

State of California
Air Resources Board

BOARD ITEM SUMMARY

ITEM # 20-4-1: Public Meeting to Consider Health Evaluation of Air Quality and Climate Regulations and Programs

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

The California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) staff recommends that the Board adopt the proposed resolution.

DISCUSSION:

CARB regulations protect human health and the environment and have been successful in providing health benefits for over 50 years. Staff currently evaluate a limited number of health benefits from CARB regulations based on reduced illness and deaths attributed to lower levels of PM 2.5 and NO_x emissions. To more comprehensively explain the full suite of benefits from CARB regulations and policies, staff are exploring ways to expand health evaluation approaches and analysis tools to reflect a broader range of benefits including:

- Additional pollutant reductions
- Reduced climate change impacts
- Increased physical activity and access to green space
- Additional reductions in adverse health outcomes including asthma, neurological and nervous system effects, reduced work and school loss days and avoided cancer risk
- Benefits from reducing additional sources of pollution

SUMMARY AND IMPACTS:

Expanding the health evaluation approaches and analysis tools for CARB regulations and policies will more accurately reflect the full range of health benefits to communities throughout the state.