

---

---

# **SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

---

---

Mark White, Chair  
Richard Hunn, Vice Chair  
Thomas Malson  
Laura Nickerson  
Eric Rivero-Montes  
Shelby Witherby

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:  
County of Sacramento  
City of Sacramento  
City of Isleton  
City of Folsom  
City of Galt  
City of Elk Grove

## **MINUTES**

**Monday, August 16, 2021, 6 pm  
Via Zoom**

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1608752767?pwd=cW9LaXFXL0ZkaE95ZFFReURtTlh3QT09>

Meeting ID: 160 875 2767

Passcode: 548412

One tap mobile

+16692545252,,1608752767#,,,,\*548412# US (San Jose)

+16692161590,,1608752767#,,,,\*548412# US (San Jose)

## **ITEM**

- 1 Call to Order – Commissioner White
- 2 Roll Call – Staff Secretary  
Present: Mark White, Richard Hunn, Tom Malson, Laura Nickerson, Eric Rivero- Montes
- 3 Introduction of Commissioners
- 4 Public Comment  
No public comment.
- 5 Air Quality Planning- Renee Devere-Okie, Program Manager and Clint Holtzen, Planning Manager, Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) and Mark Loutzenhiser, Division Manager, Program Coordination, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQD),

Mark Loutzenhiser reviewed the Air Conformities Geographies by Attainment Area Designation map of the 6 county areas. Standards cover Ozone, Carbon Monoxide and Particulate Matter PM -10 and PM 2.5.

There is a link between Air Quality Planning and Transportation Planning in order to reach conformity. SACOG is the federal designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the 6 county and 22 cities region. They are responsible for development of the Long Range Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) which is a long range plan that looks at projected land use, population growth, and transportation. If a city, county or public agency wants to use federal dollars for transportation funding these projects must be included in SACOG's project list and all transportation projects that are regionally significant must be in the MTP which goes out to 2040. Locally funded projects that do not increase capacity do not get included in the MTP.

Air quality conformity is a federal requirement that requires SACOG to test the Metropolitan Transportation Plan and Amendments to ensure that the projects, when considered collectively, contribute to the air quality improvement goals embodied in the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. Once it's established that the plan meets regional air quality goals, federal agencies certify that the plan is "in conformity". Planning assumptions in conformity involve project identification, criteria pollutants, budget tests (pollutant budget levels, not dollars), years and models.

There is an Ozone SIP Commitment through the program Spare the Air. The largest part of Sacramento Federal Ozone Nonattainment Area Emissions come from On Road sources, (55%). Other sources include aircraft, auto body and gas stations, boilers in building, and consumer products. Some contributors are naturally occurring such as VOCs from tree cover.

Developers will sometimes have SACOG review their plans to make sure Blueprint 2.0 policies are incorporated and SACOG may offer suggestions after they review that would further include Blueprint policies in the land use or phasing strategy of the project plans. The Blueprint vision is to integrate land use and transportation planning to curb sprawl, cut down on vehicle emission and congestion in order to improve the quality of life for residents of the region.

When developing the Vehicle Emission Budget there is multi agency involvement. When attainment of Federal Air Quality Standards is not reached by the deadlines the various agencies look at reducing their piece of the emissions budget pie in transportation or other areas, i.e. stationary sources, paints, architectural coating sources.

Future reductions from mobile sources include: cleaner vehicles, zero emission technologies, reducing VMT through infill, transit and bike/walk opportunities and transportation control measures.

#### AB 617 Community Air Protection Monitoring

The goal of this bill is to bring resources into communities to improve local air quality. Communities recommended for resources were determined by looking at exposure to air pollution, income levels, limited English speaking households, public health indicators, number of parks schools, and daycare.

South Sacramento Florin area was chosen as a priority community. There is now live

community air monitoring in this region.

In SACOG's role as commenting agency they encourage charging stations, solar, and other construction and long term mitigation strategies in land use. SEC commissioners commented that there are very large projects planned at the local level that make assumptions that the public will be taking transit and using EV cars and are building this into the impact analysis. There is no mechanism to require implementation of these assumptions. The SMAQD would typically comment on this in a project if they review it.

Wildfires can be considered an exemption in the attainment formula, called an exceptional event. They must be documented as a source of a high data point in order to be excluded in the emission budget. Increasing temperature encourages an increase in ozone but there's a point where that analysis breaks down so temperatures cannot be identified as sole contributor. Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMTs) have actually rebounded/ increased during COVID 19 work-at-home because people are doing more midday trips for errands instead of combining errands in their commute. Holiday traffic is increasing mid-week, not just on weekends. Transit hesitancy stills exists at a health level. A Telework Study is being done by SACOG as telework looks like it will remain a part of business models going forward. Telework cannot/should not be assumed in long range plans as means of budgeting for air quality.

6 Approve July 2021 Minutes

This item will carry forward to August agenda.

7 Report Back on SEC Commissioner Monitoring of Environmental Issues and Agencies

City of Sacramento has created Environmental Justice Committee and Environmental Justice Fact Book. Air, toxic materials and maps and graphics.

Possible presentation on data of AB 617 programs.

8 Commissioner Comments

9 Adjournment – 7:40 pm. Next Meeting-September 20, 2021 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

*This meeting of the Sacramento Environmental Commission is cablecast LIVE on Metro Cable 14, the local government affairs channel on Comcast, Consolidated Communications and AT&T U-Verse. This meeting is closed captioned and livestreamed at [metro14live.saccounty.net](https://metro14live.saccounty.net).*

*Today's meeting will be repeated Wednesday, July 21 at 2:00 p.m. on Channel 14. This meeting can also be viewed at [youtube.com/metrocable14](https://youtube.com/metrocable14)*

*This meeting is being audiotaped/videotaped in its entirety and will be available at the Environmental Management Department office. Agendas are posted in the offices of the City of Sacramento, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and also on the EMD Website at: [emd.saccounty.net](https://emd.saccounty.net). Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.*