Stockton selected by state for AB 617 funding

At its December board meeting, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) has affirmed the Valley Air District's recommendation of Southwest Stockton as one of several new California communities to benefit from additional resources provided by the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program.

AB 617, now in its second year of implementation, is designed to improve quality of life for the state’s most disadvantaged communities through community-led efforts that identify and address local air pollution concerns. AB 617 builds on the Valley Air District's and CARB's longstanding efforts of developing and implementing regulatory and incentive-based clean air strategies.

In 2018, CARB selected ten disadvantaged communities throughout the state as first-year beneficiaries of AB 617 resources. At that time, two communities were selected in the San Joaquin Valley: Shafter and South Central Fresno. AB 617 requires CARB to annually consider selecting additional communities to implement community air monitoring plans and/or community emissions reduction programs.

Building on the experience gained with year-one communities, the Valley Air District is inviting Stockton residents, businesses and other community stakeholders to participate in the formation of a community steering committee to assess the needs of Southwest Stockton and work on a Community Air Monitoring Plan and Community Emissions Reduction Program during the upcoming year.

Interested community members can sign up to receive information at www.valleyair.org/stockton or contact the District directly at AB617@valleyair.org. For more general information on AB617, visit: www.valleyair.org/community or call the District at 559-230-6000.

Time to request your 2020 Healthy Air Living Kids’ Calendar

The artwork of 14 student artists kicks off a new decade in the 2020 Healthy Air Living Kids’ Calendar.

The District’s annual calendar, designed to educate and inspire the public to live a Healthy Air Life and reduce air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley, is a full-color, bilingual wall calendar, featuring the clean-air messages and drawings of students from throughout the San Joaquin Valley. This year’s cover artist is Sanger sophomore Aria Delgado.

To request calendars for yourself, your classroom, school or other organization, email public.education@valleyair.org or call (559) 230-6000. Calendars can be picked up at any District office: in Fresno, at 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., in Modesto, at 4800 Enterprise Way, and in Bakersfield, at 34936 Flyover Court.