

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 1, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

The Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting was held via video teleconference (VTC): with the Central Region Office (Fresno), the Northern Region Office (4800 Enterprise Way, Modesto, CA 95356), and the Southern Region Office (34946 Flyover Court, Bakersfield, CA 93308). Members of the public were allowed to participate in-person at any of the referenced locations or remotely via Zoom webinar. The CAC Meeting was also webcast.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Katrina Rojas, Deputy Clerk to the Boards, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Rojas stated that with the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, the first order of business after the roll call would be to elect a Chair Pro-Tem for this meeting.

2. ROLL CALL – was taken and a quorum was present to hold the meeting.

County	Member Name	Interest Group	Location
Fresno	Manuel Cunha	IAIG (P)	Fresno
Kern	John Sanders	EIG (P)	Bakersfield
	Orchel Krier	CIG (P)	Bakersfield
Kings	Laura Brown	IAIG (P)	Bakersfield
	Kelly Deming	EIG (A)	Fresno
Madera	Laura Gutile	IAIG (P)	Fresno
	Nick DeHart	EIG (P)	Fresno
	Jeff Troost	CIG (P)	Fresno
Merced	Amy Lopes	IAIG(A)	Modesto
	Denise Holmes	EIG (P)	Modesto
San Joaquin	Roger Hoffdahl	IAIG (A)	Modesto
	Ben Cantu	CIG (P)	Modesto
Stanislaus	Jami Aggers	CIG (P)	Modesto
Tulare	Nebeyu Menkir	EIG (P)	Fresno
	Dennis Mederos	CIG (P)	Fresno

(P) = Primary, (A) = Alternate, IAIG = Industry/Ag Interest Group, EIG = Environmental Interest Group, CIG = City Interest Group

Once roll call was completed and quorum was confirmed, Ms. Rojas announced to the committee that the floor was open for anyone who would like to show interest in serving as Chair Pro-Tem for today's meeting. Mr. Cunha nominated Mr. Dennis Mederos.

Public Comment: No individuals provided comments during the time allotted for public comments on this item.

Moved: Cunha
Seconded: Deming
Ayes: Cunha, Brown, Gutile, Lopes, Hoffdahl, Sanders, Deming, DeHart,
Holmes, Aggers, Menkir, Krier, Troost, Cantu, Mederos
Nays: None

Motion passed to appoint Mr. Dennis Mederos to serve as Chair Pro-Tem for the September 1, 2026 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVE MINUTES FOR AUGUST 4, 2026

Mr. Mederos asked for member comments on the minutes from the August 4, 2026 Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting.

Ms. Holmes and Ms. Brown stated that they understood the Committee had previously discussed bringing back an item to establish a process that would allow CAC members to take action on agenda items, even when those matters had been identified as discussion items. They requested that the August minutes be amended to reflect that discussion.

Mr. Sheikh explained that staff had revised the agenda format to remove the distinction between “discussion” and “action” items. The revised format is intended to provide the Committee greater flexibility to discuss and, when appropriate, take action on agenda items while continuing to meet Brown Act requirements for adequate public notice. Ms. Holmes acknowledged that the revised agenda format addresses the request by removing language that could limit the Committee’s ability to take action.

Public Comment: No individuals provided comments during the time allotted for public comments on this item.

Moved: Holmes
Seconded: Troost
Ayes: Cunha, Brown, Hoffdahl, Sanders, Deming, Holmes, Aggers, Menkir,
Krier, Troost, Mederos
Nays: None
Abstentions: Gutile, Lopes, DeHart, Cantu

Motion passed to approve the August 4, 2026 meeting minutes with amendments as discussed.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No individuals provided comments during this item.

6. CHAIR COMMENTS

None.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS

Samir Sheikh, Air Pollution Control Officer, provided an update on the final State budget, including \$229 million for Community Air Protection, \$10 million for the Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emissions Reductions Program, and \$85 million over five years for Clean Cars for All. Mr. Sheikh also highlighted approximately \$7.5 million in competitive funding for heavy-duty electric truck charging projects in Stockton and Bakersfield and additional funding for lawn mower replacement and agricultural open burning alternatives.

Mr. Cunha expressed concerns regarding funding challenges facing agriculture and asked about the Valley's share of Carl Moyer funding. Mr. Sheikh explained that the Valley's annual Carl Moyer allocation has increased to approximately \$20 million and noted that the Valley generally receives approximately 20–30 percent of statewide funding for other incentive programs.

Mr. Menkir congratulated staff on their efforts and emphasized the importance of equitable distribution of funding to underserved communities facing significant climate-related challenges.

8. VERBAL REPORT FROM CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (CARB)

Shelah Ott, Air Quality Specialist, provided regulatory updates from CARB, with Ariel Fideldy, CARB Branch Chief of Air Quality Planning present to assist with questions.

Mr. Cunha requested clarification on Executive Order 26-001, including which truck model years and vehicle types would be subject to the filter device requirement. Ms. Ott stated that staff would follow up with those involved in developing the executive order to clarify the requirements and noted that the filter has been verified as a technology that may be used.

Mr. Sheikh noted that the executive order appeared to address stationary backup engines rather than mobile applications. Mr. Cunha explained that the same engines may be used in both stationary and mobile applications and raised concerns about the potential operational impacts of the filter requirement. He requested further clarification on the applicability of the requirement.

Mr. Cunha requested clarification regarding the applicability of the executive order to stationary and mobile engines and raised concerns about potential operational impacts. Ms. Fideldy stated that staff would follow up with the appropriate technical team and provide a written response within a couple of weeks, with additional discussion at a future meeting if needed.

Ms. Brown requested that the executive order notice be provided to the clerk for distribution to the Committee.

9. UPDATE ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES

Tim Franquist, Director of Air Quality Planning, updated the CAC on current air quality planning and rule development efforts.

10. CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CAC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR HEARING BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Sheraz Gill, Deputy APCO presented this item to request CAC approval of the Hearing Board Appointment Subcommittee's recommendations for three regional Hearing Board positions and forwarded the recommendations to the Governing Board for final consideration.

Public Comment: No individuals provided comments during the time allotted for public comments on this item.

Moved: Cunha

Seconded: Troost

Ayes: Cunha, Brown, Lopes, Hoffdahl, Sanders, Deming, DeHart,
Holmes, Aggers, Menkir, Krier, Troost, Cantu, Mederos

Nays: None

Motion passed to approve the recommendations by the CAC Subcommittee for Hearing Board appointments and forward the recommendations to the Governing Board for final consideration and appointment: Tito Ventura Northern Region Hearing Board Public Primary, Tyler Smith, Central Region Hearing Board Public Alternate, and Shannon Miller, Southern Region Hearing Board Public Primary.

11. UPDATE ON 2026 WILDFIRE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE EFFORTS

Jon Klassen, Director of Air Quality Science and Heather Heinks, Program Manager, updated the CAC on statewide wildfire activity, smoke impacts, prescribed-burning coordination, air monitoring, public health outreach, clean air centers, and distribution of more than 26,000 residential air purifiers. CAC members discussed opportunities to

improve emergency access to air filtration during wildfires and major industrial fires and to further coordinate with county health departments.

Ms. Holmes asked whether data from non-wildfire events, such as industrial or facility fires, could also be excluded from air quality calculations. Mr. Klassen explained that while there are established procedures for wildfires and prescribed burns, the process for facility or industrial fires is less clear and will require further coordination with EPA.

Ms. Holmes suggested that prolonged non-wildfire events, such as industrial fires, be considered when evaluating air quality data. Mr. Sheikh agreed that such events could impact attainment and noted that staff is closely evaluating these impacts, including the recent tire fire in Stanislaus County, with ongoing monitoring and coordination to better assess their effects.

Mr. Cunha asked whether air filtration devices are available for distribution during major incidents. Mr. Sheikh explained that the District does not currently maintain a large supply but is exploring more localized distribution through county health departments and emergency response efforts, including potential funding opportunities.

Ms. Brown asked about follow-up with filter recipients and replacement filter needs. Ms. Heinks explained that each unit includes an additional filter, typically lasting six months to a year, and that recipients receive information and coupons for purchasing replacements.

Ms. Brown asked about follow-up with filter recipients and whether coupon use could be tracked to determine if replacement filters are being purchased. Ms. Heinks explained that recipients receive an additional filter and information on purchasing replacements and stated that staff could follow up with the vendor to determine whether coupon utilization data is available.

Mr. Sheikh noted that there could be a potential to conduct follow-up surveys to better understand filter use and replacement needs, while keeping the process streamlined and focused on distributing filters to families. He also noted that replacement filters are readily available from other sources at relatively low cost.

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Martha Armas Kelly, Catholic Charities

12. UPDATE ON DISTRICT'S PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS

Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer highlighted the District's summer public education efforts, including back-to-school outreach, wildfire messaging, media engagement, bilingual digital annual-report highlights, and the new Kids Care About Our

Air campaign. Jaime also discussed plans for an expanded winter residential wood-burning outreach campaign.

Ms. Holmes asked whether shelter-in-place alerts also explain how to prevent smoke from entering homes through HVAC systems. Ms. Holt responded that the District provides guidance on creating clean-air rooms, using HVAC systems and filters, air purifiers, and Clean Air Centers for those unable to shelter safely at home. Mr. Sheikh emphasized the need to coordinate with county health officials on shelter-in-place and health-protective messaging, particularly for sensitive populations, and noted that the District will continue evaluating and updating its recommendations as new information becomes available.

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Martha Armas Kelly, Catholic Charities

This item was taken out of order

14. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, highlighted ongoing outreach supporting wildfire preparedness, residential wood-burning requirements, District incentive programs, and the Healthier Living Schools program. Jaime also discussed efforts to increase engagement with colleges and universities throughout the Valley.

13. AB 617 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Sarah Hasan Lane, Program Manager, provided updates on implementation in South Central Fresno, Shafter, Stockton, and Arvin/Lamont, including preparation of annual community reports and outreach to schools regarding air filtration, electric school buses, zero-emission landscaping equipment, and EV charging opportunities. Michelle Byars, CARB Air Resources Supervisor, also provided updates on upcoming statewide AB 617 activities including their draft Air Toxics Roadmap, which is currently accepting comments on.

15. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Sanders expressed concern about the time, fuel, and emissions associated with driving vehicles long distances to complete CARB's clean truck check requirements before registration or sale, particularly for vehicles used in well abandonment activities. Mr. Sheikh stated that the District can continue communicating the concern to CARB and noted that the CAC could request CARB address the issue as a future agenda item.

Ms. Lopes noted that the issue extends beyond fleet vehicles to farm and personal diesel vehicles, based on her experiences both at home and at work. Mr. Sheikh

clarified that the concern involves the difficulty of clearing vehicle codes in order to register the vehicle.

Ms. Ott acknowledged the concerns and stated that staff would seek an update from subject-matter experts for the next meeting, or provide an update on their behalf.

Mr. Cunha referenced a recent California Energy Commission report raising concerns about future energy supply and infrastructure capacity, particularly in relation to electrification and data center demand. He encouraged members to review the report.

16. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Mr. Cunha volunteered to present the CAC report at the September Governing Board Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.