



Natomas Garden & Arts Club
“Connecting & Enriching the Community through
Gardening & the Arts
<https://natomasgac.org>

February 25, 2021

California Air Resources Board
Clerks' Office
1001 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Support for Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's Year 3 Community Nominations under AB617

Dear Board Members of the California Air Resources Board:

The Natomas Garden & Arts Club is pleased to submit a letter of support for inclusion of additional communities in Year 3 of the AB617 program within the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD). As part of SMAQMD's efforts, we have provided community input on the boundaries for the North Area of Sacramento as part of their revised proposal submitted on November 13, 2020.

We strongly urge you to select additional Sacramento communities for inclusion in year 3 of the program, in particular the northern area of Sacramento. Sacramento is ranked as the 5th most polluted metropolitan region for ozone as ranked by the American Lung Association. CalEnviro Screen ranks many of our neighborhoods in the top 25% of the statewide pollution burden. The South Natomas, Gardenland, and Northgate communities in the north area of Sacramento are bounded by multiple freeways. The main thoroughfares in our area are Truxel Road and Northgate Blvd. Neither are conducive to walking or bicycle riding due to the traffic and lack of pedestrian-friendly engineering. This lack of bicycle and walking opportunities creates more people using cars for short trips, exacerbating the pollution from cars. Including the northern area of Sacramento as an AB617 community will bring needed air quality monitoring and air pollution emission reduction strategies and incentives to our neighborhoods.

We strongly urge your selection of the North area of Sacramento for Year 3 and allocation of necessary funding for implementation. Your investment will help us improve our community's public health and maximize efforts to reduce pollution burdens in our community. Should you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your consideration and this tremendous opportunity.

Sincerely,
Amie Tokuhama Chapman, President
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