

**Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD)  
Community Advisory Panel (CAP)  
Minutes: 5/21/09**

*In attendance: (\*absent)*

1	West Los Angeles College	Dr. Mark W. Rocha
2	Los Angeles Unified	Glenn Striegler*
3	Culver City Unified	Scott Zeidman
4	City of Culver City	Gary Silbiger (for Andrew Weissman)
5	County of Los Angeles	Leon Freeman

**Homeowners Associations**

6	Windsor Hills	Gary Gless
7	United (View Park)	Theodore Irving
8	Blair Hills	Mary Ann Greene
9	Ladera Heights Civic Assoc.	Carmen Spiva
10	Culver Crest	John Kuechle
11	Baldwin Hills Estates	Ronda Jones
12	Raintree	Ian Cousineau

**Oil Field Landowners**

13	Vickers Group Landowners	Jeff Dritely
14	Cone Trust Landowners	Liz K. Gosnell

**Property Owners who do not belong to an HOA**

15	Home Owner (Non HOA)	George L. Mallory*
16	Homeowner (Non HOA)	Irma Munoz

**Operator**

17	Ombudsperson	Lisa Paillet
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**Community Organizations**

18	Baldwin Hills Conservancy	David McNeill
19	The City Project	Robert Garcia
20	Community Health Councils	Gwendolyn Flynn
21	Windsor Hills Block Club	Toni McDonald-Tabor

**Agency Staff**

Carrie Nagy – Department of Public Health

Cyrus Rangan – Department of Public Health  
Steven Teutsch – Department of Public Health  
Paul Simon, Department of Public Health  
Ed Pupka – South Coast Air Quality Management District  
Susana Franco-Rogan – Department of Regional Planning  
Jose De La Rosa – Department of Regional Planning  
Karly Katona – Second District

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Baldwin Hills Community Advisory Panel (CAP) was called to order at 7:01PM. At the request of Public Health, the meeting started with their presentation regarding health aspects of exposure to toxins. (See Attached). CSD Implementation Update/Reports and Open Q&A were incorporated into this session

B. PRESENTATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

DPH: Underlying risks (smoking, obesity, etc.) and high rates of these risks in this area make it challenging to determine the causality of health issues. Health Assessment can address these issues but one difficulty is that LA County is an urban area.  
CHC has data for a survey using zip code areas.

DPH: Health modeling is nondescript at the outset (lifetime of exposure) Standards for pollutants-what level of chemical is needed to cause a health impact. We don't use baseline number to provide cushion which presumption that it takes into account sensitive receptors.

C. DISCUSSION

The representative from AQMD indicated that an extensive air quality monitoring network exists throughout the County. Individual air samplers can be use to help quantify and identify odor events. There is a lot of different data to look at and use for comparison trends, norms, etc. It also may be possible for the AQMD to conduct their own odor monitoring program for the area surrounding the oil field. The use of localized meteorological conditions could be used to determine what areas surrounding the oil field should be used in an odor monitoring program. AQMD will also be involved in CSD monitoring via established channels and via the MACC.

A CAP member pointed out that he has made numerous complaints to AQMD and requested a sampler. He was told that it is not permissible for private individuals to conduct sampling. AQMD stated that this is incorrect. AQMD has field staff but it should be noted that odors are difficult to track down. They are fleeting and usually described differently. Various tools are used including evacuated glass, clean and sterilized and deployed to community. This method is not used for odors that contain sulfur compounds but there are other tools to get an understanding of chemical compounds. The nose remains the best tool. This sort of monitoring needs to be approved by management.

A member of the community noted that an issue of concern is the 7.5 in a million cancer risk identified in the EIR for the mitigated oil field operations. Although the 7.5 in a million figure is below the 10 in a million cancer risk threshold, there is concern that 7.5 figure is still too high. There is also concern that the health risk assessment in the EIR did not account for terrain. It was suggested that, if possible, the health survey conducted by the Department of Public Health should include review of any data collected as part of an AQMD odor monitoring program, and that the Centers for Disease Control could provide technical assistance with the health survey.

Regarding the health survey, a community member enquired as to whether the survey will look at individual toxins or compounds. DPH clarified that the EPA looks at stuff first, looks together i.e.: lead standard make determination based on trends and technology. Challenges from the modeling side and health issue problem are in establishing causality. Have to be realistic in that there are a lot of unknown variables including chemicals in every day products.

DPH further explained that a health assessment gives you a different picture of health impacts. A similar survey for a community in Colorado is currently going on. It was suggested that the NRDC may have some data. The health assessment will look at specifically data for Los Angeles County and is currently a one-time study. Results however may indicate further study is required. Paul Ferrazzi volunteered to send the Department of Public Health contact information for Endocrine Disruption Center, which may be able to provide additional data.

The CAP asked DPH if the health survey would be affected by the budget situation. DPH clarified that money for the health survey has already been set aside.

DPH noted that the subcommittee should be a relatively small group, preferably five to six people. Once subcommittee members are identified they should contact Cyrus Rangan at 213-738-3220.

The CAP asked AQMD about the procedure to report odor complaints. AQMD's representative indicated that community education needed to be addressed in order to improve communication, and further indicated that it is concerning that the community feels it has not receiving the appropriate level of service. Community education is important. AQMD does conduct town hall meetings to hear and address concerns.

A CAP member pointed out that four drilling permits have been submitted to DOGGR. The CAP wanted to know why they were not informed. Per Regional Planning, the drilling permits are one of several administrative requirements that are pursued simultaneously prior to drilling. Notification was provided in the Annual Drilling Plan. CAP members asked for some other form of advanced notice.

The CAP also asked if AQMD would be participating in meetings of the MACC. AQMD indicated that they will be participating in the MACC going forward. The CAP also asked if AQMD has a role in the permitting of new wells. AQMD noted that there are four volumes of regulations related to storage of VOC materials, how leaks are handled, etc. Permit requirements cover flaring, well installation, sumps, and storage.

Motion was made by Gwendolyn Flynn to form a subcommittee to work with the Department of Public Health on the design of the health survey, and that the subcommittee include other members of the community, like Lark Galloway-Gilliam and Brian Cole, who have knowledge of public health issues. Motion passed.

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

DRP will serve in role as facilitator and encourage an inclusive process

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minute changes - Paul Ferrazzi request to clarify community list to use the Include roll call in meeting minutes

F. ROLL CALL/PANELIST INTRODUCTIONS

G. CSD IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE/REPORTS AND OPEN Q&A (not separately addressed but included in part C)

H. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bylaws subcommittee update-will meet again on June 3<sup>rd</sup> (see above).

PXP is having 180 day required community meeting at the Junior Blind Center on Tuesday, 5/26/09. Newsletter was mailed to property owners within 1000' radius of oil field. It was also posted on the website and both were announced at the last CAP meeting.

There was some discussion over the community meeting notification. Some CAP members felt the notification was inadequate and suggested that in the future an electronic notice be sent to the HOAs, CAP members and government agencies, and that the notice be made available online in a community post with sufficient time for HOAs, etc. to notify community members. Although PXP complied with the noticing requirement pursuant to the CSD, some CAP members suggest that PXP create goodwill by taking extra steps to increase communication with the community.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' office will forward a link to the announcement to all CAP members.

The City of Culver City asked that their civic schedule be taken into consideration when scheduling CAP activities.

I. ACTION ITEMS

AQMD will investigate whether they can get approval to hold a town hall meeting.  
CAP will help identify five to six people to participate in the Health Survey subcommittee.  
Bylaws subcommittee will meet on Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Next CAP meeting will be Thursday, June 25 at 7pm.

Volunteers for the bylaws subcommittee include:

- Gwendolyn Flynn, Community Health Councils
- Susana Franco-Rogan, Department of Regional Planning
- Liz Gosnell, Cone Fee Trust landowner
- John Kuechle, Culver Crest Neighborhood Association
- Irma Munoz, Homeowner (non HOA)
- David McNeill, Baldwin Hills Conservancy
- Lisa Paillet, PXP Ombudsperson

Adjourned 9:00pm





## **Addressing Health Concerns in the Baldwin Hills Community Standards District**

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  
Toxics Epidemiology Program

## **Toxics Epidemiology Program**



- Ability to investigate concerns and to advocate for the environmental health needs of a community
- Most important: We can NOT perform these activities without the direct help of the community!

## **Toxics Epidemiology Program**



- **Mission:** To prevent and to control disease associated with toxic agents in the Los Angeles County population
- **Vision:** Los Angeles is safe from toxic agents so that all persons can live, work and play in a non-hazardous environment

## **Goals of the Department of Public Health with Baldwin Hills**

1. Get to know you!
2. Bring in experts to help us understand technical and scientific issues surrounding this community
3. Investigate health concerns in the community, with your direct help

## **Toxics Epidemiology Program**



- Part of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- Responds to communities, schools, and agencies regarding health concerns and the environment
- Composed of experts in health research, epidemiology, nursing, and medical toxicology

## **Environmental Exposures**



- Best methods for assessing environmental exposures is through environmental monitoring
- Monitoring focuses on volatile organic hydrocarbons (VOCs); particulate matter emissions, and noise
- Monitoring provides information that can be regulated and enforced by environmental laws

### What is an "EIR", and how does it relate to my health?

- "Environmental Impact Report"
- Based on standards for environmental risks & hazards
- Applied to specific regions or communities based on numerous factors

### Health Risk Assessment

- How much risk is acceptable?
- SCAQMD considers > 10 excess cancer cases per million to be a significant cancer risk
- Diesel engines drilling new wells are the sources of the greatest health risk

### The "EIR"

- Conducts "exposure models" based on "worst-case" scenarios: exposure to a chemical continuously for "24/7/365" for 70 years
- Helps define the maximum possible risk
- Health risk in the vicinity of the Inglewood Oil Field is 600-800 excess cancer cases per million

### Health Risk Assessment

- Proposed drilling health risk is 30 excess cancer cases per million
- If it were possible to prevent all human exposure to all hazardous chemicals, there would be no need for risk assessment
- Many harmful toxins occur naturally
- Risk assessment helps regulators identify health hazards and goals for reducing toxic exposures

### Some Perspective on Cancer Risks

- Lifetime risk:
  - Men: 500,000 per 1 million
  - Women: 333,000 in 1 million
- Each year:
  - 4,700 per 1-million people diagnosed with cancer
- Air pollution of South Coast Air Basin:
  - May be responsible for 1,200 cancer cases per 1 million people

### Mitigation Measures

- Install heavy duty diesel catalysts on all drill rig engines to capture 90% of combustion particles
- Install diesel catalysts on all construction equipment that can reduce 85% diesel particles
- Result in reduction of cancer risk to 7.5 excess cases per million



## EIR and Mitigation Measures

*What does this mean for you, and  
for your community?*

## Community Health Assessment

- 3 Components:

1. Analysis of mortality rates & patterns  
(from LA County death certificates)
2. Analysis of cancer rates & patterns  
(from USC Cancer Registry)

## Community Health Assessment

- Purpose: To look specifically at *your* health concerns, including specific health conditions and environmental factors that affect your health
  - (e.g. noise and odors)
- Goal: To include *you*, the community, in the design and development of this health assessment

## Community Health Survey

3. Community-reported health conditions based on data from a planned community health survey

- This part is where *you* come in

## Community Health Assessment

- We want to gather information on:
- Death rates
- Cancer rates
- Health concerns from residents, collected in a planned survey to assess the health status of the community

## Community Health Survey

- Launch Date: mid-2010
- Approx 1,000 adults living near the CSD interviewed by telephone
- Survey offered in English & Spanish
- Survey designed to compare with data we collect in the Los Angeles County Health Survey (LACHS)

## Limitations of Health Survey



- Many different individual and environmental factors influence health
- Health assessments cannot determine specific causes
- The science of epidemiology cannot detect small differences in disease rates from community to community

## Goals of Health Assessment



- Provides a snapshot of current health conditions and quality of life concerns
- Health conditions such as asthma, respiratory illness, etc.
- Odors
- Noise
- Traffic
- Address concerns that are identified in the health working group

## Resources



- Toxics Epidemiology Program  
<http://www.lapublichealth.org/tox>  
(213) 738-3220
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)  
<http://www.aqmd.gov>
- ToxNet – Databases and FAQs  
<http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov>