CLEAN AIR ROOMS PILOT PROGRAM

Board of Directors
Santa Barbara County
Air Pollution Control District
Our Mission: To protect the people and the environment of Santa Barbara County from the effects of air pollution.

Aeron Arlin Genet
Director / APCO

Lyz Bantilan / Public Information Officer
June 17, 2021
OVERVIEW

- Wildfire Smoke and Health
- Benefits of Air Purifiers
- Proposed Communities for Pilot
- Program Logistics
- Associated Outreach
- Program Funding
Smoke and ash contain particulate matter (PM)
PM harms the lungs and heart
Sensitive groups are especially vulnerable to health effects
SMOKE IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

- Wildfires are year-round, smoke is more sustained
- Smoke from fires elsewhere can greatly affect our area
- Significant spikes in PM2.5 during August-October 2020, from out-of-county wildfires
CLEAN AIR ROOMS

- The best protection against wildfire smoke: stay indoors as much as you can
- Use HEPA devices to create “clean air rooms”
- CARB maintains a list of devices approved for sale in the State
COMMUNITIES FOR PILOT PROGRAM

- Recognizing community needs: underserved/disadvantaged, smaller population, outdoor agricultural workers
- Use State tools to assess for pollution burden and population characteristics
- With more funding in the future, District could expand this pilot program to other areas of the county
PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- Purchase HEPA devices & replacement filters – goal is approx. 1,000 units
  - Specs include: certified by CARB, Energy Star rating, indicator light for filter replacement, quiet operation
- Distribution on a summer weekend day
  - First-come, first serve
  - One per household
OUTREACH

- Work with partners to promote the program ahead of distribution day
  - English, Spanish, and Mixteco outreach
- Raise awareness of benefits of air purifiers to all Santa Barbara County residents
- Share program successes at a future Board meeting
FISCAL IMPACT

- Funding of $100,000
  - District’s Clean Air Fund
  - District’s Operational Reserves Fund Balance
- Funded and implemented in FY 21-22
RECOMMENDATION

- Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the District to establish and implement the Clean Air Rooms Pilot Program
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