

Action Summary Minutes  
San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**April 7, 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 10:04 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
	Matthew Tuttle	CIG (A)	Fresno
Kern	John Sanders	EIG (P)	Bakersfield
	Orchel Krier	CIG (P)	Bakersfield
Kings	Patricia Matthews	CIG (P)	Fresno
Madera	Laura Gutile	IAIG (A)	Fresno
	Jeff Troost	CIG (P)	Fresno
San Joaquin	Roger Hoffdahl	IAIG (P)	Modesto
	Ben Cantu	CIG (P)	Modesto
Stanislaus	Chris Savage	IAIG (A)	Modesto
	Jami Aggers	EIG (P)	Modesto
Tulare	Fernando Rios	IAIG (P)	Bakersfield
	Dennis Tristao	EIG (A)	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 MARCH 3, 2026

Ms. Matthews asked for member comments on the minutes from the March 3, 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 the time allotted for public comments on this item.

6. CHAIR COMMENTS

Ms. Matthews welcomed the committee members.

7. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/APCO COMMENTS

Deputy APCO, Sheraz Gill provided the CAC with updates on recent District activities, including newly accepted funding from the Tulare County Association of Governments to support incentive-based programs such as vehicle repair, replacement, and electric vehicle charging. He also noted the conclusion of the 2025-2026 wood burning season, ongoing advocacy efforts to secure continued incentive funding, and preparation of the District's Annual Report to the Community, which will be presented to the Governing Board later this month.

*This item was taken out of order.*

11. MOBILE SOURCE UPDATE

Michelle Buffington, Chief of CARB's Mobile Source Control Division, provided an overview of current mobile source priorities, including the State's "Drive Forward" initiative, implementation of major incentive programs, and the Clean Truck Check heavy-duty inspection program.

Mr. Cunha expressed concern that California's truck emissions rules could delay shipments and disrupt the transport of perishable goods. He asked whether packing houses will be responsible for checking compliance. Ms. Buffington clarified that trucks were not stopped at the border for smog checks, that the rules were intended to protect public health, and that any reported delays should be shared for investigation.

Mr. Tristao asked how truck emissions rules are enforced and whether the California Highway Patrol is responsible. Ms. Buffington explained that enforcement is handled by the California Air Resources Board, not CHP. Trucks may be checked at the border, and if found non-compliant, they receive a citation but are still allowed to enter the state, conduct business, and address the citation afterward.

Mr. Sanders stated that emissions goals had largely already been met and questioned the need for stricter regulations. He shared concerns that added requirements could increase costs and harm small businesses, farmers, and truckers, particularly through frequent testing and fees.

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Christian Bisher, Resident

#### 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. He noted that, as part of the 2024 PM2.5 Plan, the District is requesting a 5-year extension of the attainment deadline for the 2012 PM2.5 standard from December 31, 2025, to 2030. He also reported on recent amendments to Rule 4905 (Natural Gas-Fired, Fan-Type Central Furnaces), a proposed update to Rule 4101 (Visible Emissions), and ongoing research and stakeholder engagement related to wood-burning devices and conservation practices.

Mr. Tristao asked for clarification on amendments to Rule 4101 and asked how it differs from current visual emissions evaluator requirements. Mr. Franquist explained it replaces in-person EPA Method 9 training visits with a virtual reality option, making certification more accessible and less time-consuming. Mr. Hayashi added that the change reduces travel costs and staffing burdens while benefiting both agencies and industry, since the current system requires significant time and expense due to limited training locations. Mr. Tristao then expressed support for the proposal, calling it more convenient and a positive use of technology, and suggested the committee consider consensus support for the modification.

After discussion, a consensus of the CAC was taken to support the amendments to Rule 4101 (Visible Emissions) due to the time savings and increased efficiency for both District staff and Valley businesses.

#### 10. SB 253/261 PRESENTATION

Yvan Delgado, Air Pollution Specialist with CARB, presented an overview of California's climate disclosure laws under SB 253 and SB 261, including applicability thresholds, reporting requirements, recent amendments under SB 219, and the current status of implementation.

Mr. Troost asked for clarification on "scope three" indirect emissions. Mr. Delgado explained that scope three includes up to 15 categories of indirect emissions, such as supply chain activities and product use, and noted that CARB is using workshops, public input, and estimation methods due to measurement challenges. Mr. Troost asked for confirmation that suppliers' emissions are included, and Delgado confirmed they are counted within scope three to avoid double counting.

Mr. Cunha raised concerns that CARB's proposed scope three emissions requirements would overreach regulatory authority, increase costs, and place excessive reporting burdens on businesses by tracking detailed supply chain and product information. Mr. Ryan Schauland, CARB Manager of Emissions Data Quality Assurance Section, responded that CARB is not seeking highly detailed tracking of individual transactions, but rather higher-level, aggregated data to protect confidentiality, and noted that similar scope three reporting requirements already exist in other countries.

*This item was taken out of order.*

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

Shelah Ott, Air Quality Specialist at CARB, provided a verbal update on CARB's recent and upcoming actions.

Mr. Sanders asked for clarification on SB 1137 and whether it allows sensitive receptors to be placed near oil wells in a way that could impact oil production. He also requested an explanation of "improving organizational operations criteria" referenced in a January 28, 2026 memo from Dr. Cliff, seeking clarity on how it is defined and applied. Ms. Ott acknowledged the questions and said she would follow up with additional information.

Mr. Tristao thanked Ms. Ott for the very comprehensive report.

12. UPDATE ON ALTERNATIVES TO OPEN AG BURNING AND DISCUSS ADVOCACY EFFORTS FOR INCENTIVE FUNDING

Todd DeYoung, Director of Grants and Incentives, and Mark Montelongo, Director of Policy and Government Affairs, provided an update on the San Joaquin Valley's state-mandated agricultural open burning phaseout and Ag Burning Alternatives program.

Mr. Cunha suggested updating the presentation to clarify that funding also includes significant contributions from the grower community, not just the District or state. He also proposed forwarding a letter supporting staff's emergency recommendations related to the ag burn issue to the Governor, CARB Board and key legislative members. Mr. DeYoung agreed, noting that grant programs typically require 30–70% cost-sharing from applicants and confirmed the additional funding context would be included.

Ms. Gutile thanked staff for their presentation and emphasized the importance of securing funding to continue air quality measures, particularly for the agricultural community, and expressed appreciation for their efforts.

Mr. Savage expressed support and praised the District's funding efforts. He also suggested that future programs should include "compliance off-ramps" in case funding

becomes unavailable, noting that long-term financial assumptions may not be reliable and warrant further consideration.

The following individual provided public comment during this item:

- Christian Bisher, Resident

*Moved:* Cunha

*Seconded:* Tuttle

*Ayes:* Cunha, Gutile, Hoffdahl, Savage, Rios, Sanders, Aggers, Tristao, Tuttle, Krier, Matthews, Cantu

*Nays:* None

***Motion unanimously carried for the CAC to submit a letter to the Governor, CARB Board, and Legislature, advocating for \$75 million in annual incentive funding for five years to support continued implementation of alternatives to agricultural open burning.***

13. AB 617 IMPLEMENTATION UPDATES

Stephanie Ng, Director of Community Strategies and Resources, provided an update on AB 617 Community Air Protection Program activities. She noted that agency partners in Kern County, including the City of Arvin, City of Shafter, and Kern County Public Works, are continuing work on sidewalk, road, and bike lane improvement projects. Brian Moore, Manager for CARB's Office of Community Air Protection, provided an update on the third AB 617 consultation group meeting on March 25, focused on reviewing and improving the group's draft charter, and noted it will be held both in-person in Sacramento and virtually.

14. OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS REPORTS

Jaime Holt, Chief Communications Officer, reported that the residential wood smoke reduction season concluded on February 28, with an end-of-season report to be presented in the coming months. She also shared that the District is conducting Valley-wide outreach for the Clean Green Yard Machine program, offering rebates for electric lawn equipment, and is preparing for spring outreach events such as Earth Day and Air Quality Awareness Week, encouraging members to share local opportunities for District participation and public education.

15. CAC MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Tristao wished to thank the CARB staff for their level of staff participation during today's meeting.

Mr. Tuttle shared his appreciation to CARB for their participation.

16. VOLUNTEER TO PRESENT REPORT DURING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.