

**MINUTES OF THE TASK FORCE MEETING  
BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT ENVIRONMENTAL  
JUSTICE RESPONSE TASK FORCE**

**Wednesday, July 20, 2016**

**TASK FORCE MEETING**

The Bayview Hunters Point Environmental Justice Response Task Force convened the monthly meeting in the Southeast Community College, Alex Pitcher Room at 1800 Oakdale, Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, California, on the above date.

- I. Welcome and Introductions of participants
- II. Agenda review
- III. Celebrating one-year anniversary of the Task Force

Bradley Angel of Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice provided an update on the first year anniversary of the Task Force. The Task Force was launched in July 2015 with a grant from the CalEPA Environmental Justice Small Grants program, and CalEPA just awarded Greenaction a new grant to expand the effectiveness of the Task Force.

Task Force accomplishments in the first year included:

1. The Task Force was created with strong community and government agency support and continues as a multi-stakeholder community task force that meets monthly in BVHP;
2. We created the [www.bvhp-ivan.org](http://www.bvhp-ivan.org) website, which has enabled residents to file pollution complaints from their computer or smart phone. A phone complaint line was also created. About 90 complaints have been filed online, with approximately one dozen complaints phoned in and dozens more filed verbally at the Task Force meetings. We were also able to work with the IVAN network technical support team to make the website fully language accessible in Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese;
3. Thousands of BVHP residents were educated through our multilingual outreach (English, Chinese, Spanish) about the Task Force and website;
4. We recruited academic and government partners to participate in a professional problem-solving team for the Task Force, and it continues working with the community, government and businesses to track, document and encourage responses to pollution complaints. This team met by phone approximately every two weeks to evaluate and improve its operations and effectiveness;
5. Pollution reduction successes include:
  - A multi-agency partnership with the community has been established to address illegal dumping throughout BVHP. San Francisco Department of the Environment and Literacy for Environmental Justice stepped up to help lead this effort. This multi-agency partnership was groundbreaking as it was created due to the large number of complaints filed about illegal dumping, and agencies that previously had not worked on this issue joined with other agencies to make a difference. For example, the California Air Resources Board is providing video cameras to monitor frequent illegal dumping hotspots;

- After residents of the Little Hollywood and Visitacion Valley neighborhoods voiced major concerns around odor, noise, dust, and pests from the Recology solid waste transfer facility, government agencies came together to investigate and develop solutions with the community and Recology. Despite strong community complaints at the Task Force meetings, Recology kept attending and responded in a positive way. Community leaders stated that the solutions of some issues only happened due to the Task Force;
- The Air District has taken enforcement action against developers and contractors at Candlestick Point and Huntersview Public Housing for failure to comply with dust mitigation plans;
- The Air District and San Francisco Department of Public Health increased inspections during night time and weekends in response to community complaints;
- The California Air Resources Board, in collaboration with the Air District and Department of Public Works, is placing “No-idling” signs at diesel idling hotspots throughout BVHP at locations identified by residents;
- The US EPA went beyond their normal regulatory role to investigate several complaints;
- The Task Force has provided, for the first time in San Francisco, a forum for information and discussion about the threat posed by sea level rise and climate change to the many toxic and radioactive contamination sites along the waterfront in and near BVHP;
- University partners from UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz all got involved in supporting the Task Force’s problem-solver team and technical research support;
- Agencies have improved response time to complaints and have increased coordination and collaboration to address issues.

#### IV. Bay Area Air Quality Management District Presentation

Guy Gimlen, Senior Air Quality Engineer in the Rule Development group, gave a presentation on new regulations to address particulates such as dust, given these small particles have potentially significant health impacts and there are more areas in which to get significant particulate matter (PM) reductions.

The current regulation was adopted September 2012. While the PM requirements are as stringent as any in the state, the Air District wants to hear how this regulation is working and what concerns are not yet adequately addressed. It seeks to make updates to address on-going concerns throughout the Bay Area with fugitive dust.

The current focus of the new regulations will be three new rules to:

- Strengthen **controls and limits for “track-out”** (dirt, mud and debris adheres to trucks or tires, falls onto roads and becomes pulverized into dust). This would apply mainly to construction sites, bulk material supply, landfills and quarries, and require better cleaned truck rumble strips and improved truck wash systems (with recycled water). With these measures, an expected 12.5% reduction in dust emissions from the local roads is projected;

- **Control and limit roofing asphalt fumes and smoke** by requiring low-fuming asphalt (which appears to be 60-80% effective) in such roofing operations;
- **Controlling and limiting fugitive dust from coal/coke and bulk material handling facilities** (including at refineries, shipping facilities, cement kilns and forging operations). The developing proposal would have visible dust emission limits (no visible dust that exceeds 10% opacity for more than 3 min in any hour and no visible dust beyond property line) and required control methods, such as wind screens and watering for existing facilities. For new facilities, controls would require complete enclosures. There will be general housekeeping items. For example, facilities must clean up spilled material and pave vehicle access areas.

The new regulation will not change general visible dust emission limits because these are already consistent with all the other similar requirements in California. Also, a general fugitive dust rule is not being proposed at this time (including from quarries or landfills, construction sites, or big open areas used for storage). The reason is that the most common way to control fugitive dust in these situations is to wet the material down to prevent wind erosion, but given that California is currently in the fourth year of a drought, the water scarcity problem is seen to outweigh general fugitive dust problems.

The Air District's next steps include: conducting workshops in fall; making adjustments as needed; completing environmental and economic impact analyses; and, holding formal public hearing by end of 2016 or early 2017. For comments, questions, input, or concerns, contact Guy Gimlen at 415-749-4734 or ggimlen@baaqmd.gov.

#### V. Strategizing for strengthening the Task Force

One main question is: how do we get more people involved and more people to start reporting violations themselves/engaged with the meetings?

The Air District suggested outreaching to high schools and colleges. Dr. Ray Tompkins mentioned taking advantage of institutions, such as SFSU and CCSF. He also recommended partnering with SF Unified School District to include environmental justice in their curriculum. Other outreach opportunities include: booths at farmer's markets, community events, etc.; events at a local school; and, social media (i.e., Facebook) and media packets.

Marie Harrison of Greenaction requested that each agency help with advertising.

#### VI. Next steps

At the next meeting, time will be allocated to collaboratively establish goals for the next year and brainstorm ways to engage the community.

The next meeting is August 17, 2016, 2-4pm