

Air Pollution Control District Community Advisory Council Statement of Concern

As reported by Kevin Wright and Marc Chytilo, duly appointed CAC spokespersons to this item

Transportation Control Measures:

The Air Pollution Control District Community Advisory Council remains highly concerned that the omission of any new Transportation Control Measures in the 2004 Clean Air Plan limits the effectiveness of the Clean Air Plan to address future emissions growth and jeopardizes the County's future air quality status. The Community Advisory Council discussed the alarming rate of growth in vehicle miles traveled as compared with population growth in the County, and observed that land use patterns and the type of growth experienced in different communities is contributing to the growth in vehicle miles traveled and thus traffic congestion.

Chapter 7 Land Use Strategies

The direct link between land use decisions and future air quality trends led the Community Advisory Council to enthusiastically endorse Chapter 7 of the Clean Air Plan. The Community Advisory Council believes that local jurisdictions should pay more attention to the air quality consequences of land use planning decisions, and strive to ensure that future development is planned and designed to lessen emissions. Thus, the Community Advisory Council is gravely concerned that recent direction by the APCD Board of Directors to reduce the significance of land use strategies in the Draft Clean Air Plan's Chapter 7 will adversely affect future emissions growth and air quality. We implore the APCD Board to advance air quality objectives through meaningful participation in the land use and transportation planning processes, which will enhance and expand the quality of living and working conditions. The regulated industry is particularly supportive of expanding APCD involvement in and oversight of land use planning processes because this takes some of the burden off of them to achieve air quality goals, and will reduce the rate of growth in vehicle miles driven in the county. The CAC has discussed many programs to achieve this, and believes that it is inappropriate for the Board to totally divorce the SBCAPCD from involvement in issues where land use and air quality intersect.