

VALLEY AIR NEWS

May 2022



South Central Fresno Lawnmower Trade-In Event was a Success

Almost 100 residents turned in their old polluting mower and received a new Stihl cordless electric mower at the first South Central Fresno Lawnmower Trade-In Event on Saturday, May 14, at the Alert-O-Lite True Value Store.

To participate, the residents had to live within the South Central Fresno AB 617 boundary and bring an old gas-powered lawnmower. The event was part of the Valley Air District's AB 617 efforts to reduce emissions in that particular community.

Community residents who did not make it to the event can still participate in the program, which is an extension of the District's residential Clean Green Yard Machine Program, while funding is available. The District offers a 100% rebate (up to \$500) on electric lawnmowers with a trade-in of a gas mower to any resident living within the SC Fresno AB 617 boundary. (Check here to see if you live in the boundary: community.valleyair.org/checkfresno) To learn more about the program and apply, visit: valleyair.org/CGYM.



AB 617 Steering Committee Holds First In-person Meeting

For over a year, the Arvin/Lamont AB 617 Community Steering Committee (CSC) has only met through the online video platform called Zoom. When CSC members discussed and voted on the boundary and charter, it was through Zoom. They also learned about emissions, regulations and enforcements in the Arvin and Lamont communities, via Zoom. That changed last April 27th, when the Arvin/Lamont CSC met for the first time in person at the Arvin Veteran's Hall. In fact, the Arvin/Lamont CSC was the first one in the state to reconvene an in-person meeting since the pandemic started about two years ago.

During the meeting, the main activity called on CSC members to review, discuss and provide feedback on the more than 20 possible measures that might be included in the Community Emissions Reduction Plan. There were six stations with all the measures posted on the walls around them. CSC members moved freely around the room, visiting the stations to discuss the various measures with staff from the Valley Air District, California Air Resources Board and partner agencies like the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

While it was exciting to meet in person, the CSC has resumed virtual meetings on Zoom.

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