



*Delta-Sierra Group*  
*Mother Lode Chapter*  
*P.O. Box 9258*  
*Stockton CA 95208*

Chair Mary Nichols  
California Air Resources Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

December 9, 2019

Re: Notice of Public Meeting to Consider Assembly Bill 617 Community Air Protection Program – Selection Of 2019 Communities

Dear Chair Nichols,

The Delta Sierra Group is writing in support of the Southwest Stockton community, and urges the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to select Stockton as a 2019 Community Air Protection Program recipient.

Last year, Stockton had been a strong candidate but was not selected. We hope to see Stockton selected this year so that the important and necessary work can be done to increase community air monitoring and reduce community emissions to improve our air quality.

Southwest Stockton falls within the highest limits of pollution burdens, according to CalEnviroScreen, with an overall score of 100. Southwest Stockton contains communities that are either at or below 80% of the state's median income and have historically been subject to policies that have put them at environmental and social justice disadvantages. The consequences of those policies continue today.

The Delta Sierra Group has members throughout San Joaquin County including those living within and adjacent to the current boundary of the Southwest Stockton program area. Air quality concerns of our members has led our group to recommend and have representatives appointed to the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Citizen's Advisory Committee as well as to the San Joaquin County Council of Government Citizens Advisory Committee. The Sierra Club has a long history of advocating for environmental justice<sup>1</sup> - the right to a clean and healthful environment for all people and the rights of all people to actively participate in the development of rules and plans which is the intent of the AB617 Community Air Protection Program.

Therefore, we add our voice to the support of Southwest Stockton and urge CARB to vote "yes" for selecting Southwest Stockton as a 2019 Community Air Protection Program recipient.

Sincerely,

Mary Elizabeth M.S., R.E.H.S.  
Delta-Sierra Group Conservation Chair

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.sierraclub.org/environmental-justice/history-environmental-justice>