



**AB 617 Portside Community Steering Committee  
Meeting Agenda + Notes**

**01/23/2024**

**5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**[Click here for meeting materials](#)**

**Meeting Objectives**

- Learn about the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) California Air Toxics Assessment Data Portal, results from the 2019 Data Collection Project, and analysis and interpretation of Portside Community environmental justice data
- Receive update and provide feedback on the San Diego Association of Government's (SANDAG) San Diego and Imperial Counties Sustainable Freight Strategy

**Action Items**

- [Approval of 11/28/2023 meeting notes and 1/23/24 agenda](#)

**Agenda**

**I. Welcoming Remarks (Facilitation Team)**

**5:00 pm**

- a. Review Meeting Objectives & Agenda
- b. Roll call Community Steering Committee (CSC) members
- c. General Updates
  - i. The Facilitation team welcomed the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) new representative, **Adrianna Hernandez**, to the Portside Committee.
  - ii. The Facilitation team welcomed the U.S. Navy's new primary representative, **Nick Critti**, to the Portside Committee. Sergio Hernandez will continue as the alternative representative for the U.S. Navy.
  - iii. The Facilitation team reminded the committee that the 2024 Portside Community Steering Committee calendar is now available on the [Portside Community webpage](#). Meetings will continue to be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:00pm with the second meeting of the quarter being in-person.

**II. Approval of 11/28/2023 Meeting Notes and tonight's agenda**

**5:20 pm**

- a. MOTION to approve 11/28/2023 meeting notes and 1/23/24 agenda by **Maritza Garcia**.
  - i. Seconded by **John Alvarado**.
  - ii. Motion passed unanimously.

**III. Preview: California Air Toxics Assessment Data Portal (CARB)**

**5:25 pm**

- a. [Presentation Link](#)
- b. Adrianna Hernandez from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) provided a preview of the California Air Toxics Assessment ([CATA](#)) data portal, which provides data on the statewide health risks associated with toxic air pollutants.
- c. Please contact [cata@arb.ca.gov](mailto:cata@arb.ca.gov) for additional questions or comments regarding the CATA data portal.
- d. Questions and Discussion:
  - i. **John Alvarado** asked when CARB will move beyond data collection to action. He emphasized that more needs to be done to address air quality impacts in the communities they serve. People need help right now.



1. **Adrianna Hernandez** from CARB noted that the CATA data is utilized to inform a wide variety of programs, initiatives, and actions, including the CalEnviroScreen tool. The tool has also been used to analyze risk assessment in certain areas. The data helps justify why and how specific communities are prioritized for specific programs and actions.
2. John Alvarado noted that it is helpful to have data for community members to confirm with their doctors that their health is being impacted by the toxic air quality.

**IV. Presentation: Results from the 2019 Data Collection Project in the  
Portside Environmental Justice Neighborhoods (CARB)**

**5:35 pm**

- a. [Presentation Link](#)
- b. Mohammad 'Maksim' Islam from CARB presented on the results from 2019 automated license plate readers (ALPR) study that took place in the Portside Environmental Justice Communities.
- c. Please contact Mohammad 'Maksim' Islam ([Mohammad.Islam@arb.ca.gov](mailto:Mohammad.Islam@arb.ca.gov)) for additional questions or comments on the results of the data collection project.
- d. Questions and Discussion:
  - i. **Jose I. Marquez-Chavez** asked whether CARB has any data on trucks registered in Mexico.
    1. **Sara Forestieri** from CARB responded that they don't have any data from trucks registered in Mexico. Sara noted anecdotally that many trucks from Mexico do have dual registration plated with California, which are included in this study. She emphasized that the study only captures trucks with California license plates.
  - ii. **Joy Williams** thanked the CARB team for the presentation and study. She noticed that the study is on unique trucks and commented that they'd need to know the type of trucks (model, year) that are doing frequent visits to make any estimates on level on impact with regards to diesel emissions. Joy asked if CARB has any estimates on the number of trucks that are missing from the study, the trucks registered out of the state?
    1. **Sara** from CARB highlighted that this study was in collaboration with the SDAPCD staff who also put a lot of work into the study. Sara responded that CARB did look at estimates accounting for all trucks and the results were fairly similar, but they'll follow up to confirm. Sara also recognized the limitation of the study through the license plate readers, which can only read California vehicles.
  - iii. **Jack Monger** asked for CARB to explain what benefit does this study provide? What can be shared with community?
    1. **Sara** responded that this study allowed them to better understand truck travel characteristics in the County that registration data alone which is used to inform the model year distributions between heavier and lighter trucks. The study revealed also demonstrated that most trucks coming to San Diego are coming from Los Angeles and San Bernardino, illuminating how far they are traveling from.
  - iv. **Nicholas Paul** asked for clarification on how the ALPR works. Is it a camera capturing license plates? Did it still capture non-California plates even though the study is limited to California-registered vehicles?
    1. **Sara** responded that the license plate readers take video footage of vehicles operating on the road. It then uses software to identify the plate's registration state, but to get data on vehicle type you need to use a separate data set. The Air District only had data to California registration plates. CARB noted that they did have access to a national registration database but was not part of this study.



- v. **Femi Olaluwoye**, Chief of the Community Planning Branch at CARB, shared that outside of the characterization of data, the ALPR tool also supports enforcement efforts. Enforcement has been challenged with heavy duty trucks that are often in and out of compliance who have different license plates in the front than the back. ALPR has helped them better capture who the actual truck owner is and properly enforce rules. Regarding identifying truck types and registration, ALPR is a helpful tool to better target and understand the potential impact from replacing cleaner trucks. Femi also appreciated the discussion on improving and refining the tool and study with the goal of better informing the community decisions.
- vi. **John Alvarado** shared that he agreed with Femi's remarks. He noted that he lives near the freeway, noting the thousands of trucks passing each day. He thanked the team and appreciated the efforts to better capture the magnitude of vehicle traffic impact in the area, particularly those coming from the Border.
- vii. **Nicholas Paul** asked on the map showing where ALPRs are located whether points 8 and 3 are on the Marine Cargo Terminal?
  1. **Sara** responded that the ALPRs were not exactly on the terminals but on roads very nearby.

**V. Presentation: Portside Environmental Justice Neighborhoods Data  
Analysis and Interpretation (CARB)**

**5:55 pm**

- a. [Presentation Link](#)
- b. Yanju Chen from CARB presented the analysis and interpretation of the Portside Community environmental justice data with a focus on diesel particulate matter and volatile organic compounds.
- c. Please contact Yanju Cehn ([Yanju.Chen@arb.ca.gov](mailto:Yanju.Chen@arb.ca.gov)) for additional questions or comments on the Portside Environmental Justice Neighborhoods data analysis and interpretation.
- d. Questions and Discussion:
  - i. **John Alvarado** suggested that CARB share their findings with the principal of Sherman Elementary which is located within San Diego Promise Zone as well as the Barrio Logan Planning Group.
    1. **Yanju Chen** responded that they have talked to the school district but have not shared the results and CARB is Willing to work with school principals and other interested parties to share their findings.
  - ii. **Jack Monger** suggested the source attribution as a priority for future data to address the emission issues in the community.
    1. **Yanju Chen** agreed that CARB is also curious about knowing where the emissions come from and that they can look into using the attribution data to report on some of this.
  - iii. **John Alvarado** suggested CARB look into Coronado and the emissions being brought in from all the ships coming from Mexico.
  - iv. A committee member asked via chat how far someone has to be from the toxics to be safe and if there is something folks can do for protection.
    1. **Yanju Chen** added that the toxics data is only from one site and it does not cover the entire community so she cannot make a recommendation for community members in different areas. Yanju also recommended that households use indoor filtration for clean air.
    2. **John Alvarado** that there is equipment that can clean the air before it goes into the home, and this is something he is working for the community to access.



**VI. Presentation: San Diego and Imperial Counties Sustainable Freight Strategy (SANDAG)**

**6:25 pm**

- a. Tim Garret from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) provided an update on the San Diego and Imperial Counties Freight Strategy.
- b. Please contact Tim Garret ([tim.garrett@sandag.org](mailto:tim.garrett@sandag.org)) for additional questions or comments on the San Diego and Imperial Counties Sustainable Freight Strategy.
- c. Questions and Discussion:
  - i. **Roman Partida-Lopez** asked if there are any defined priorities that SANDAG will lead on, potentially trying to pilot, implement, or find funding.
    1. **Tim Garrett** responded that one of the great things about the projects is that they are taking a board look at the different types of strategies that are out there and they have been trying to get a feel for what types of projects are priorities for different communities. The plan is to take high priority projects and have SANDAG take the lead and develop them.

**VII. Public Comments (Facilitation Team)**

**6:45 pm**

- a. Reserved for comments on items not listed on the agenda
- b. Each speaker is limited to 3 minutes
  - i. **John Alvarado** commented that the meeting went well and thanked the presenters for their good work.

**VIII. Closing Remarks**

**6:55 pm**

**IX. Adjourn**

**7:00 pm**

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for 02/27/2024 tentatively in-person in National City.