

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP (EJAG)
GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Central Region Office, Governing Board Room
1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, CA

**Thursday, April 9, 2013
3:30 p.m.**

The Environmental Justice Advisory Group Grants Committee meeting was held via video teleconference (VTC): Central Region Office, Governing Board Room, 1990 E. Gettysburg Avenue, Fresno, the Southern Region Office, VTC Room, 34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield and the Northern Region Office, VTC Room, 4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto

1. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 3:31 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present.

County	Member Name/Interest Group	Location
Tulare	Derek Williams, At-large Rep	Central
Merced	Melissa Kelly-Ortega, At-large Rep.	North
Kern	Robert Smith, At-large Rep.	South

Staff present in Central Region Office (Fresno) – Todd DeYoung, Strategies and Incentives Manager; Ana Reyes, Air Quality Education Representative; Heather Heinks, Supervising Air Quality Education Representative.

Staff present in Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) – Emily Gonzalez-Demont, Office Services Manager.

Staff present in Northern Region Office (Modesto) – Anthony Presto, Outreach and Communications Representative.

Members of the public present – None.

3. APPROVE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2013 – Mr. Smith said he thought he had suggested providing incentives for purchasing bicycles during the meeting in February. He motioned to approve the minutes with this addition.

Moved:	Smith
Seconded:	Kelly-Ortega
Ayes:	Williams, Smith, Kelly-Ortega
Nays:	None

Motion passed to approve the minutes of February 28, 2013, with the suggested addition.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS (FIRST OPPORTUNITY) – None.
5. CHAIR COMMENTS – None.
6. INPUT/SUGGESTIONS FOR 2013 BUDGET - Mr. Williams suggested carrying over the programs the Grants Committee made recommendations on last year.
 - School Buses
 - Refuse-Collection Vehicles
 - On-Road Heavy Duty Vehicles
 - Light-Duty Passenger Vehicles (Tune-in/Tune-up events)

Mr. Williams confirmed everyone was in agreement. He said he will re-write last year's recommendations in more general terms, without the specific dollar amounts. He will add the new recommendations discussed today and finalize the list to be ready for a vote at the next EJAG meeting.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. DeYoung about the school bus issue and if it had been resolved. He also asked if the four programs from last year are working well and have been successful. Mr. DeYoung explained that state funding for school transportation was in jeopardy at the time the school bus recommendation was made, but it has since been secured. He said the four programs recommended last year are all still viable options for this year.

Mr. Smith suggested adding new components to the District's REMOVE II program. He suggested including funding for bicycle boulevards, bicycle lanes on lower speed streets, and connectors on in-between streets. He said this kind of infrastructure is relatively cheap compared to bike paths. He added that bike paths are not always viable for transportation and are often used more for recreation. Mr. Smith also mentioned bike-sharing programs and suggested increasing incentive amounts for existing program components.

Mr. Williams asked if EJ communities would first get approval from their cities and counties for new bicycle infrastructure, and then request the funding from the District. Mr. Smith confirmed. He added that many cities already have a bicycle transportation plan and there is state money set aside for its development. He said Caltrans has a list of all the cities with bike plans.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega said the city bike plan funds now fall under the Active Transportation program along with Safe Routes to School and Environmental Enhancement Mitigation programs. She asked if the funds the city receives for

Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) improvement comes through the District. Mr. DeYoung said the District has not received CMAQ funds in a number of years. Those funds are now administered at the county level, through transportation agencies and Councils of Government. Ms. Kelly-Ortega asked if CMAQ funds could be used for the kinds of projects discussed. Mr. DeYoung confirmed and added that the District has a couple other funding sources that could be used as well.

Mr. Williams asked Mr. DeYoung if staff would need to develop the program and guidelines for funding these new types of projects, and if it might be a year before those programs would open. Mr. DeYoung confirmed. He reminded the committee that any new program is also subject to Governing Board approval.

Mr. Smith asked Mr. DeYoung for his comments on incentives for purchasing bicycles. Mr. DeYoung said staff would have to look at it in terms of how to quantify emission reductions. They would need to develop a methodology. Mr. Smith suggested putting an odometer on the bikes and following up with participants.

Ms. Kelly-Ortega asked if the District would require a trade-in in order to offer funding for purchasing bicycles. Mr. DeYoung said a trade-in is not necessarily needed. The District just needs to be able to show that the bicycles will be used in place of another means of transportation. We need to know they are being used for transportation, not just recreation, and that their use will lead to emission reductions. Mr. Smith pointed out that many people don't have cars, but still get rides or use other transportation that produce emissions.

The committee discussed how best to word their recommendation. They want to recommend modifying the REMOVE II program to increase incentive amounts for existing components and add new components including, but not limited to, bicycle boulevards, additional bicycle lanes and connectors, and bicycle sharing programs.

The committee discussed the Burn Cleaner program and the need to encourage landlords to replace older wood-burning devices in their rental homes. They agreed to recommend a modification of the program to add in a landlord component.

Mr. Williams asked for any other ideas. Mr. Smith suggested more educational programs about bicycling. They discussed putting more focus on bicycling outreach and agreed this was a good suggestion for the District's Outreach and Communications department.

Mr. Smith asked if the list of recommendations should be prioritized. Mr. Williams suggested leaving the recommendations in no particular order. He said the

programs are all equally important and it might be difficult to prioritize because everyone has their personal preferences.

Mr. Williams asked for a motion to approve the rough draft of the recommendations list. The list includes the four programs recommended last year, new bicycle components, and a new landlord component of the Burn Cleaner program. Ms. Kelly-Ortega motioned to approve the rough draft of the recommendations list. Mr. Williams will have the final recommendations list prepared for a formal vote at the EJAG meeting on April 25.

Moved: Kelly-Ortega
Seconded: Smith
Ayes: Williams, Smith, Kelly-Ortega
Nays: None

Motion passed to approve the rough draft of the recommendations list.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS (SECOND OPPORTUNITY) – None.
8. NEXT EJAG GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS
 - Final recommendations
9. SUGGESTIONS FROM MEMBERS AS TO ITEMS TO INCLUDE IN REPORT TO EJAG AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE MADE TO EJAG – None.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

NEXT MEETING – The next Grants Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2013, at 4:15 p.m. The meeting will be held via video teleconference (VTC), with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (Modesto) and the Southern Region Office (Bakersfield) participating.