TESTIMONY: Participation in AB617 CSC
CARB Meeting 10/14/2021

Good evening Members of the Board,

My name is Silvia Calzada, a life-time constituent of District 1 and a patient with Asthma.
As a resident of National City for more than 25 years, a neighborhood to the Port of San Diego, I understood the impact its decision-making will have on my **family's present and future** when creating the Community Emissions Reduction Program for the Portside Environmental Justice Neighborhoods .

For this main reason, I not only became a member of the AB617 Community Steering Committee, but also of the CERP, Land-Use and MCAS Subcommittees to share my voice. My participation was not only an educational opportunity but also an empowering one.

I appreciate the **Collaborative and Inclusive Process** along with the improvement in Transparency**.**

Collaborative and Inclusive Process

- The effective, professional leadership of the committee chair(s) promoting participation from all levels of identities has helped **deliver my voice on the issues of discussion creating** trust and confidence in the process. Although there were few challenges in overcoming competing priorities and institutional differences of thought, it opened up a bridge to a positive dialogue as well.
- The inclusion of language access with its efficient translation services, verbal and written, opened and delivered a space for other members to fearlessly share their voice in their own native language.

Transparency

The improvement in prioritizing transparency was a valuable step forward. One important element was the transparency in communication between agencies, stakeholders and community members to openly and honestly share information in order to improve outcomes and the quality of this plan. Also, delivering clear and specific, performance measurement and assessment is fundamental to the creation of effective and efficient system(s) and structure(s) being set in place.

Thank you to the Board for the freedom to share my VOICE!