

Merced County rep sought for Valley Air District advisory group

By Monica Velez

Merced Sun-Star, Thursday, April 27, 2017

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District is seeking two people to represent Merced County and Madera County on its Environmental Justice Advisory Group.

Residents who have experience in air quality issues and representing low-income or ethnic communities are encouraged to apply for the volunteer positions.

The Environmental Justice Advisory Group, or EJAG, works to educate the public and community stakeholders about air quality and current Valley Air District activities. The group also reviews and provides feedback on the district's programs and strategies.

Applications can be submitted to the Valley Air District at 1990 E Gettysburg, Fresno, CA 93726 before 5 p.m. of May 18. For more information on EJAG or for an application go to www.valleyair.org/ejag.

Green fleet: Clovis Police Department purchases additional electric motorcycles, cars

For the Clovis Independent

In the Fresno Bee, Wednesday, April 26, 2017

More Clovis Police officers are patrolling the city while watching their carbon footprint, thanks to the recent purchase of two Zero Electric motorcycles and two electric Ford Focus sedans.

The department unveiled the new electric vehicles last month, adding to the current electric fleet of five Zero motorcycles purchased in August 2014 — making it the largest fleet of the bikes in the United States.

The motorcycles allow officers to patrol streets, parks, bike paths, shopping centers and community events without polluting or generating noise. The electric Fords will be used by support staff to carry out their daily responsibilities in Fresno County, officials said.

All nine electric vehicles have been purchased using San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Public Benefit Grants instead of taxpayer dollars, officials said. To keep the money in town, Clovis Police purchased the bikes locally from Eckhaus Fleet and the cars from Future Ford of Clovis.