

News Release

For immediate release

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For: local news and assignment editors



San Joaquin Valley
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT



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Visalia councilmember takes Air Board seat

Mike Lane, a Visalia city councilmember, has been appointed by the Valley-wide Special Cities Selection Committee to serve out a three-year term on the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Governing Board.

"We welcome new Board Member Lane, and believe his very diverse background will bring a valuable voice on the Board," said Seyed Sadredin, the District's executive director.

Lane, a Visalia native, is a management analyst for Self-Help Enterprises, the Visalia-based, nonprofit, housing and community development organization. He was elected to the Visalia City Council in 2009 and serves on the board of directors for the Tulare-Kings Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is also on the Visalia Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Council. Previously, he was a trustee of the Visalia Unified School District and was board president in 2004.

"We can attain healthy air and a healthy economy at the same time, and I am committed to pursuing both of these goals," Lane said. "I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Governing Board and will work diligently to improve the quality of life for the residents of the San Joaquin Valley."

The Governing Board meets on the third Thursday of each month and is comprised of 15 seats: one from each of the District's eight counties; five city representatives; and two appointed by the Governor. The board directs District staff and must authorize any regulations and plans developed by the District.

The District is a public-health agency charged to meet health-based air-quality standards in the air basin, which covers eight counties in Central California: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare and portions of Kern. There are about 3.8 million residents of the air basin and it covers 25,000 square miles.

For more information about the Valley Air District, visit www.valleyair.org or call a regional office: in Fresno, 559-230-6000; in Bakersfield, 661-392-5500; and in Modesto, 209-557-6400.