

Action Summary Minutes
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 4, 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 – The Chair, Patricia Matthews, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
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 (P)	Fresno
	Patricia Matthews	CIG (P)	Fresno
Madera	Ashley Nebeker	EIG (P)	Fresno
	Jeff Troost	CIG (P)	Fresno
Merced	Denise Holmes	EIG (P)	Modesto
San Joaquin	Roger Hoffdahl	IAIG (A)	Modesto
Stanislaus	Chris Savage	IAIG (P)	Modesto
	Jami Aggers	CIG (P)	Modesto
Tulare	Fernando Rios	IAIG (P)	Bakersfield
	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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVE MINUTES FOR JUNE 2, 2026

Ms. Matthews asked for member comments on the minutes from the June 2, 2026 Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting. With no comments, the Chair declared the Minutes approved.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No individuals provided comments during this item.

6. CHAIR COMMENTS

Ms. Matthews thanked the committee members for their attendance.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS

8. Sheraz Gill, Deputy APCO, welcomed the new Tulare County Environmental Interest Group representative Mr. Nebeyu Menkir, provided an update on wildfire activity and potential impacts to the Valley, and highlighted the District's participation in the recent Clean Air/Clean Solutions showcase that at the State Capitol.

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

Shelah Ott, Air Quality Specialist, provided regulatory updates from CARB, with Mark Hixson, Manager of the Central Valley Air Quality Planning Section, and Matthew Lakin, Chief of the Air Quality Planning and Science Division, present to assist with questions.

Mr. Cunha expressed concerns regarding the potential impacts on agriculture, noting the industry's significant voluntary efforts to reduce emissions through programs in collaboration with the District and USDA. He also questioned the feasibility of electrification requirements and associated power demands and emphasized the need to recognize agriculture's contributions to improving air quality. Mr. Lakin acknowledged agriculture's concerns and the long-standing partnership with the District. He stated that staff would continue evaluating emission reduction opportunities, including agricultural engines, and work with stakeholders on next steps and opportunities for public input.

Ms. Brown asked which CARB department would be responsible for collecting information and providing follow-up on public comments regarding the 2026 Extreme Ozone SIP Revision. Mr. Lakin responded that staff is still determining when to return to their Board. He noted that any potential regulatory action would include opportunities for public input through workshops, written comments, and Board consideration.

Mr. Mederos requested clarification of misinformation presented at the prior meeting. Mr. Lakin stated that staff would seek opportunities to provide accurate, science-based information but did not anticipate another Board item on this action at this time.

Ms. Matthews emphasized the importance of correcting misinformation during public meetings. Mr. Lakin clarified that staff spent several hours during the previous meeting providing corrections and clarification, although some information was not fully addressed.

Ms. Brown agreed with the concerns raised and suggested that CARB staff be given an opportunity to provide factual clarification during Board proceedings. She also suggested that the CAC consider drafting a letter addressing inaccurate information presented during the meeting.

After discussion, the Committee agreed to bring an item back to consider a letter clarifying the record while preserving the collaborative relationship with CARB.

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Dennis Tristao, Citizens Advisory Committee Environmental Interest Group Alternate

10. UPDATE ON ATTAINMENT PLANS AND RULES

Expanded information on the topic was provided under Item 12.

11. RECEIVE UPDATE ON THE DISTRICT'S DRIVE CLEAN IN THE SAN JOAQUIN PROGRAM

Todd DeYoung, Director of Grants and Incentives, provided updates on the repair, replacement, and rebate components of the Drive Clean in the San Joaquin program. The vehicle replacement program is anticipated to reopen in September, while the clean vehicle rebate program is expected to relaunch in mid-August with an additional \$3 million in District funding.

Ms. Nebeker asked about smog failure documentation, low-income eligibility, existing program enrollment, and whether used vehicles qualify. Mr. DeYoung explained that participants who fail a weekend smog test receive an immediate repair voucher, which in many cases covers the entire cost of repairs. He stated that replacement eligibility is based on household size, income, and vehicle emissions, with tax documentation or existing program enrollment used for verification. He further explained that used vehicles are eligible and make up the majority of replacements through the program.

Mr. Menkir commended the program and asked how the new rebate funding would accommodate applicants given the program's previous oversubscription. Mr. DeYoung explained that no applications are currently pending and when the program reopens,

both prior applicants who remain eligible and new applicants will be able to apply on an equal basis.

Mr. Cunha praised the program's positive impact on farmworkers and communities, highlighting a farmworker's successful experience obtaining a hybrid vehicle. He commended District staff and encouraged continued funding and expansion of the program.

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

12. VERBAL REPORT ON CLEAN AIR ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Tim Franquist, Director of Air Quality Planning provided updates on federal air quality planning requirements, including associated contingency measures, pending EPA actions on Valley attainment plans and rules and development of a new "5%" Plan for the 2006 PM_{2.5} standard.

Ms. Holmes asked for examples of organic liquids subject to Rules 4623 and 4624. Mr. Gill explained that the rules primarily apply to oil and gas products, such as gasoline, as well as other volatile organic liquids, and may require vapor control systems.

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

13. AB 617 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

Stephanie Ng, Director of Community Strategies and Resources and Michael Alves, Air Pollution Specialist for CARB's Office of Community Air Protection, provided updates on AB 617 Community Air Protection Program activities.

Mr. Menkir asked whether staff could visit Tulare County to present to committee members and provide contact information. Ms. Ng offered to share contact information and arrange a visit.

14. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

Heather Heinks, Program Manager, highlighted participation in the Clean Air/Clean Solutions showcase at the State Capitol and upcoming outreach efforts focused on back-to-school air quality education, wildfire readiness, and the District's student calendar program.

Ms. Holmes asked how teachers can work with their students to submit artwork and how the information can be shared. Ms. Heinks provided the website and application deadline for entries for the 2027 calendar (September 25, 2026).

Ms. Pitt asked about the primary audience and effectiveness of the Clean Air Showcase and whether regulated entities could participate in future events. Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, explained that the event targeted legislators and staff to demonstrate the value of air quality programs and state funding. She noted that the event was beneficial but could be improved, particularly with better timing and increased participation.

Mr. Mederos inquired about eligible grade levels for calendar contest entries. Ms. Heinks shared that the contest is available for grades K-12.

Ms. Nebeker thanked staff for participating in the wildfire smoke readiness workshop in eastern Madera County and invited others to attend.

Mr. Cunha commended the District's participation in the Clean Air Day event in Sacramento.

15. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS

Ms. Brown encouraged staff to explore options for addressing Brown Act requirements so the CAC can more effectively respond to issues and provide timely information and recommendations to the Governing Board. Mr. Mederos suggested adding a standing agenda item to provide the CAC an opportunity to discuss and respond to issues involving CARB. CAC members recommended allowing greater flexibility to take action on agenda items by removing language that limits the CAC's ability to make motions and vote on items included on the agenda. Ms. Brown requested that the matter be placed on the following month's agenda to provide the CAC with an overview of the process and applicable requirements. Mr. Gill acknowledged the concern and stated that staff would revisit the issue and explore options to provide greater flexibility.

16. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.