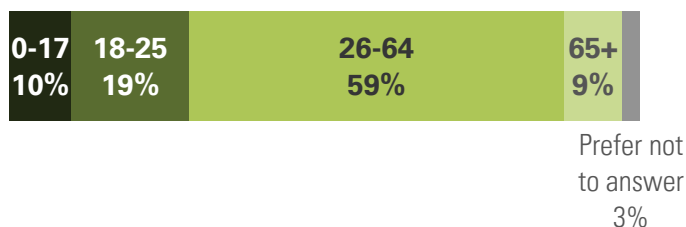


*includes respondents identifying as more than one race.

Gender identity



Age

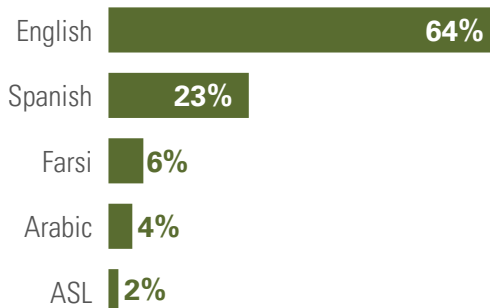


Prefer not to answer 3%

29% of respondents said that someone in their home smokes or vapes tobacco or marijuana.

55% of respondents said that they have children living at home.

Languages spoken at home (top 5)



Interested in more information/getting involved? Contact Breathe California Sacramento Region at engage@sacbreathe.org

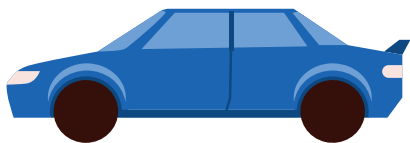


Breathing Together:

Insights from the Community Respiratory Wellness Survey in Gardenland

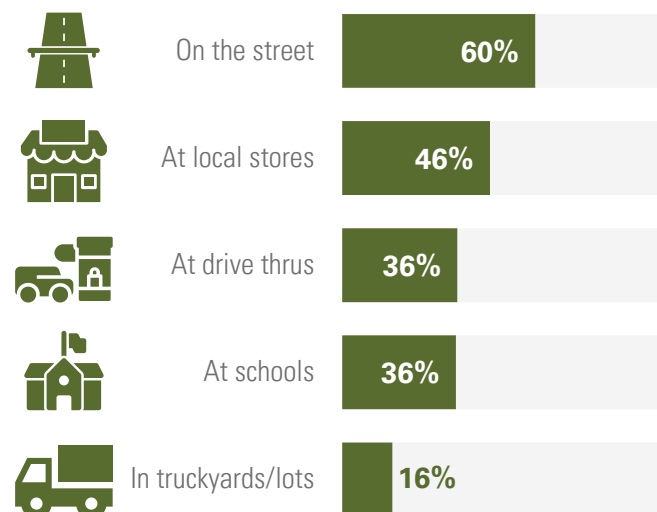
Sacramento residents face various public health challenges due to poor air quality. Some communities are more impacted than others due, in part, to their proximity to major roads and the resulting vehicle emissions exposure.

In 2023 the Sacramento Environmental Justice Community Air Monitoring Project surveyed 1,200 residents, focusing on four priority communities to understand the link between health and vehicle pollution. The Gardenland Northgate Neighborhood Association (GNNA) spearheaded the survey outreach, collecting the **197 surveys** from Gardenland residents summarized in this report.

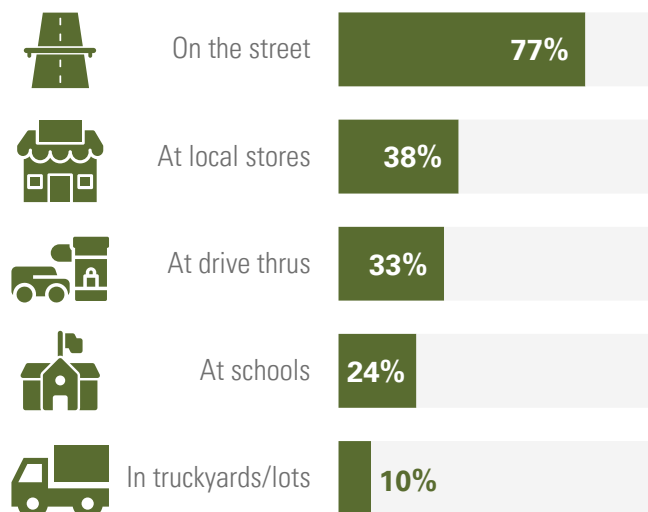


Where do residents see and smell vehicles?

78% of Gardenland residents have seen vehicles idling....

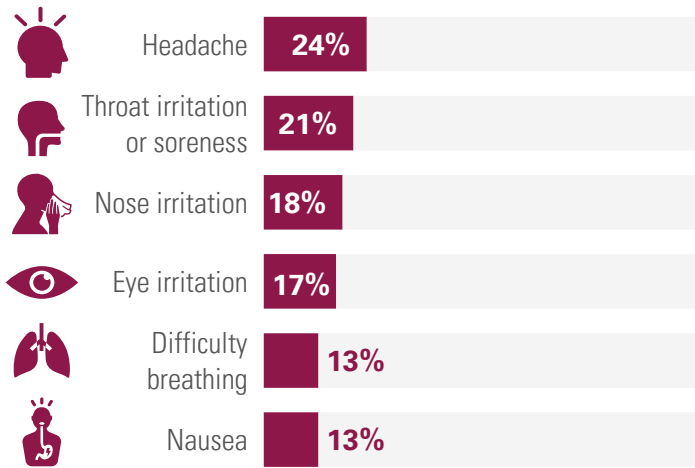


70% of Gardenland residents have smelled odor from vehicles....

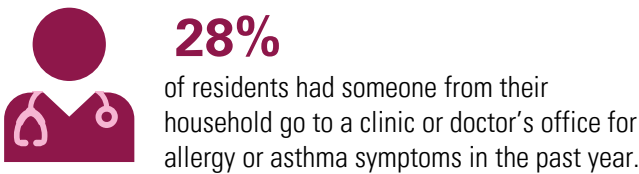
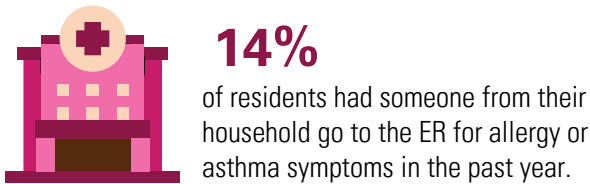


How does this impact community health and homes?

Some Gardenland residents said they had these **symptoms** in the past month.



Some Gardenland residents see black dust/soot around their home....

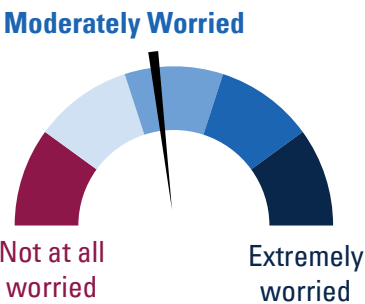


How do residents feel?

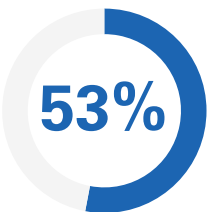
Gardenland residents rated their level of air pollution knowledge as **“fair”**.



Residents are also **moderately worried** about the environment.



What would residents like to do about pollution?



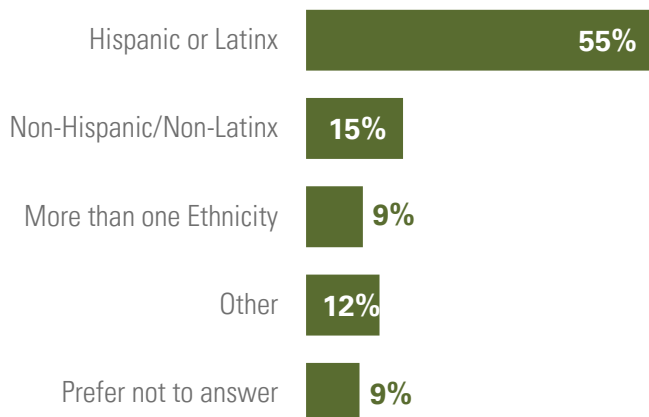
said they want to work with their community to reduce air pollution.

Gardenland residents are most interested in doing these activities to help reduce air pollution.

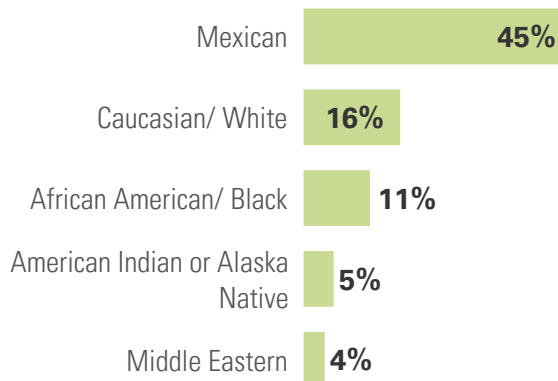


Who took the survey?

Ethnicity

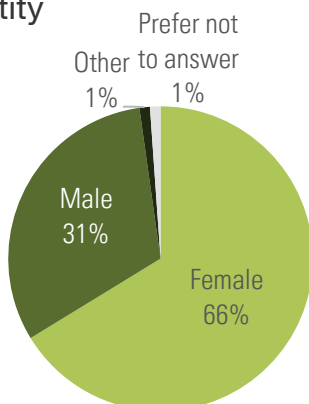


Race (top 5 selections)*

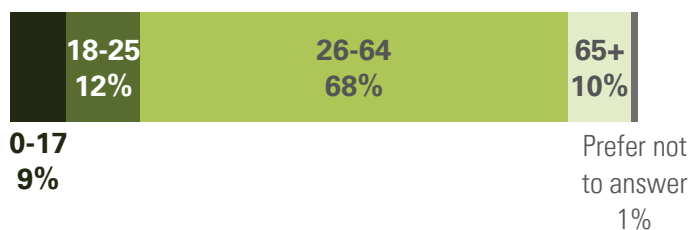


*includes respondents identifying as more than one race.

Gender identity



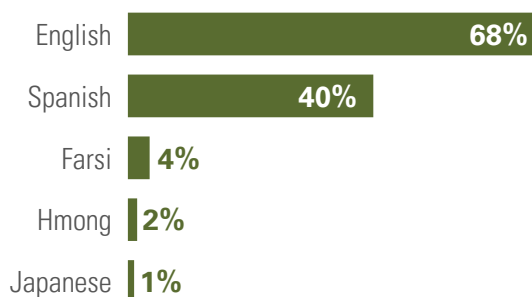
Age



26% of respondents said that someone in their home smokes or vapes tobacco or marijuana.

56% of respondents said that they have children living at home.

Languages spoken at home (top 5)



Interested in more information/getting involved? Contact GNNA at Gnnaboard@gmail.com or contact Breathe California Sacramento Region at engage@sacbreathe.org



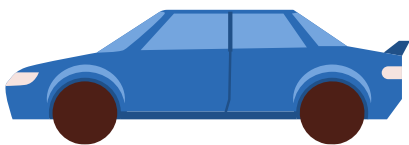
Breathing Together:

Insights from the Community Respiratory Wellness Survey in North Highlands

Sacramento residents face various public health challenges due to poor air quality. Some communities are more impacted than others due, in part, to their proximity to major roads and the resulting vehicle emissions exposure.

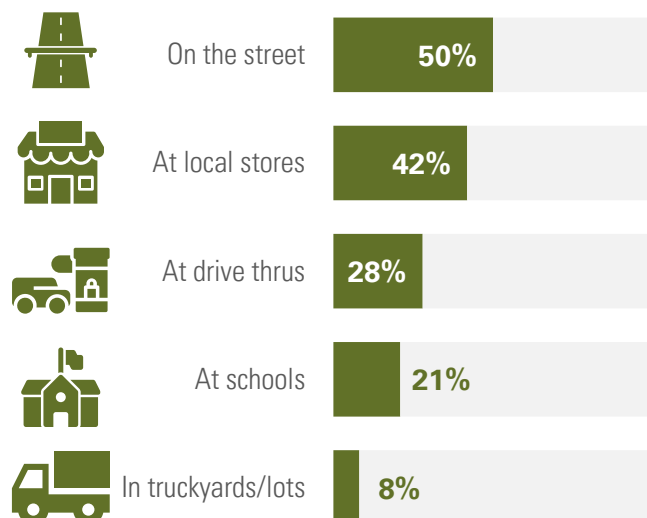


In 2023 the Sacramento Environmental Justice Community Air Monitoring Project surveyed 1,200 residents, focusing on four priority communities to understand the link between health and vehicle pollution. The Health Education Council (HEC) spearheaded the survey outreach, collecting the **86 surveys** from North Highlands residents summarized in this report.

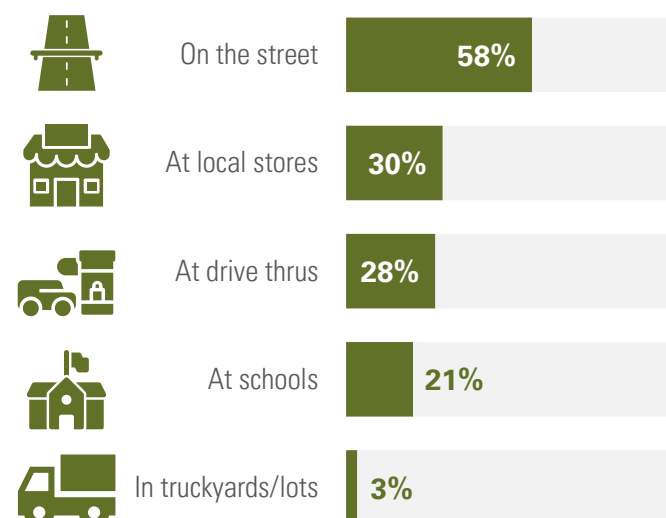


Where do residents see and smell vehicles?

77% of North Highlands residents have seen vehicles idling....

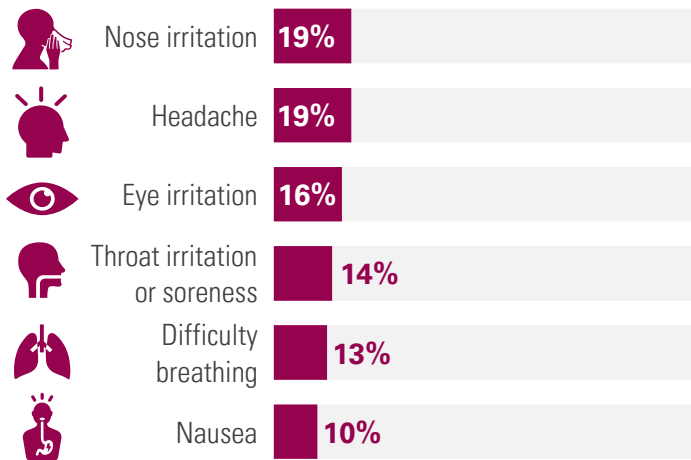


71% of North Highlands residents have smelled odor from vehicles....

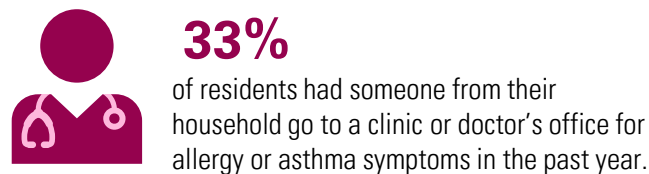
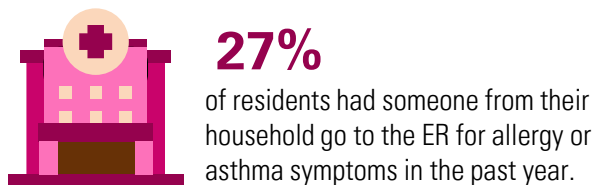


How does this impact community health and homes?

Some North Highlands residents said they had these **symptoms** in the past month.



Some North Highlands residents see black dust/soot around their home....

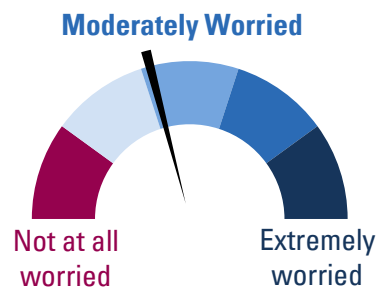


How do residents feel?

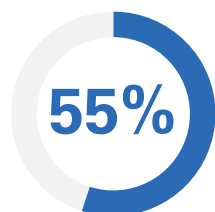
North Highlands residents rated their level of air pollution knowledge as **“fair”**.



Residents are also **moderately worried** about the environment.



What would residents like to do about pollution?



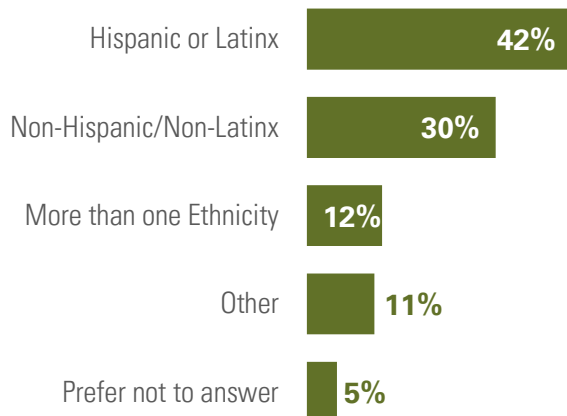
said they want to work with their community to reduce air pollution.

North Highlands residents are most interested in doing these activities to help reduce air pollution.

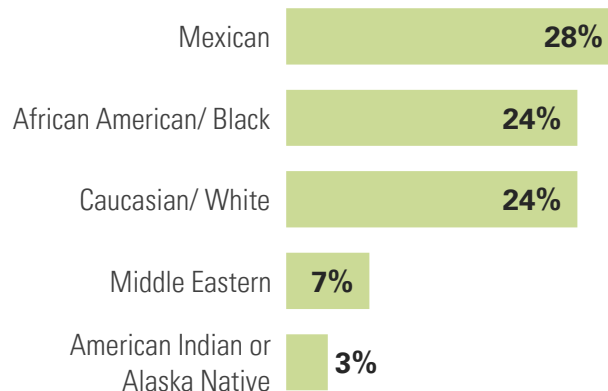


Who took the survey?

Ethnicity

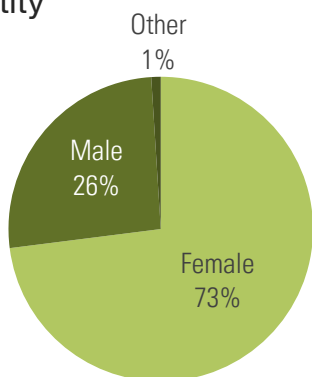


Race (top 5 selections)*

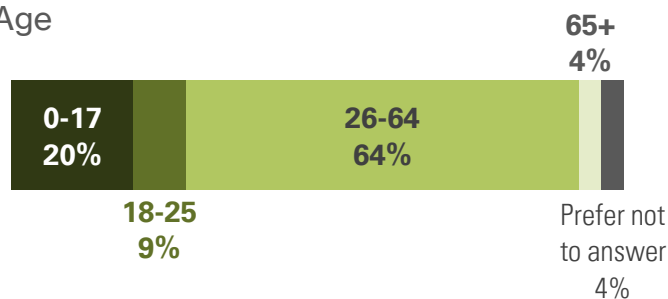


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Gender identity



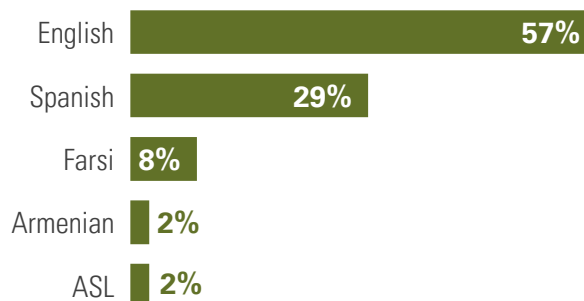
Age



19% of respondents said that someone in their home smokes or vapes tobacco or marijuana.

71% of respondents said that they have children living at home.

Languages spoken at home (top 5)

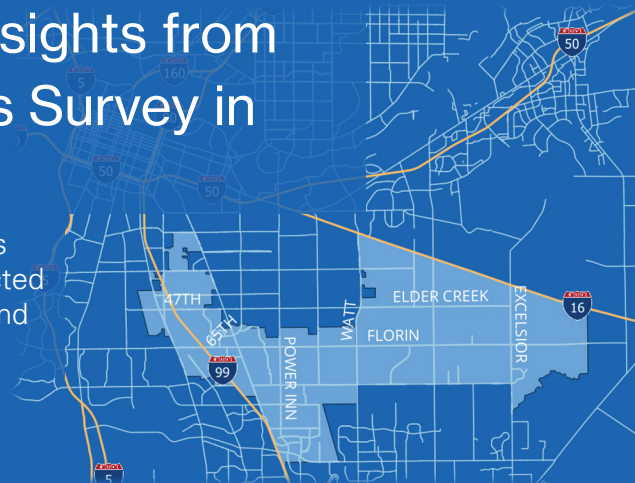


Interested in more information/getting involved? Contact HEC at admin@healthedcouncil.org

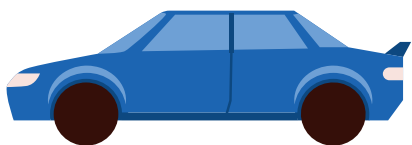


Breathing Together: Insights from the Community Respiratory Wellness Survey in South Sacramento/Vineyard

Sacramento residents face various public health challenges due to poor air quality. Some communities are more impacted than others due, in part, to their proximity to major roads and the resulting vehicle emissions exposure.



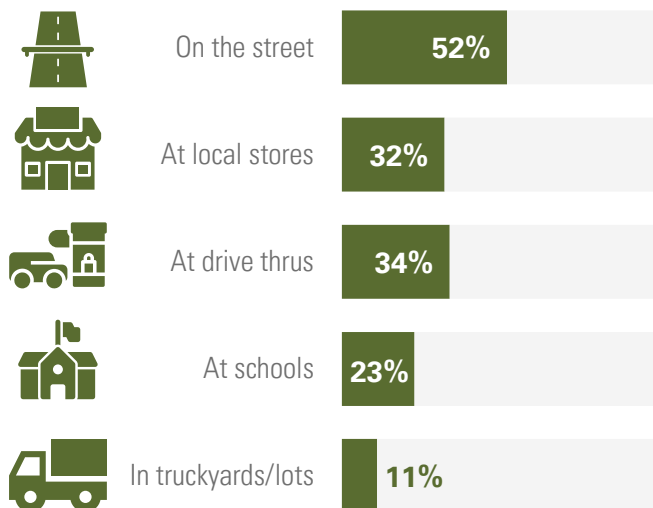
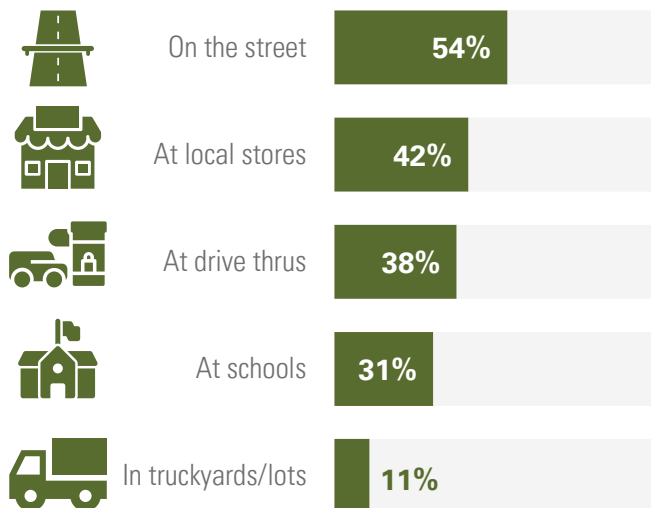
In 2023 the Sacramento Environmental Justice Community Air Monitoring Project surveyed 1,200 residents, focusing on four priority communities to understand the link between health and vehicle pollution. United Latinos, Valley Vision, and Climate Plan spearheaded the survey outreach, collecting the **246 surveys** from South Sacramento / Vineyard (South Sac./Vineyard) residents summarized in this report.



Where do residents see and smell vehicles?

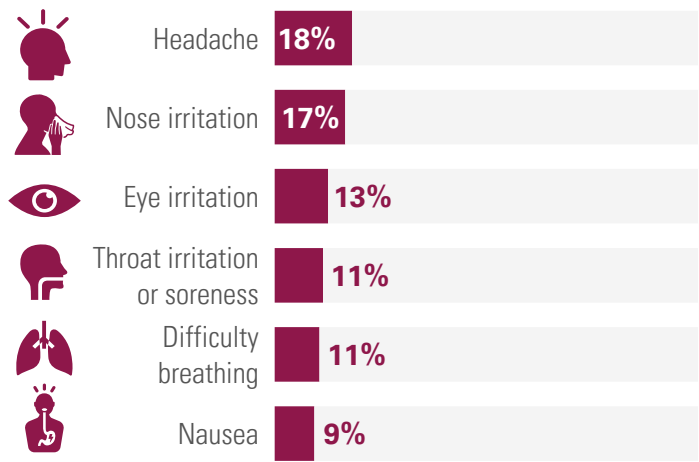
60% of South Sac./Vineyard residents have seen vehicles idling....

56% of South Sac./Vineyard residents have smelled odor from vehicles....

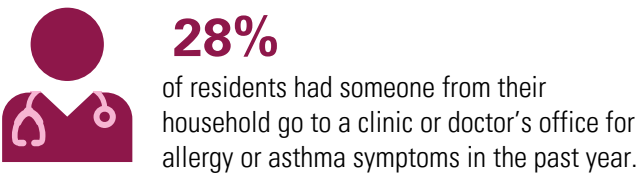
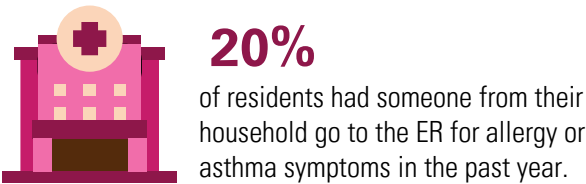


How does this impact community health and homes?

Some South Sac./Vineyard residents said they had these **symptoms** in the past month.

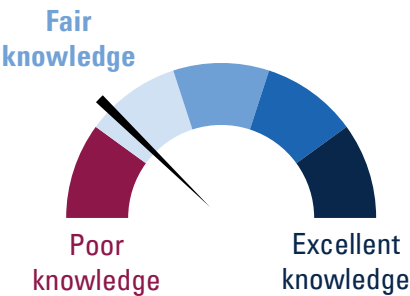


Some South Sac./Vineyard residents see black dust/soot around their home....

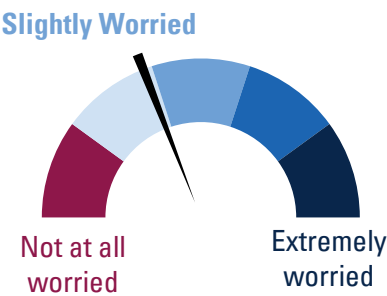


How do residents feel?

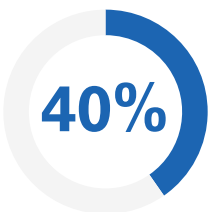
South Sac./Vineyard residents rated their level of air pollution knowledge as **“fair”**.



Residents are also **slightly worried** about the environment.



What would residents like to do about pollution?



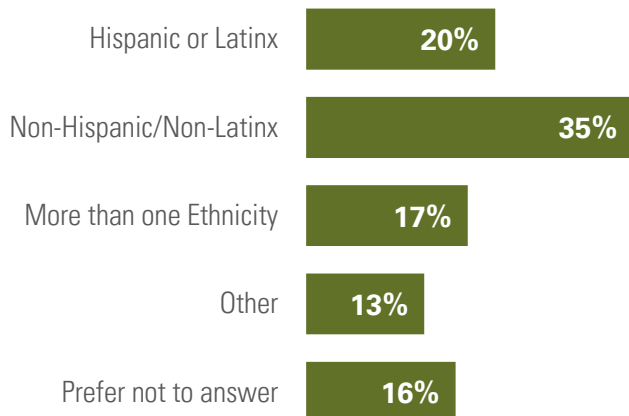
said they want to work with their community to reduce air pollution.

South Sac./Vineyard residents are most interested in doing these activities to help reduce air pollution.

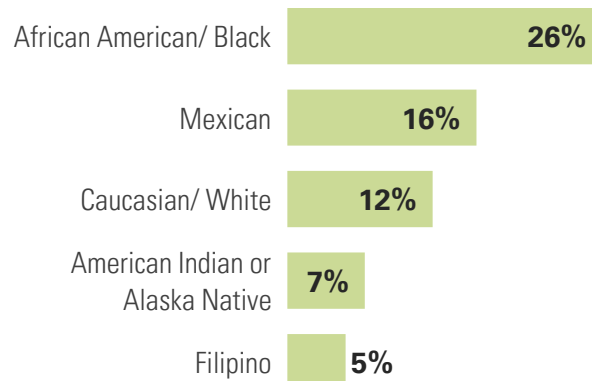


Who took the survey?

Ethnicity

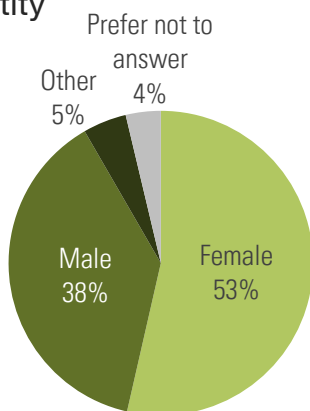


Race (top 5 selections)*

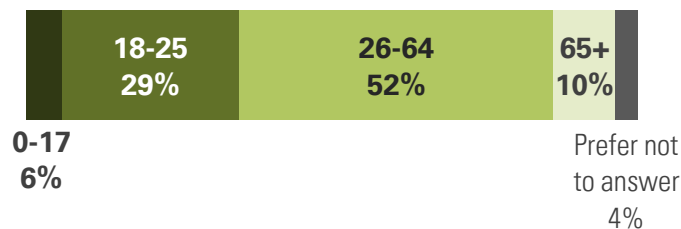


*includes respondents identifying as more than one race.

Gender identity



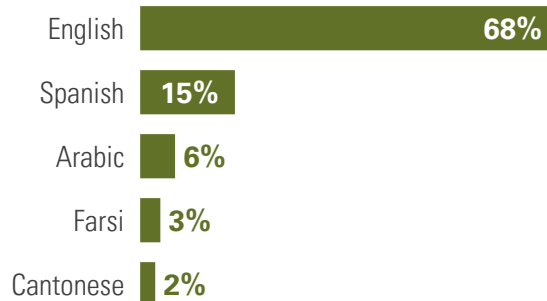
Age



36% of respondents said that someone in their home smokes or vapes tobacco or marijuana.

44% of respondents said that they have children living at home.

Lanugages spoken at home (top 5)



Interested in more information/getting involved? Contact United Latinos at hello@unitedlatinos.org and Valley Vision at communications@valleyvision.org

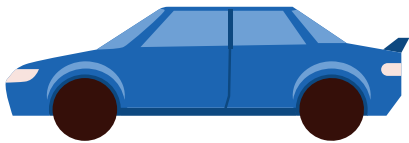


Breathing Together:

Insights from the Community Respiratory Wellness Survey in West Arden-Arcade

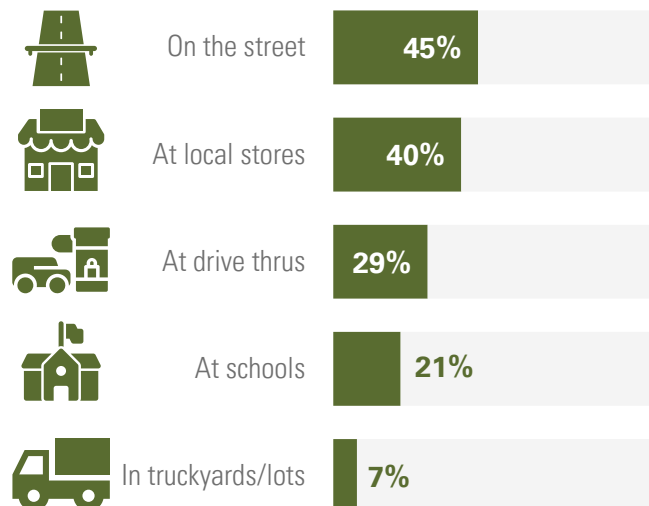
Sacramento residents face various public health challenges due to poor air quality. Some communities are more impacted than others due, in part, to their proximity to major roads and the resulting vehicle emissions exposure.

In 2023 the Sacramento Environmental Justice Community Air Monitoring Project surveyed 1,200 residents, focusing on four priority communities to understand the link between health and vehicle pollution. Mutual Assistance Network spearheaded the survey outreach, collecting the **95 surveys** from West Arden-Arcade residents summarized in this report.

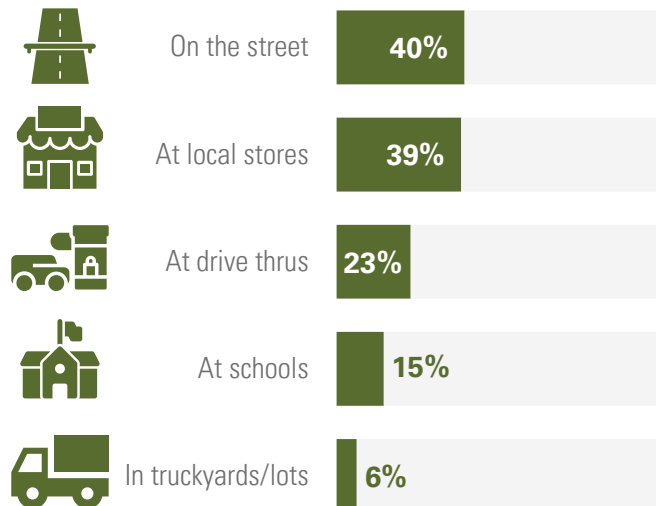


Where do residents see and smell vehicles?

65% of West Arden-Arcade residents have seen vehicles idling....

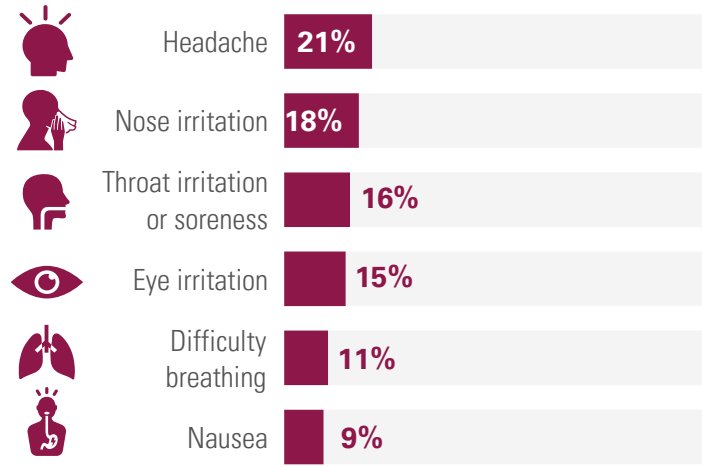


63% of West Arden-Arcade residents have smelled odor from vehicles....

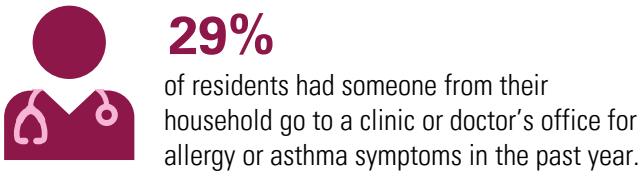
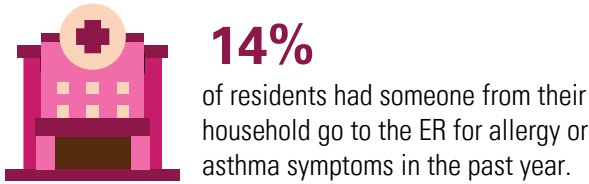


How does this impact community health and homes?

Some West Arden-Arcade residents said they had these **symptoms** in the past month.

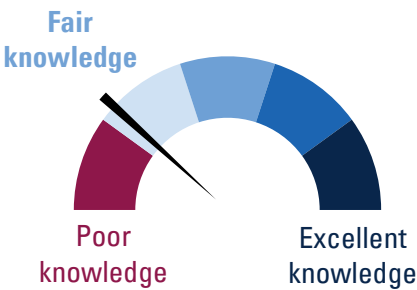


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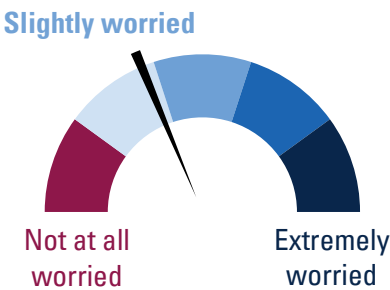


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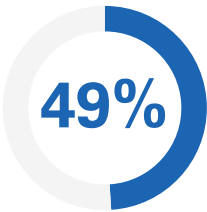
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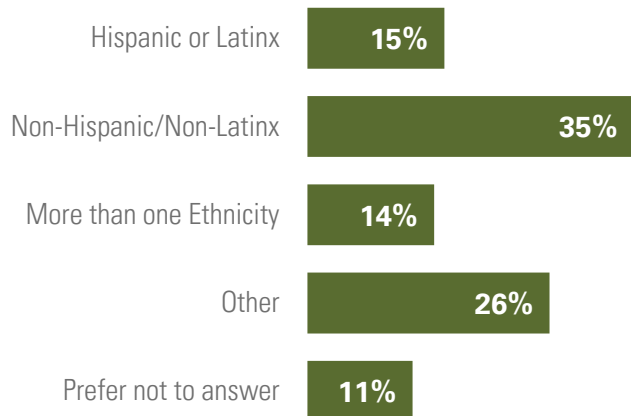
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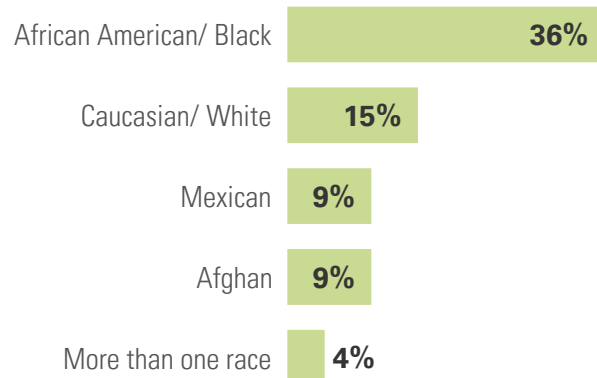


Who took the survey?

Ethnicity

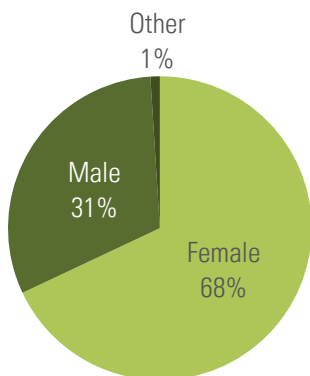


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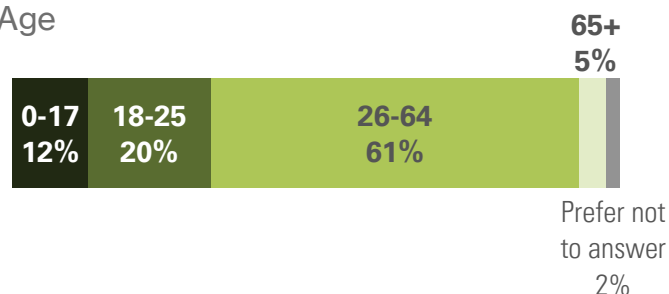


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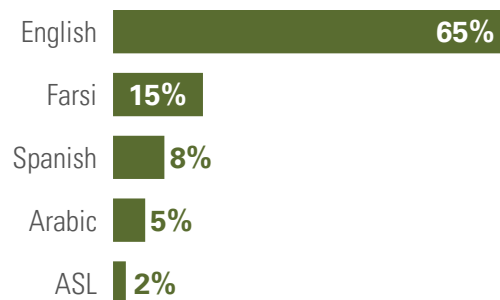
Gender identity



Age



Lanugages spoken at home (top 5)



27% of respondents said that someone in their home smokes or vapes tobacco or marijuana.

73% of respondents said that they have children living at home.

Interested in more information/getting involved? Learn more about Mutual Assistance Network at <https://www.mutualassistance.org/>



Meeting Date: 3/27/2025
Report Type: DISCUSSION / INFORMATION
Report ID: 2025-0327-2.



Title: Board Member Administrative Updates

Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation on recent and upcoming Board member compensation legislation, teleconferencing options, and future Board orientation meetings.

Rationale for Recommendation:

Contact: Megan Shepard, Director of Administrative Services (279) 207-1143

Presentation: Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

Presentation: Board Member Administrative Updates

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Executive Director or Designee: Alberto Ayala, Report Approved 3/20/2025

District Counsel or Designee: Kathrine Pittard, Approved as to Form 3/20/2025

Board Member Administrative Updates

Board of Directors - March 27, 2025

Megan Shepard, Director of Administrative Services

Modernizing Board Compensation Legislation

Why AB2522 & AB907 (2025) Are Needed Now

- **Fair Compensation:** Ensure competitive pay, reflecting growing responsibilities.
- **Increased Workload:** Address rising complexities in air quality management.
- **Inflation Alignment:** Adjust for cost-of-living and inflation.
- **Retention & Recruitment:** Attract and retain qualified board members



Modernizing Board Compensation Legislation

AB 2522: Local Air District Boards

Outcomes

- Ensures fair & competitive compensation.
- Recognizes growing responsibility & workload in governing air quality issues.
- Update compensation for air district board members.

Key Changes & Impacts

- Increased daily compensation:
\$100 → \$200
- Raised monthly cap:
\$1,000 → \$2,000
- Allows future adjustments.
- Included in current year projections & FY 2025/26 budget.

Modernizing Board Compensation Legislation

AB 907 (2025): California Air Resources Board

Pending Outcomes

- Ensures fair treatment of air district representatives.
- Encourages participation & collaboration between local & state levels.
- Attracts and retains qualified board members.

Key Changes & Impacts

- Remove restrictions on providing compensation to air district-appointed members.
- Align salaries with other CARB board members.
- Remove per diem structure.
- No budget impact to the District.

Teleconferencing for Board and Special Committee Meetings

AB 2302: Modernizing Teleconferencing Rules



- **Purpose:**
 - Updates the Brown Act to establish clear limits on remote participation for local legislative bodies.
- **Key Provisions:**
 - Limits teleconferencing based on meeting frequency.
 - Provides clarity and consistency in remote participation policies.
- **Impact:**
 - Encourages in-person engagement while offering flexibility.
 - Maintains accountability to the public.

Teleconferencing for Board and Special Committee Meetings

AB2449: Flexible Teleconferencing Rules

- **Purpose:**

- Introduces flexibility to Brown Act teleconferencing rules while maintaining public transparency.

- **Key Provisions:**

- *Just Cause Remote Participation*: Allowed up to 2 times/year for caregiving, illness, or official travel.
- *Emergency Circumstances Remote Participation*: Permitted for unforeseen events with no annual limit.
- Members are not required to disclose their exact remote location.

- **Impact:**

- Facilitates hybrid meetings and reduces administrative burdens.
- Balances privacy with accountability, offering flexibility for personal and emergency needs.



District Board Orientation Meetings

All Board Members welcomed to join!
RSVP to the Board Clerk if interested

Upcoming Meetings:

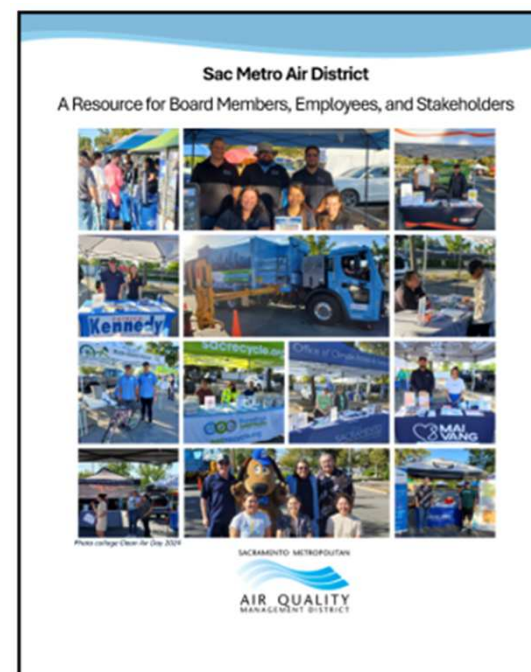
April 8 – Rancho Cordova City Hall

More meetings being scheduled

Past Meetings:

March 20 – Sacramento County 700 H St.

March 20 – Sacramento City Hall



Thank you

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Meeting Date: 3/27/2025
Report Type: DISCUSSION / INFORMATION
Report ID: 2025-0327-3.



Title: Board Update on New Federal Air Quality Priorities

Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation regarding recent reconsiderations of EPA actions and the setting of different air quality priorities.

Rationale for Recommendation: Staff is providing an update to the Board on recent actions by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and potential implications for regional air quality plans in the Sacramento region.

Contact: Alex Ponikvar, Air Quality Planner/Analyst, Monitoring, Planning & Rules, (279) 207-1127

Presentation: Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

Presentation: Board Update on New Federal Air Quality Priorities

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Executive Director or Designee: Alberto Ayala, Report Approved 3/20/2025

District Counsel or Designee: Kathrine Pittard, Approved as to Form 3/20/2025

Discussion / Justification: On March 12, 2025, EPA announced 31 actions to reconsider or revise a wide range of federal rules and programs to reflect the priorities of the new federal administration. While several of the actions will potentially affect air quality actions in California (for example, revisions to rules governing power plants, greenhouse gas rules, and setting national ambient air quality standards), others may have limited or no impact on California due to the state's independent regulations and programs to address similar environmental issues.

Earlier, on January 13, 2025, CARB withdrew several pending Clean Air Act waiver requests, including those for the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) and In-Use Locomotive Standards (ILS) rules. The ACF rule set electrification targets for government fleets, drayage trucks, and large commercial fleets, while the ILS rule required a phased-in zero-emission standard for locomotives operating in California. Although EPA has generally approved previous California waivers for vehicle emission standards in consideration of the state's need to set its own more stringent standards to meet air quality standards, the requests were likely withdrawn due to uncertain chances of approval under the current federal administration. With these withdrawals, full implementation of the rules will be delayed or blocked, reducing expected emission reductions and increasing air pollution levels in the Sacramento region and statewide.

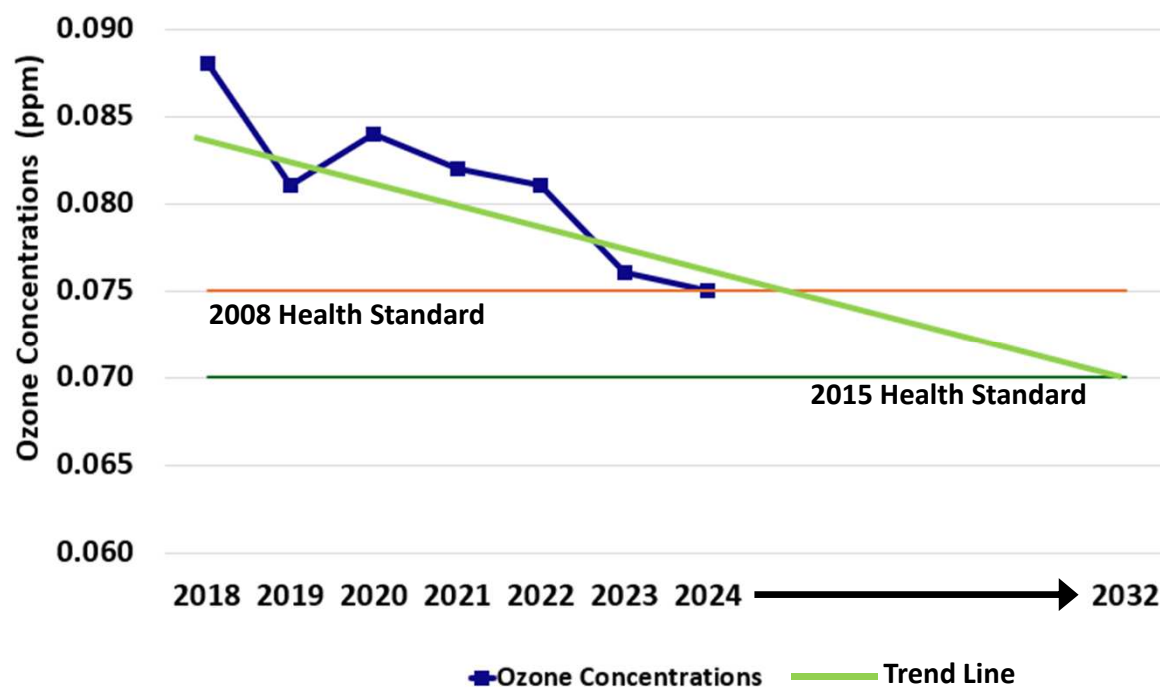
The District will continue to monitor developments on the recent EPA actions, evaluate the waiver withdrawal issues, work with CARB and partner agencies to fully understand the impacts on the Sacramento region, and provide updates to the Board as needed.

Board Update on New Federal Air Quality Priorities

Alex Ponikvar – Air Quality Planner

Air Quality Standards and Regulations

- Federal EPA sets health standards and adopts regulations
- State and local air districts must show how a nonattainment area meets a standard
- Implementation of control programs and enforcement of regulations



Recent Federal Reconsideration

- EPA announced a re-evaluation of many past federal actions and decisions
 - 2 health standards:
 - 17 air quality regulations or plans
 - 12 other regulations
- Potential for changes to expected emission reductions
- Potential need for revised air quality plans
- Some interaction with California air quality regulations
- More questions than answers at this point

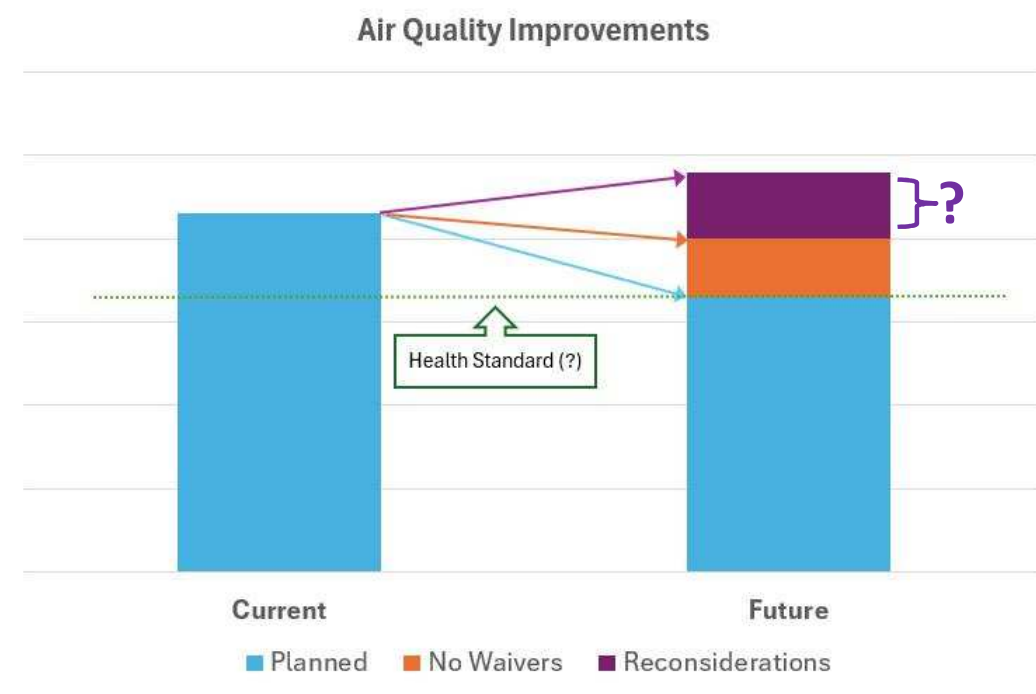
Recent Withdrawal of California Waivers

- Transportation sector is largest source of emissions
- EPA sets vehicle emission standards
- California can set more stringent standards if approved by EPA
- In January 2025, CARB pulled back several requests
- Will result in different emission reduction outcomes



Potential Impacts on Sacramento Region

- Will there be an increase in emissions?
- Will there be higher than “planned” future emissions?
- Will health-based standards change?
- Ongoing discussion with state and local partners and evaluating different options
- Prepare to engage with EPA



Final remarks

- This is a staff update for the Board to raise awareness of recent actions
- Limited available information. Many questions remain
- What is clear now is impacts will be real and consequential
- Staff will come back to provide additional updates as answers emerge

THANK YOU

Meeting Date: 3/27/2025
Report Type: AIR POLLUTION CONTROL OFFICER'S REPORT
Report ID: 2025-0327-4.



Title: Air Pollution Control Officer Presentation

Recommendation: Receive and file a presentation from the Air Pollution Control Officer.

Rationale for Recommendation: A primary responsibility of the Air Pollution Control Officer / Executive Director (APCO) is to keep the Board of Directors informed of important or incidental matters related to the Air District. Therefore, the APCO regularly presents to the Board during public meetings noteworthy items such as past successes, progress of current activities and future endeavors, updates regarding relevant legislation, anticipated media events, and material internal changes.

Contact: Alberto Ayala, Executive Director/Air Pollution Control Officer, 279-207-1122

Presentation: Yes

ATTACHMENTS:

Presentation: Air Pollution Control Officer Report
Attachment A: SB88 (Caballero) Biomass Utilization for Carbon Reduction Act

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Executive Director or Designee: Alberto Ayala, Report Approved 3/21/2025

District Counsel or Designee: Kathrine Pittard, Approved as to Form 3/21/2025

Air Pollution Control Officer Report

Board of Directors Meeting
March 27, 2025

Legislative Priority

Agricultural Biomass Utilization & Avoided Carbon Emissions

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 88

Introduced by Senator Caballero

January 22, 2025

An act to add Section 39741.6 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to air resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 88, as introduced, Caballero. Air resources: carbon emissions: biomass.

Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Prevention, to develop a standardized system for quantifying the direct carbon emissions and decay from fuel reduction activities for purposes of meeting the accounting requirements for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund expenditures, as specified, and, in consultation with academic experts, a historic baseline of greenhouse gas emissions from California's natural fire regime reflecting conditions before modern fire suppression, on or before December 31, 2020.

This bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2027, to finalize the standardized system and historic baseline described above. The bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2028, to adopt a method of quantification or a lifecycle model for avoided carbon emissions, including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide, methane, and black carbon, from wildfire from the application of prescribed fire to forest biomass resources and agricultural biomass resources, and to develop a carbon credit or offset protocol for biochar and other beneficial carbon-removal products that result from the avoidance of megafires and prescribed fire using existing methodologies.

The bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to require all state-funded forest health projects to include an appropriate forest biomass resource disposal component that includes a scientifically based, verifiable method to determine the amount of biomass to be physically removed and the amount to be burned by prescribed fire. The bill would require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to include the value proposition of using biomass for low- and negative-carbon liquid and gaseous fuels, including hydrogen, from noncombustible methods and other emerging and innovative approaches in relevant reports and other agency-sponsored documentation.

Sponsors:



Supporters:



Sac Metro Air District Leading AQ Team

Air Quality Priorities:

Ensuring Clean Air & Growth for American Businesses

- Incentives for businesses
- Funding for air quality monitoring
- Support adequate staffing levels at federal agencies

Accelerating American Energy Independence

- Invest in American-made battery storage
- Support the CA Mobility Center in Sacramento

Biomass to Energy

- Grow market streams for biomass utilization



SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



State Funding Priorities for FY 25/26



1107 Ninth Street, Suite 801
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 441-5700 (916) 441-5708 FAX
www.capcoa.org

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Tehama County APCD

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Monterey Bay AQMD
Wayne Nadri
South Coast AQMD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Tung T. Le
tung@capcoa.org

February XX, 2025

The Honorable Scott Wiener
Chair, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Committee on Budget
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Benjamin Allen
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 2 on
Resources, Environmental Protection and Energy
1020 N Street, Room 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Steve Bennett
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 on Climate Crisis,
Resources, Energy and Transportation
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: 2025-26 Funding Priorities – Air Quality, Climate, and Public Health

Dear Chairs Wiener, Gabriel, Allen and Bennett:

On behalf of the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), representing the Executive Officers from all thirty-five local air districts, I am requesting that programs yielding the highest emissions reductions per dollar spent, which will most expediently address our air quality, public health, and climate challenges, be prioritized for funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

We appreciate the investments made thus far for programs that provide significant air quality and climate benefits, especially in disproportionately affected communities. Increasing investment in key

Alignment with CAPCOA priorities

Assembly Bill 617:

Community Air Protection Program Funding

- \$300 Million for Incentives
- \$60 Million for Implementation

Funding Agricultural Diesel Replacement and Upgrades (FARMER) Program

- \$200 Million for Incentives

Woodsmoke Reduction Program

- 20 Million for Incentives

Clean Cars 4 All

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



Impacts From Potential Loss of Federal Funding

- Approximately 15% of operational budget is federal money
- Some District initiatives are federally funded
 - Ambient air quality monitoring and clean transportation incentives
- Loss of funding will significantly impact these activities
- Still awaiting more information and assessing additional District impacts



Invitation to WHO Global Conference

WHO Second Global Conference on Air Pollution and Health

March 25, 2025 - March 27, 2025*

Cartagena, Colombia

*with pre- and post-conference
sessions on 24 and 28 March



**World Health
Organization**

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN





Anna M. Caballero

14th Senate District

SB 88 – The Biomass Utilization for Carbon Reduction Act (as amended on 03/06/25)

SUMMARY

This bill would require CARB, CalFire and the CEC to take specific steps to track, locate, and quantify the emissions from the burning of forest and agricultural waste and to encourage beneficial use of those residues to help prevent wildfires and avoid managed pile and burning.

BACKGROUND

Wildfires and managed open air burning of forest and agricultural waste cause significant air and climate pollution, harming public health, agricultural productivity, and the state's progress in reducing carbon emissions. Over the past decade, California has adopted numerous policies to increase forest fuel removal for wildfire mitigation and forest restoration, as well as policies to reduce open air burning of agricultural waste. Progress in meeting these goals has been slow, however, in part because conversion of biomass residues to beneficial uses is more expensive and difficult to scale than open air burning. To accelerate the pace of waste biomass utilization, it is necessary to track, locate, and quantify the emissions from wildfires and open burning in order to monetize the value of avoided emissions when waste biomass is instead converted to alternative beneficial products or uses.

PROBLEM

State law (SB 901, Dodd, 2018) requires a significant increase in forest fuel removal to mitigate wildfires and restore forest health. SB 901 also requires CARB to complete an analysis of historical emissions from wildfires to establish a baseline for emissions avoidance. Current law requires a 40 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and a 50 percent reduction in anthropogenic black carbon emissions by 2030 (SB 32, Pavley, 2016 and SB 1383, Lara, 2016 respectively). To meet these requirements, it is essential to establish an emissions baseline as required by SB 901 and to track ongoing emissions from wildfires and managed pile and burn of both forest and agricultural waste. Current law (AB 1279, Muratsuchi) also sets a goal of

carbon neutrality by 2045. CARB's 2022 *Climate Change Scoping Plan* and other studies have all found that California will need to generate significant carbon negative emissions to achieve carbon neutrality and the Scoping Plan also found that conversion of biomass to energy with carbon capture and sequestration create an opportunity to achieve negative emissions. In addition, technology developments of non-combustion biomass utilization through gasification and pyrolysis for low-carbon biofuels, carbon storage in biochar, and other value streams provide new opportunities in bioenergy. To ensure that biomass utilization projects are maximizing emissions reductions, it is essential to develop a lifecycle analysis of emission reduction benefits from the alternatives to open burning and wildfires. Adopting a carbon credit or offset protocol for biochar carbon storage and potentially other wood products and value streams is necessary to promote alternatives to open air burning. And can assist agricultural production and ensure California can achieve its ambitious climate goals.

SOLUTION

The bill would address these issues in several ways:

- The bill establishes definitions of prescribed fire, managed pile and burn, forest and agricultural residues to ensure environmental sustainability, provide consistency across programs, and remove uncertainty.
- The bill requires CARB to establish a method of quantification of the life-cycle emissions benefit from alternative uses of forest and agricultural biomass residues, and to adopt a carbon credit or offset protocol for biochar and other alternative products if appropriate.
- The bill requires CalFire to include a disposal plan for forest residues to track the amount and location of prescribed fire needed and encourage alternatives to pile and burn of material that must be mechanically thinned.
- The bill requires the CEC to consider the value of biomass utilization for energy reliability, biofuels, emissions reductions,

wildfire mitigation and other benefits in plans
and reports related to energy planning,
resource availability, and related issues.

SUPPORT

Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management
District (Sponsor)
Placer County Air Pollution Control District
(Sponsor)
Agricultural Council of California
Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
American Pistachio Growers
Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
Bioenergy Association of California
Breath California Sacramento Region
Breath California Sacramento Region
California Association of Winegrape Growers
California Farm Bureau Federation
California Fresh Fruit Association
Citrus Mutual
Darling H2O Consulting
El Dorado County Air Quality Management District
Feather River Air Quality Management District
H Cycle
Mote
Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District
Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control
District
NISEI Farmers League
Placer County Water Agency
Raven SR
Sierra Energy
Teichert
Valley Vision
Western Growers Association
Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District
Yosemite Clean Energy

CONTACT

Paloma Elizalde, Legislative Director
Paloma.Elizalde@sen.ca.gov | (916)651-4014