# Rule 9410 Employer Based Trip Reduction

**Governing Board Hearing December 17, 2009** 



## **Guiding Principles**

- 1. Employers can not require employees to commute in a particular way.
- 2. Allow employers to craft approaches that work best with their workforce, work culture, and available commute alternatives in their region.
- 3. Understand and accommodate labor laws and employer liability issues.
- 4. Minimize red-tape and administrative costs and enable employers to focus their resources on real measures.
- 5. Give credit for measures already in-place in advance of the rule.
- 6. Provide tools and turnkey measures to help employers meet their obligations without having to reinvent the wheel.
- 7. Strong but streamlined accountability measures to ensure compliance and measure performance.

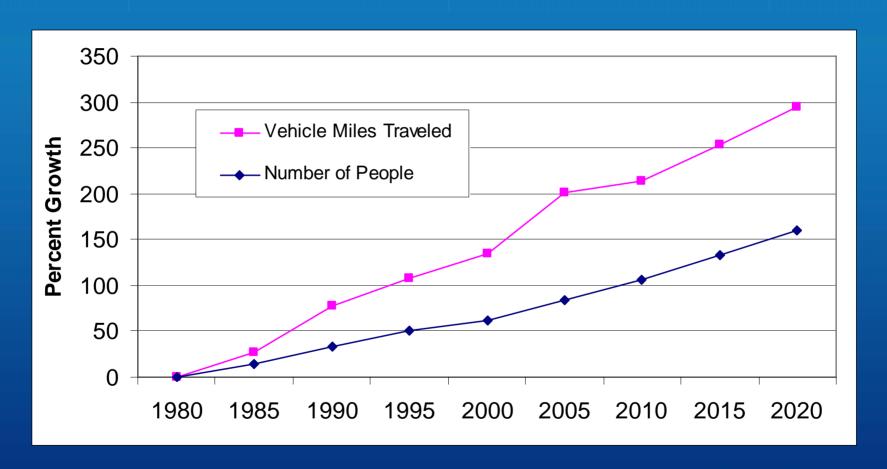


## **Why Rule 9410?**

- State and federal mandates and law
  - Clean Air Act Section 182(d)(1)(B)
  - California Health and Safety Code Sections 40601(d) and 40612(a)(2)
  - District's 2007 Ozone Plan and 2008 PM2.5 Plan
- To implement every feasible measure to attain healthbased air quality standards
- To reduce mobile source emissions, which are the biggest contributor to the Valley's air quality problem
- To share the air pollution clean-up burden, historically carried by stationary sources

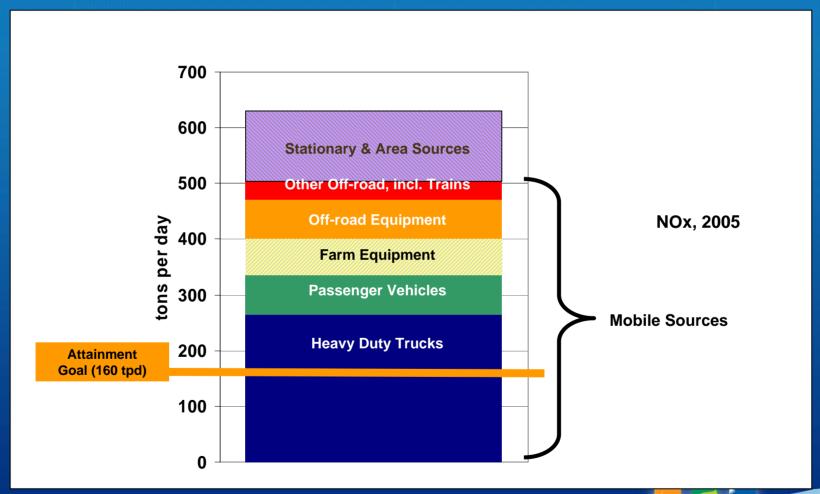


## Valley Population and VMT Growth Since 1980





## Attainment Depends on Reductions from Mobile Sources



## Applicability

- Employers with 100+ eligible employees
  - Only employees reporting to work between 6am -10am
  - Some employees are excluded, such as seasonal, part-time, on-call, home garage, and field staff
- Two categories of worksites
  - Tier One: 100 249 eligible employees
  - Tier Two: 250+ eligible employees
- Estimated 1,883 affected worksites
  - 1,342 Tier One and 541 Tier Two Worksites



## Phased-in Requirements

Preparation: Eligible employer registration 2010

Phase 1: Marketing and Program Support menu options

- Pick menu options (ETRIP) by September 2011
- Implement by 2012

Phase 2: Services & Facilities menu options

- Pick menu options (ETRIP) by September 2012
- Implement by 2013

Phase 3: <u>Transportation</u>, <u>Alternative Schedules</u>, <u>and</u> <u>Incentives</u> menu options

- Pick menu options (ETRIP) by September 2013
- Implement by 2014



### Accountability

- Commute Verification: collect employee data starting in 2014
- Report results to the District once a year in Annual Report
  - Results are informational: No mandated employee participation level for ridesharing and alternative transportation
  - However, ETRIP measures have been shown to increase participation in alternative commuting
- Annual Report also includes ETRIP revisions



#### **Emissions and Cost**

- Estimated emission reductions upon full implementation in 2014:
  - 0.6 tons per day (tpd) NOx
  - 0.6 tpd VOC
  - 0.05 tpd PM2.5
- Cost ranges from \$3,000 \$9,700 per worksite per year depending on the phase
- Cost effectiveness ranges from \$8,000 \$15,000 per ton
- Estimated workload increases 0.09%
- Employment, profitability not significantly impacted by costs

## District has navigated legal, labor, and fiscal concerns

- District Human Resources Department has been key player in designing Rule 9410:
  - Workers' Compensation
  - Wage & Hour Rules
  - Staff Resources
  - Liability/Risk Management
  - Collective Bargaining Agreements
  - Financial Constraints
  - Tax Implications
- These measures have been successfully implemented at many workplaces



#### **Extensive Support from District**

- Support efforts to reduce/eliminate administrative costs
- District support is a rule commitment, with deadlines
- Guidance and Turnkey resources for each strategy
  - Forms
  - Samples, Models, Templates, Examples
  - Guidance Documents
  - Resource Guides
  - Marketing Assistance & Marketing Materials
- District webpage
- Employer Registration Template and online Registration
- Electronic ETRIP submittal system
- Commute Verification Templates and Automated/Districtsupported Reporting Options

### Healthy Air Living Partners

- Build upon strong success of last two years
- Provide extensive turnkey support
  - Webpage with tools and support for Healthy Air Living Partners
  - Email list serve to send out information and Valley Air News
  - Special email address to directly communicate with the District
  - Trainings in person or via the internet
  - Information and resources available via Facebook and Twitter
  - Materials and templates to conduct outreach
  - Attend events (such as lunches, meetings, fairs)
  - Prizes (such as a hybrid vehicle)
  - Partner official recognition certificate
  - Available to answer questions and provide tools and support
- Fits in with current program
- Partnerships not limited to 9410 employers



### Partners = Roadmap

- 9410 points awarded to Partners in "Good Standing"
- Employer must follow through on Partner Commitments
- Annual Partner Commitments
  - Submit annual registration form
  - Executive Director (or similar) signs a Healthy Air Living Resolution
  - Designate a Healthy Air Living Coordinator or Team
  - Have Coordinator go through District-supplied training
  - Coordinator follows District on Facebook & Twitter
  - Sign up to receive Healthy Air Living list serve emails
  - Share outreach with the District & request assistance when needed
  - Host one Healthy Air Living event
  - Distribute the semi-annual Healthy Air Living newsletter



### Partners = Roadmap

- Annual Partner Commitments (cont.)
  - Forward monthly "Valley Air News" E-blasts to employees
  - Distribute to your employees District-generated brochures
  - Encourage employees to submit pledge cards
  - Allow the District to post your logo & web address as a Partner
  - Post the Healthy Air Living logo & web address link on employer website
  - Distribute CEO letter encouraging employee involvement
  - Distribute important air-quality information as requested
  - Post a Healthy Air Living Partner Certification at workplace.
- APCO may make changes or enhancements as program grows



## Extensive Public Participation & Outreach

- Public meetings in February, July, September, and October
- District presentations at 20 meetings of interested employers, industry groups, and service organizations
- The District met with each county and with the Valley's 10 largest cities
- Numerous one-on-one phone calls to work through the rule with stakeholders



- Some ETRIP measures will not work in particular cases (e.g., telecommuting for factory workers, transit in rural areas)
  - We re-tuned the menu options to provide sufficient points for all known situations (e.g., production line workers)
  - Employers are not required to use any particular measure
  - Other, unique measures can be proposed by employers



- Promoting transportation alternatives makes employers liable for risks during commute
  - State law provides liability relief for employers implementing regulatory rideshare programs
  - To avoid conflict with federal law, Phase 3 will not apply to employers subject to federal Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers Protection Act



- There were two diametrically opposed viewpoints on commute surveys
  - Survey requirements are unrealistic and too expensive.
  - Surveys should be more frequent, and start early to establish a baseline.
- District response
  - Accountability is needed for SIP credit
  - New Commute Verification process provides flexibility, reduces burden
  - Baseline established from U.S. Census data

- Employers should not be penalized for lack of employee participation
  - Agree. No enforceable participation target in Rule 9410
- What constitutes a violation of Rule 9410?
  - Violation if employer does not register, file ETRIPs,
     Commute Verification/Annual Reports
- Penalties should be stated in the rule.
  - We need to be realistic on penalties: consequences depend on the situation; a penalty schedule may preclude common sense
  - CA Health & Safety Code 42402–42403 provides the penalty tiers for noncompliance

- Employers cannot bear the impact of Rule 9410 during current economic conditions. It should be voluntary.
  - To reduce the administrative cost, the District wrote explicit requirements in the rule to provide tools, training, resources, and guidance.
  - Analysis indicates that employer costs and economic impacts are relatively low, and consistent with recent rules.
  - Lack of a trip reduction rule might appear that District is not implementing all feasible measures, may lead to a more prescriptive approach
- Rule 9410 is just the first step to a more aggressive rule.
  - State law limits District authority to requiring large employers to establish rideshare programs, does not allow mandates on individuals
  - Proposed Rule 9410 would satisfy state and federal mandates



#### Recommendations

- Adopt proposed Rule 9410 (Employer Based Trip Reduction).
- Approve the District's enhanced Healthy Air Living Partners program (as attached) as a tool to help employers comply with Rule 9410, and authorize APCO to make administrative changes or enhancements as necessary.
- Authorize the Chair to sign the attached Resolution.

