

From: [Mark Olson](#)
To: [ARB Clerk of the Board](#)
Subject: Re: Technical Issue with Commenting Form
Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2021 5:28:48 AM

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Thank you so much for your prompt and helpful response. My comment is below. If you could please confirm receipt and submission, I would greatly appreciate it. Thank you!

Subject: Priority Community for Community Air Protection Planning

Message:

Dear Board Members:

I write to urge that East Oakland be named a priority community for community-based air quality planning under Assembly Bill 617.

East Oakland residents face some of the heaviest pollution burdens in California, with truly dire impacts on community health. On the Office of Environmental Health and Hazard Assessments score card, “CalEnviroscreen”, the census tracts that make up the East Oakland 880 corridor score among the state’s worst for diesel pollution and asthma. These same neighborhoods are burdened by industrial pollution, as well.

This pollution has and is badly hurting community health. These same census tracts are among the roughly 10% of California’s communities with the highest rates of asthma hospitalization. And right now, bad air is putting residents at higher risk of worse outcomes from the COVID 19 pandemic, which is a special concern because East Oakland has more than 8 times as many confirmed COVID cases as wealthier parts of the city.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mark Olson
Oakland Resident