

December 9, 2019

Chair Mary Nichols  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Notice of Public Meeting to Consider Assembly Bill 617 Community Air Protection Program - Selection of 2019 Communities**

Dear Chair Nichols,

We commend the Valley Air District and CARB staff on working collaboratively with San Joaquin Valley stakeholders, residents, businesses, environmental advocates, and community groups to further advance the goals of the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program.

As local community partners, advocates, and residents within the City of Stockton, we want to express our strong support for Southwest Stockton as a community for the Draft 2019 Community Recommendations for AB 617. We are seeking both the deployment of a community air monitoring campaign and the development of a community emissions reduction program for the neighborhoods. We are committed to promoting resident participation and to support community capacity building.

The surrounding communities of the Port of Stockton includes a Census Tract which is bordered by Interstate-5 (I-5), Highway 4, and the San Joaquin River. At the Port community alone, according to CalEnviroScreen, there's a population of approximately 6,692 with a score of 100 for Pollution Burden percentile and a 96 to 100% Population Characteristics percentile. The PM 2.5 and diesel amount to 84% and 74% and has a higher than 96 percentile for asthma and cardiovascular rates.

The City of Stockton has built trust and momentum among residents and established effective relationships among city government and community partners. The partnerships and collaboration strengthened by the TCC Planning grant that Stockton was awarded last year, would be leveraged and sustained through the AB 617 CAPP. With this program, there's potential to lower carbon emissions and protect the community's health for generations to come. We wholeheartedly support Southwest Stockton as a community for the Draft 2019 Community Recommendations for AB 617 Community Air Protection Program

Sincerely,

Elvira Ramirez  
Executive Director  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton

Dillon Delvo

Executive Director  
Little Manila Rising

Yolanda Park  
Director  
EJ58 of Café Coop

Kenda Templeton  
Executive Director  
P.U.E.N.T.E.S

Christina Peoples  
Director of Local Policy  
Public Health Advocates

Justina Caras  
Outreach Manager  
Rising Sun Center for Opportunity

Jasmine Leek  
Manager Director  
Third City Coalition

Esperanza Vielma  
Executive Director  
EJCW &  
President  
Café Coop