



Riverside County Medical Association

3393 Jurupa Avenue, Riverside, California 92506

Phone (951) 686-3342 • Fax (951) 686-1692

e-mail: rcma1@rcmanet.org • www.rcmanet.org

OFFICERS

Melanie S. Crane, M.D.

President

Joseph E. Scherger, M.D.

President-Elect

Raj K. Sindher, M.D.

Secretary-Treasurer

Timothy D. Watson, M.D.

Immediate Past-President

Dolores L. Green

Executive Director

BOARD OF COUNCILORS

Bakhtiar Ahmad, M.D.

Sarah Chae, M.D.

Raymund Cordero, M.D.

David W. Duffner, M.D.

Bruce R. Holmblad, M.D.

Ressia Lee, M.D.

Michael D. Molinari, M.D.

Michael N. Nduati, M.D.

Arnold D. Tabuenca, M.D.

March 14, 2016

Mary Nichols

Chair

California Air Resources Board

1001 I Street

Sacramento, CA 95812

Dear Chairwoman Nichols:

On behalf of Riverside County Medical Association (RCMA), and its 1200 practicing physicians throughout Riverside County, I write to express my concern that the recently-released California Air Resources Board "Staff Report: Analysis of Sites for the Southern California Consolidation Project" recommends the El Monte facility be relocated to California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (Cal Poly) instead of the University of California, Riverside (UCR).

In reading the report, it appears the staff recommendation ultimately chose Cal Poly solely based on proximity to the current El Monte facility. The report also downplayed the importance of being located next to a research university. While the current CARB staff sentiment of commute time is indeed an important factor, the framing of the timing and transition period did not seem to be presented in obtaining their opinions, therefore we feel that a re-evaluation should occur.

Moreover, the staff sentiment and commute distance for current employees should be only one of the factors based in the analysis of the long term impacts for a CARB relocation. A cost analysis of the sites (which was not included in the staff report), the research merit of the host institution, and interactions with industry and the public should all be important considerations in this decision for the long-term benefit to the State of California and its residents.

UCR's Center for Environmental Research and Technology (CE-CERT) is a national leader in understanding atmospheric processes, alternative fuels and emissions, smart transportation and connected vehicles. UCR also has a budding School of Medicine focused on the health of our community and a School of Public Policy to offer ample education and joint research opportunities that align closely with CARB's mission. There is really no comparison.

Mary Nichols, Chair
California Air Resources Board
March 14, 2016
Page -2-

RCMA feels it is very important for the facility to be located near a research university. RCMA works closely with the UCR School of Medicine and having CARB in Riverside would greatly facilitate further collaborations.

I urge you to take a critical look at the staff report and its underlying motives. Finally, I respectfully request the CARB Board select UCR as the site for the new CARB facility.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dolores L. Green", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dolores L. Green
Executive Director