

March 17, 2017

CARB Board Meeting

El Monte (9480 Telestar Avenue)

Members of the Board:

My name is **Ron Loveridge**, a political science professor at UCR. I was a local elected official for 33 years, 19 as Mayor of Riverside and 14 on the Council. I was honored to serve for 20 years on the South Coast District Board and eight years on CARB. I was likewise honored to receive CARB's Haagen-Smit Award in 2012.

2016 marks the 50th academic year in which I have taught at least one course in political science at UCR.

The CARB lab relocation is a 50 year decision. It is a major public investment by the State of California. It is a decision that should not be decided by VMT and commute distance/times. Rather, it should be a decision made in the public interest.

What is the public interest? Here is the most widely accepted definition. It is the Welfare of the general public in which the whole society has a stake and which warrants recognition, promotion, and protection by the government and its agencies.

The public interest in terms of the welfare of the general public is represented in three choices.

The first is a choice between UCR and Cal Poly. It is in the public interest that the CARB labs should be located at a major public research university. As you have heard or read in the letter from President Napolitano, University of California at Riverside is such a choice. Its programs, research, and students will enhance the CARB labs, and the public health of all of us in California.

The second is a choice between the Inland Empire (counties of Riverside and San Bernardino) and Los Angeles County. There is near unanimous agreement that California is divided by income between coastal and inland counties. The Inland Empire is made up of 4.5 million people. Whatever the income measurements, the Inland Empire lags behind the counties of Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura. It is time for the State of California to invest in its inland counties, to raise their household incomes.

And the third choice is between Riverside and Pomona. Riverside is the largest city in the Inland Empire. It is a city that has long championed

clean air. It took place at UCR with the leadership of John Middleton, Jim Pitts, Art Winer, and now Matt Barth. It took place in citizen advocacy groups such as Clean Air Now. It took place when Mayor Ben Lewis declared a state of emergency and sued EPA. It took place in the City with the national green fleet of the year award. It took place in the City's Green Action Plan--Riverside is the only city in the Inland Empire with a STAR leadership ranking. It took place in 2015 when Riverside won the CARB Cool California Challenge. In summary, Riverside has walked the talk of being an advocate for clean air.

Equally important, Riverside and the Inland Empire are still impacted by bad air, with too many days exceeding health limits. Every morning when I walk Mt Rubidoux, I can see the South Coast monitoring station that measured the worst particulate matter in the South Coast Basin. The Inland Empire is being defined by one warehouse after another--these warehouses mean trucks and pollution. For reasons of public health and quality of life, Riverside has a high stake in the regulation of mobile sources.

The public interest choices--where the welfare of the general public is at stake--are those of UCR, the Inland Empire, and the City of Riverside.

Thank you for your attention.