

## **Community Engagement Plan**

Designing Inclusive and Equitable Engagement for the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative February 28, 2025







The Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Capand-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities.



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## **Definitions**

- Aclima Mobile Node (sometimes called "AMN"): The air quality monitoring sensors that are mounted to Aclima vehicles (Aclima Mobile Platforms). These sensors measure 10 different pollutants.
- Aclima Mobile Platform (sometimes called "AMP"): The Aclima vehicles on which air quality sensors are mounted.
- Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617): Assembly Bill (AB) 617 was enacted to reduce exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution. CARB established the Office of Community Air Protection (OCAP) to implement the law. This first-of-its-kind statewide effort includes community air monitoring, community emissions reduction programs, new requirements for accelerated retrofit of pollution controls on industrial sources, increased penalty fees, greater transparency and availability of air quality and emissions data, and community air grants.
- CalEnviroScreen 4.0: A screening tool developed by the CalEPA and the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment that is used to help identify communities disproportionately burdened by multiple sources of pollution and with population characteristics that make them more sensitive to pollution.
- California Air Resources Board (sometimes called "CARB"):
  The state agency responsible for protecting air quality and reducing air pollution across California. The California Air Resources Board develops and enforces regulations to improve public health and fight climate change and is the lead agency on this project. The California Air Resources Board consists of 14 voting members and two ex officio nonvoting members who are members of the Legislature, one from the Senate and the other from the Assembly.
- Community Engagement Coordinator (sometimes called "CECs"): In some regions, Community Engagement Coordinators may support Engagement Leads to liaise with the project team, particularly in cases where the scope of work exceeds the capacity of Engagement Lead organizations. In some cases, Community Engagement Coordinators may lead engagement efforts for a particular community that was not assigned an Engagement Lead. Community Engagement Coordinators are hired from a project area community and have knowledge of air quality issues and existing community relationships.
- Consistently Nominated Community (sometimes called "CNCs"): A community identified repeatedly by air districts, community organizations and/or community members as needing extra attention to address high levels of air pollution. These communities are nominated to receive resources and programs under state environmental initiatives, but have not yet been selected for those resources.
- Community Air Monitoring Plan (sometimes called "CAMPs"):
  A Community Air Monitoring Plan guides the process for planning and conducting action focused air monitoring. The Community Air Monitoring Plan should document how the team works together to identify objectives, goals, and approaches for air monitoring, and establish a roadmap for how monitoring will be conducted. Com-

munity Air Monitoring Plans can be used in communities selected for the program and can be developed and implemented by Community Air Grant recipients selected for certain types of projects.

- Community Air Protection Program (sometimes called "CAPP"): A statewide program designed to address air pollution in the most impacted communities. It focuses on reducing pollution, improving air quality, and promoting public health in partnership with local communities. CARB established the program to implement the requirements set forth in Assembly Bill 617 to reduce emissions of toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants in communities affected by high cumulative exposure burden.
- Community Emissions Reduction Plan (sometimes called "CERP"): A documented plan, called for by the AB 617 statute for Board selected communities with high cumulative exposure burdens for toxic air contaminants and criteria air pollutants, which has specific requirements. CERPs can be approved by both the air district and the California Air Resources Board.
- Engagement Leads: Trusted community messengers, typically community-based organizations, who lead and facilitate community engagement in the 64 Consistently Nominated Communities to develop Community Air Monitoring Plans.
- Local Air District: A special district in California that monitors air quality in its region, issues permits for stationary sources of pollution, like facilities, administers grants, and implements the Community Air Protection Program. Out of 35 local air districts in California, five are participating in this project.
- Local Community Emissions Reduction Plan (sometimes called "L-CERP"): A set of priority actions to improve local air quality developed and implemented by a Community Air Grantee. A Local Community Emissions Reduction Plan is developed and implemented by community-based organizations or California Native American Tribes.
- Partner Mobile Labs (sometimes called "PMLs"): Three mobile laboratories operated by research institutions that Aclima has partnered with to collect highly sophisticated measurements of a wide range of toxic air contaminants and other pollutants in specific locations.
- Project Expert Group (sometimes called "PEG"): A cross-sector group of representatives from local air districts, community-based organizations, academia, and residents from overburdened communities that guides community engagement and decision-making for this project. Over 50 percent of the Project Expert Group is composed of community members or representatives of community-based organizations.
- Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative (sometimes called "SMMI"): This project, a statewide effort to develop Community Air Monitoring Plans in the 64 Consistently Nominated Communities and conduct mobile air quality monitoring based on these plans.



# An Introduction to the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative

This Community Engagement Plan, developed in collaboration with the Project Expert Group, is designed to guide Engagement Leads to carry out community engagement for the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative. It is also a resource for other interested parties, including community members and local air district staff, to understand the engagement activities that happen in their communities and look at the process from a bird's eye view. This document describes the sequence of engagement activities, explains why engagement is necessary and what it will lead to, and defines the practices that Engagement Leads should follow and why those practices are important.

Section 1 begins with background information on the legislative context that led to this project, and a summary of the project's scope and its goals. It also identifies project area communities, their racial and social characteristics, and how these characteristics inform the overall engagement approach. Section 2 outlines the goals of community

engagement and what types of engagement philosophies guide this project. Section 3 describes what a Community Air Monitoring Plan is, and what level of control community members have over different components of the Community Air Monitoring Plan. This section also provides an overview of how different engagement activities will translate into the content of Community Air Monitoring Plans, and who will be responsible for leading those activities. Section 4 guides Engagement Leads to consider who should be invited to the table for Community Air Monitoring Plan development, and outlines the project's approach to invite in Tribal and Indigenous individuals and groups. Section 5 provides a detailed description of the scope of work for Engagement Leads, as well as a list of resources available to them to carry out outreach and engagement activities. Section 6 outlines strategies for keeping community members and other interested parties informed and engaged during the monitoring period, after most engagement activities will have been completed.

Community Air Monitoring Plans, directed by community voices, will define where mobile air monitoring in a community takes place, what the monitoring objectives are, and where the focused pollution studies are needed.





## Project Background and Summary

#### 1.1 Project Summary

The California Air Resources Board contracted Aclima, Inc., an air monitoring technology company and California Public Benefit Corporation, to develop and implement Community Air Monitoring Plans through mobile air quality monitoring in the 64 California communities (see interactive map of the communities here) that have been consistently nominated for the Community Air Protection Program but not yet selected for resources. These Community Air Monitoring Plans, directed by community voices, will define where mobile air monitoring in a community takes place, what the monitoring objectives are, and where focused pollution studies are needed. Aclima's mobile monitoring technology collects hyperlocal data on the concentration of pollutants in the air over time, identifying, characterizing, or confirming pollutant sources and identifying areas overburdened by certain pollutants. After air quality data is collected and analyzed, Aclima will produce StoryMaps detailing the results in each community, which interested parties can use to increase community awareness about pollution, apply for grant funding to carry out emissions reductions planning, advocate for better enforcement, and push for increased resources in their communities. The finalized mobile monitoring data will be available for download on the California Air Resources Board's website after the project's completion.

## 1.2 Assembly Bill 617 and theCommunity Air Protection Program

California Assembly Bill 617, passed in 2017, is landmark legislation that directs the California Air Resources Board to better protect communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution across the state (see <u>Appendix A</u> for more background about environmental justice in California). To

meet this directive, the California Air Resources Board established the Community Air Protection Program, through which local air districts, community organizations, and residents nominate communities overburdened by pollution to receive funding to develop Community Air Monitoring Plans and Community Emissions Reductions Plans in efforts to substantially reduce community exposure to air pollution over time. Community Emissions Reduction Plan development and implementation is a particularly resource-intensive process; to date, 19 communities have been selected under the Community Air Protection Program to develop these plans, though 64 additional communities have been consistently nominated to receive Community Air Protection Program resources. In the Community Air Protection Program's Blueprint 2.0, the State describes its commitment to providing resources to the 64 Consistently Nominated Communities through other channels, specifically the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative (this project) as well as through the Community Air Grant program.

## 1.3 Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative Goals

The project goals of the Statewide Mobile Monitoring initiative include both short-term and long-term goals. Short-term goals are achievable within the scope and lifespan of the project, while long-term goals are ideal outcomes that can be achieved by actionizing project data and partnerships over time, beyond the completion of this project. Aclima worked with the <a href="Project Expert Group">Project Expert Group</a> to identify strategies for achieving both short- and long-term goals, which are reflected in this plan as well as the community engagement scope of work.



#### SHORT-TERM GOALS (PROJECT LIFETIME)

- Build a comprehensive statewide data set on the presence and levels of criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gases and their sources of emissions through mobile monitoring focused on areas of highest community concern.
- Project Strategy 1: Co-develop Community Air Monitoring Plans that cover all 64 Consistently Nominated Communities in collaboration with community members, relevant community organizations, and other interested parties.
- **Project Strategy 2:** Collect measurements of criteria pollutants, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gases throughout project area communities.
- **Project Strategy 3:** Identify or confirm the sources of emissions in project area communities through the use of Aclima's technology.
- **Project Strategy 4:** Identify locations of disproportionate exposure to pollutants and sources of emissions through data analysis and community expertise.

- 2. Build coalitions of environmental justice organizations and interested parties to develop local tools, strategies that help translate project data into emissions reduction actions, and better outcomes for pollution-overburdened community members, including in those communities impacted by racial or social inequities.
- Project Strategy 5: Partner with trusted community organizations to lead engagement in Consistently Nominated Communities and convene interested parties from multiple sectors to participate in the project.
- **Project Strategy 6:** Enhance community knowledge on the intersection between emissions, compounding hazards like extreme heat and wildfire, and public health through project materials and capacity building opportunities.
- **Project Strategy 7:** Enhance community knowledge on the policy and regulation process related to emissions reductions in California and within local air districts through project materials and capacity building opportunities.
- **Project Strategy 8:** Help community members and other interested parties accurately interpret and understand project data through webinars and training throughout the monitoring period.

#### LONG-TERM GOALS (POST-PROJECT)

- 3. Communities, community organizations, air districts, academia, and other interested parties have reliable access to air quality data in Consistently Nominated Communities.
- Project Strategy 9: Ensure all project materials are in plain language and multilingual, and easy to understand for a wide range of people, to ensure non-English speakers in the impacted communities are fully able to understand all results, provide input and participate in community initiatives.
- Project Strategy 10: Create StoryMaps for the public to access and view clear and intuitive air quality data visualizations for each Consistently Nominated Community.
- **Project Strategy 11:** Provide regular project updates to project area communities to keep interested parties engaged and informed of opportunities to access and use data.

- **4.** Communities are healthier because of measurably reduced pollution.
- Project Strategy 12: Offer Engagement Leads supplemental budgets to carry out capacity building and relationship building opportunities during Community Air Monitoring Plan development and the monitoring period to foster the partnerships necessary for translating data into emissions reduction actions.



#### **Introduction to Mobile Air Monitoring**

Mobile air quality monitoring uses portable devices, often attached to vehicles, to measure pollutants while moving around through a community.

Mobile monitoring is a good method for measuring how air pollution concentrations change over time and space at high spatial resolution and can indicate plumes from emissions sources and the location and spatial extent of pollution in a community. Mobile monitoring, therefore, is a useful method for the following general monitoring objectives:

- 1. Source identification: identify or confirm emissions from sources of concern
- 2. Locations of disproportionate impact: identify areas overburdened by specific pollutants or sources

Aclima collects air quality and climate pollution data using a fleet of 42 vehicles known as Aclima Mobile Platforms, each equipped with Aclima's monitoring technology, the Aclima Mobile Node, measuring a set of 10 different pollutants: Fine Particulate Matter(PM2.5), Black Carbon, Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2), Ozone (O3), Methane, Ethane, Total Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), Nitric Oxide (NO), Carbon Monoxide (CO), and Carbon Dioxide (CO2). Aclima's fleet will systematically collect data across different times of day and days of week over a nine-month period (including outside of normal business hours and days), resulting in representative air quality measurements across approximately 12,000 miles of road statewide. This monitoring coverage is expected to cover about 1,300 square miles and around 5.2 million people (these statistics will vary depending on the final selected

monitoring areas). This monitoring effort, referred to as broad area monitoring, will be responsive to the two general monitoring objectives listed above, covering at least some parts of all 64 Consistently Nominated Communities across California.

Aclima is also partnering with several research institutions to deploy three mobile laboratories, referred to as the Partner Mobile Labs. While these Partner Mobile Labs will have more limited capacity for the area covered compared to Aclima's fleet, they can provide highly sophisticated measurements of a wide range of toxic air contaminants and other pollutants and will be tasked with carrying out custom data collection approaches to address a more specific set of monitoring objectives that target specific facilities, source types, or overburdened neighborhoods. These targeted area investigations will complement the broad area monitoring approach described above to provide a deeper chemical characterization of pollution issues in specific locations prioritized by communities through the Community Air Monitoring Plan development process. Aclima's technical proposal to the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative Request for Proposal provides more detailed information about the monitoring approach and capabilities.



The Aclima Mobile Node (AMN)



Air enters through multiple sample inlets as the car drives



## PROJECT TEAM ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### California Air Resources Board

The California Air Resources Board is the lead agency for climate change programs and oversees all air pollution control efforts in California to attain and maintain health-based air quality standards. It is also the state agency that oversees the Community Air Protection Program, developing program requirements, selecting communities to receive Community Air Protection Program resources, and working with local districts to implement the program. The California Air Resources Board is responsible for funding and overseeing the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative, monitoring project progress, ensuring project requirements are met, providing technical guidance, and serving as an outreach and relationship building resource. The California Air Resources Board will receive and manage all air quality data, which will be publicly available on its website upon project completion.

#### **Aclima**

Aclima, Inc. is a California Public Benefit Corporation focused on high-resolution mobile monitoring data collection, analysis, and provision. Aclima is responsible for carrying out meaningful community engagement to co-develop Community Air Monitoring Plans in the 64 Consistently Nominated Communities, deploying mobile platforms for data collection, managing and analyzing data, developing publicly available StoryMaps, and delivering project data to the California Air Resources Board.

#### **Project Expert Group**

The Project Expert Group is a cross-sector group that includes representatives from local air districts, community-based organizations, academia, and residents from overburdened communities. Ten out of the 18 member group live and work in pollution-overburdened communities across California. The Project Expert Group's role is to guide community engagement and decision-making throughout the project

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period, helping to develop the Community Engagement Plan (this document), select Engagement Leads, and support project outreach and awareness across California communities.

#### **Engagement Leads**

Engagement Leads are trusted community organizations who lead and facilitate community engagement in the 64 Consistently Nominated Communities to develop Community Air Monitoring Plans. Engagement Leads work closely with the Aclima project team and Project Expert Group to shape Community Air Monitoring Plans that are responsive to community needs and to create engagement environments that are culturally and linguistically relevant. Engagement Leads are selected through a competitive application process and evaluated by a review panel made up of Project Expert Group members and Aclima staff. Engagement Leads are selected based on reviewer evaluations of organizational mission alignment, experience working on air quality and/or environmental justice-related projects, community knowledge and trust, staff capacity, and cultural and linguistic competency.

#### **Community Engagement Coordinators**

Community Engagement Coordinators, hired or contracted directly by the project team, may supplement and provide additional support to Engagement Leads in certain project areas where regional circumstances add additional complexity to the work of Engagement Leads. In cases where appropriate Engagement Leads are not identified and contracted, Community Engagement Coordinators may be hired or contracted to lead engagement efforts in a particular community.

Table A. Communications and Engagement Schedule

Engagement Category	Description
Community Engagement Plan Development with Project Expert Group	January 31, 2025
Engagement Leads subcontracted and trained in accordance with Community Engagement Plan roadmap	February 2025
Community Air Monitoring Plan Development (Community workshops, tabling, materials distribution)	March - June 2025
Mobile air monitoring and ongoing project communications and public educational opportunities	June 2025 – February 2026
Data Visualizations publicly available	January – June 2026

#### PROJECT AREA COMMUNITIES

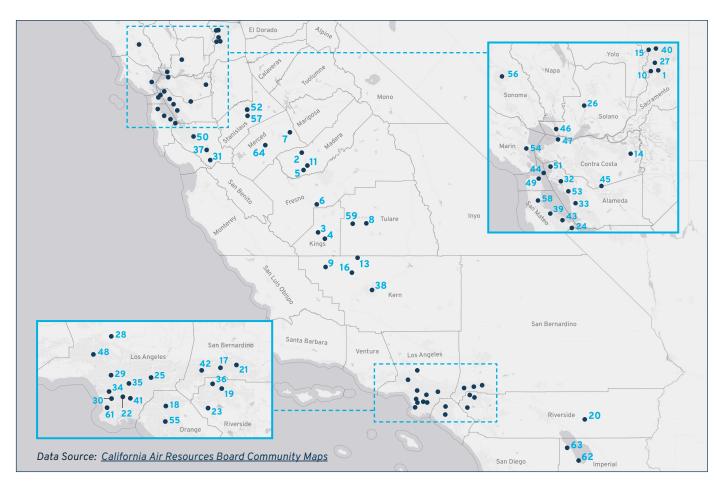
Project area communities consist of 64 pollution-overburdened California communities (see the <u>full list of Consistently</u> Nominated Communities on the California Air Resources Board's website or an interactive online map of Consistently Nominated Communities here), or clusters of communities, that local air districts, community-based organizations, and local residents have <u>consistently nominated</u> to develop Community Air Monitoring Plans and Community Emissions Reductions Plans with Community Air Protection Program funding. These 64 communities have yet to receive such resources due to the high demand for such funding across the state. The Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative is an ambitious effort to develop and implement a Community Air Monitoring Plan for each of the 64 communities, better positioning them to develop Community Emissions Reduction Plans or Local Community Emissions Reduction Plans (a locally-driven Community Emissions Reduction Plan that communities not selected under Assembly Bill 617 may undertake through Community Air Grants or other funding) in collaboration with local air districts, and advance existing advocacy efforts for emissions reduction.

## Consistently Nominated Communities with Multiple Communities

In some cases, multiple communities are grouped together as a single Consistently Nominated Community, and in these cases the Community Air Monitoring Plan will need to reflect the needs of all communities within that Consistently Nominated Community. For example, Compton, Rancho Dominguez, Willowbrook, and Lynwood are a cluster of cities and unincorporated communities in Los Angeles County that are grouped as one Consistently Nominated Community. They will share a single Community Air Monitoring Plan that reflects air quality concerns and monitoring plans for all communities within the Consistently Nominated Community. Community engagement must be intentionally inclusive and well-designed to ensure that the needs of all communities are represented in the Community Air Monitoring Plan.

## Racial and Social Equity Assessment of Project Area Communities

Understanding the racial and social characteristics of project area communities is crucial to designing appropriate engagement strategies and identifying community characteristics that may either facilitate or inhibit meaningful project participation. This Community Engagement Plan defers many community engagement and outreach decisions to



#### **CONSISTENTLY NOMINATED COMMUNITIES**

- 1 Florin (Community C)
- 2 Fairmead
- 3 "The West Side" (Huron, Avenal and Coalinga)
- 4 Kettleman City
- 5 La Viña
- 6 Lanare
- 7 Le Grand
- 8 Lindsay
- 9 Lost Hills
- 10 Meadowview
- South Madera- La Vina, Parkwood, Parksdale, Borden, Italian Swiss Colony, Iragose, and Ripperday
- 12 Norwood/Old North Sacramento, Del Paso Heights (Community B in District analysis)
- 13 Delano
- 14 East Contra Costa County (includes Pittsburg Bay Point)
- 15 South Natomas (Community A in District analysis)
- 16 Wasco
- 17 Bloomington, Fontana, Rialto
- 18 Buena Park, Anaheim, Fullerton, Orange
- 19 Central and East Riverside, Rubidoux
- 20 Chiriaco Summit

- 21 Colton, Grand Terrace, San Bernardino (southwest)
- Compton, Rancho Dominguez, Willowbrook, Lynwood
- 23 Corona, Temescal Valley
- 24 East Palo Alto
- El Monte, South El Monte, Avocado Heights, Hacienda Heights, La Puente (west), Bassett
- 26 Fairfield
- 27 Oak Park, Fruitridge
- 28 Pacioma, North Hollywood, Sun Valley, San Fernando, Sylmar
- 29 Koreatown
- 30 Gardena, Alondra Park, Lawndale
- 31 Gilroy
- 32 Greater Oakland
- 33 Hayward (parts)
- 34 Inglewood, Hawthorne, Westmont, Vermont
- 35 Maywood, Commerce (east), Vernon, Bell
- 36 Mira Loma, Jurupa Valley, Eastvale, Pedley
- 37 Morgan Hill
- 38 North Bakersfield
- 39 North Central San Mateo
- 40 North Sacramento
- 41 Paramount, North Long Beach

- Rancho Cucamonga, Ontario (east)
- 43 Redwood City
- 44 Treasure Island
- 45 Tri-Valley
- 46 Vallejo
- 47 Rodeo to parts of Crockett
- 48 Van Nuys
- 49 San Francisco (SoMa)
- 50 San Jose, Eastern San Jose
- 51 West Berkeley
- 52 West Stanislaus County
- 53 San Leandro
- 54 San Rafael
- 55 Santa Ana
- 56 Santa Rosa
- 57 South Modesto (Modesto, Modesto Airport neighborhood )
- 8 South San Francisco
- 59 South Tulare & Matteny Tract
- 60 Southwest Modesto
- 61 Torrance
- 62 Northern Imperial County Corridorunincorporated communities of Niland, Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach, Salton Sea, Bombay Beach, Seeley
- 63 Salton City
- 64 Merced



community organizations who are deeply familiar with the racial and social identities of the communities they serve and have knowledge of the local political and social contexts. As such, this plan does not attempt to preemptively assess community engagement needs in each project area community based on limited racial and social data. Instead, it provides a data snapshot into the project area community to explore trends in racial and social characteristics within Consistently Nominated Communities relative to the state as a whole. With this limited information, the project team outlines high level strategies for designing engagement with target communities that are responsive to the racial and cultural identities, linguistic needs, and social and health burdens faced by project area communities.

This assessment is in part based on CalEnviroScreen 4.0. Aclima acknowledges that CalEnviroScreen 4.0 is not the only method for identifying disadvantaged communities and that

minor and subjective changes in the weighting of individual metrics within CalEnviroScreen 4.0 may cause large changes in how the most disadvantaged areas within the Consistently Nominated Communities are identified.¹ As such, the definition of disadvantaged communities based on CalEnviroScreen 4.0 represents only a starting point for project partners to understand broader demographic trends in project area communities. Aclima is working with the Project Expert Group and communities to determine the most appropriate method for allocating monitoring resources across the 64 Consistently Nominated Communities.

Table B. Racial, Socioeconomic, and Health Indicators in Consistently Nominated Communities

Indicator	Average across Consistently Nominated Communities	Average across the most disadvantaged tracts in Consistently Nominated Communities	State average
White	24%	17%	37%
Non-white	76%	83%	63%
Asian American and Pacific Islander	17%	13%	15%
African American	6.8%	7.8%	5.5%
Hispanic	48%	60%	39%
Native American	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%
Asthma	58	68	52
(emergency room visits per 10,000 people)			
Cardiovascular Disease (emergency room visits per 10,000 people)	15	16	14
Low Birth Rates	5.3%	5.5%	4.9%
Lower Than High School Degree (% above age 25)	22%	29%	18%
Housing-burdened households	19%	22%	18%
Limited English-speaking households	12%	14%	10%
Poverty Rate	34%	42%	31%
Unemployment Rate	6.2%	7.2%	6.1%

Similar to the findings in Huynh, B.Q., Chin, E.T., Koenecke, A. et al. Mitigating allocative tradeoffs and harms in an environmental justice data tool. Nat Mach Intell 6, 187–194 (2024). <a href="https://doi.org/10.1038/s42256-024-00793-y">https://doi.org/10.1038/s42256-024-00793-y</a>



## Characteristics of Consistently Nominated Communities Compared to the State

The first analysis ("Average across Consistently Nominated Communities") calculates the population-weighted averages (a method of averaging that gives more importance to areas with more people) for race, socio-economic indicators, and health indicators for all census tracts within Consistently Nominated Communities. This initial analysis demonstrates that even when considering all census tracts within Consistently Nominated Communities, across which there is significant variation in social and health outcomes, communities designated as Consistently Nominated Communities tend to have higher rates of asthma-related emergency room visits than the state average. Consistently Nominated Communities also tend to have a disproportionately higher number of people of color relative to the state as a whole.

The second analysis ("Average across the most disadvantaged tracts in the Consistently Nominated Communities") calculates the averages only for the most disadvantaged census tracts within a Consistently Nominated Community, where communities will presumptively decide to focus monitoring resources (though specific monitoring areas will not be known until communities have decided on these boundaries through engagement activities). This analysis is meant to demonstrate population characteristics in the areas of a community that benefit most from this project. Census tracts included in this analysis are those with the highest CalEnviro-Screen 4.0 scores that the project team expects monitoring could occur in based on available resources (approximately 12,000 miles of road length for mobile monitoring statewide). These census tracts were identified by first taking the highest ranking tract by CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score from each of the Consistently Nominated Communities and then subsequently selecting from the remaining tracts with the next highest CalEnviroScreen 4.0 scores sequentially until all 12,000 miles of road length are contained within the subset of census tracts. See the methodology for how Aclima's proposed monitoring area was selected in the <u>technical proposal</u> for more details on this approach.

When comparing population characteristics of the most disadvantaged census tracts within the Consistently Nominated Communities to the rest of the state, differences are much more pronounced. The most disadvantaged tracts in Consistently Nominated Communities (and those where monitoring is anticipated to occur) have disproportionately higher populations of people of color; non-white residents on average make up 83.3% of the population in Consistently Nominated

Communities despite being 63.8% of the population statewide. Socioeconomic burdens are higher in these tracts, taking the form of higher poverty rates (42.2% compared to a 31% state average), higher proportions of households speaking limited English (14.3% compared to a 9.5% state average), and lower levels of education (28.8% of adults without a high school degree in disadvantaged tracts compared to a 17.6% state average). Health outcomes are also noticeably poorer in the most disadvantaged tracts with an average of 67.5 asthma-related emergency room visits per 10,000 residents in Consistently Nominated Communities compared to a rate of 51.7 cases per 10,000 residents statewide.

## Integrating Knowledge of Population Characteristics into Project Design

The disproportionate burdens shouldered by community members in the most disadvantaged areas of Consistently Nominated Communities warrants consideration of potential barriers to community involvement in Community Air Monitoring Plan development. Community members in project areas who are low-income, have limited English-speaking abilities, or have lower educational attainment may have lower capacity to participate in project activities due to working multiple jobs, lacking childcare, feeling alienated by a project being carried out primarily in English, or feeling unfamiliar with the subject matter. Community members may also feel a distrust of government or private companies, or have challenging working relationships with local or state agencies. The project team recognizes that engagement may present a burden for some community members as a result of these factors; in particular, project activities may consume time community members don't have to spare, lack of immediate emissions reduction actions following data release may create frustration, and lack of alignment about next steps between community members and local air districts or the California Air Resources Board may harm working relationships. To reduce these potential burdens and unintended consequences of community engagement, the project team has integrated several mitigating strategies into project design, many of which align with existing community needs (provision of material resources in the form of compensation, inclusive meeting spaces; strengthening of relationships with organizations and agencies that are important to ensuring community needs are understood and met over the longterm). These strategies are as follows:

1. Communicate the benefits of engagement to project participants: Through printed project materials, meeting guides, and the pre-meeting, the project team and Engagement Leads will communicate the specific benefits that community members may see as a result of participating in



project activities, which include: being financially compensated for contributing knowledge; having comfortable meeting spaces; having a voice in where air quality monitoring happens; being aware of and able to interpret resulting data; building capacity to translate data into emissions reductions planning and actions; potentially better health outcomes as a result of future emissions reductions actions that are taken in response to project data; and building relationships with other community members, organizations, and local and state agencies. Understanding the specific benefits of project participation can help reduce engagement fatigue among community members and other interested parties, which may otherwise result in disengagement.

- 2. Select and contract with community organizations that are trusted and known by the community, and have worked with them before: Partnership with community organizations that are known, trusted, and experienced working with pollution-overburdened communities may reduce any distrust or hesitancy to participate among community members. The integration of community organizations instead serves to enhance existing working relationships around air quality and environmental justice.
- 3. Providing a budget to compensate community members for the time they contribute to the project: Financially compensating community members who contribute their time, knowledge and experiences to the Community Air Monitoring Plan development process is a means of providing participants with material benefits and demonstrating that their contributions have value.
- 4. Delegating decisions on community outreach formats and meeting design decisions to community organizations that have an understanding of local needs: Organizations that know the community well can make decisions about appropriate outreach and engagement language(s) and format, familiar and comfortable meeting spaces for community members, and the most accessible times and days of the week to hold activities. Deference to the knowledge of community organizations to make these types of choices reduces the likelihood that outreach and engagement spaces are uninviting or inaccessible.
- 5. Providing project materials in non-English languages: The provision of project materials, including outreach materials, presentations, and the air pollution survey, in multiple languages help to reduce potential barriers for community

members whose primary language is not English to participate in the project. Aclima will provide project materials in several primary languages identified in collaboration with Engagement Leads, while leaving the option open for Engagement Leads to include translation into further languages in their budget.

- 6. Holding a pre-meeting to allow community members to familiarize themselves with the project prior to beginning work: The pre-meeting is an opportunity for community members to ask questions and familiarize themselves with the project prior to beginning Community Air Monitoring Plan development in Meeting 1. The pre-meeting is meant to help build trust and comfort around the project in a less structured setting, and also provides community members an avenue to express their feelings about conditions in their community, or about the project itself.
- 7. Remaining flexible to amend Engagement Lead workplans to expand on successful outreach and engagement strategies or reduce or eliminate unsuccessful ones:

Though Engagement Leads know their communities well, they may find that certain outreach or engagement setups are not as effective or appropriate for community members as intended. In these cases, the project team commits to flexibility to reasonably change the workplans when those changes better suit community needs or help to reduce barriers to participation.

8. Integrate capacity building opportunities into the project: The scope of work for Engagement Leads includes paid, optional activities such as capacity building workshops for communities to convene on topics such as the intersection between pollution, climate change, and natural hazards, case studies of communities that have successfully reduced their emissions using air monitoring data, in-depth exploration of air quality management policy and funding pathways for emissions reductions. These capacity building opportunities are meant to enhance the project impacts by readying communities to actionize data. This measure is intended to enhance project utility for community members and build trust that data can lead to improved outcomes. Aclima will also offer a limited number of trainings and webinars during the monitoring period that address many of these topics.





## 2. Engagement Approach

#### 2.1 Goals of Community Engagement

The primary goal of community engagement for the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative is to develop and implement Community Air Monitoring Plans that are responsive to the air quality concerns and needs of pollution-overburdened residents. Community Air Monitoring Plans should define monitoring objectives that reflect resident concerns about where pollution is most impactful, and what kinds of pollution are of the highest concern so that the data collected is targeted to areas that residents most want to take emissions reduction action in. The secondary goal of community engagement is to help build community capacity to interpret mobile air quality data and to help them define clear pathways to translating data into actions that reduce emissions and improve public health. In connection with this Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative, the project team plans to engage the impacted communities utilizing multiple different approaches with a goal of ensuring the comprehensive sharing of relevant knowledge and information, and more importantly collaboration with all interested community stakeholders to ensure the program is realistically addressing local community needs. The following frameworks represent the approaches the project team plans to take to maximize community engagement and input.

## 2.2 Frameworks for Community Engagement

This project's community engagement approach is based primarily on the California Air Resources Board's <u>Community Engagement Model</u> and the Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership. However, two additional engagement frameworks, Participatory Action Research, and Popular Education, are highlighted for their importance in additional capacity building and educational activities that Engagement Leads may choose to carry out in their communities.

## CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MODEL

The California Air Resources Board's Community Engagement Model, which was updated in December 2024, outlines a structured approach to foster meaningful collaboration with communities across the state. Developed through partnerships with local communities, the model emphasizes building trust and collaborative processes with pollution-overburdened communities. The model provides detailed guidance on planning, conducting, and evaluating engagement efforts, highlighting the importance of understanding community needs, effective communication, and continuous improvement. This project's engagement approach follows the model's key principles of community engagement, including adaptability and flexibility (working with Engagement Leads to develop budgets and work plans that are appropriate for their communities); transparency and trust (maintaining open lines of communication about project status between Aclima, Engagement Leads, and community members), openness and learning (deferring to the knowledge and lived experiences of community members), and establishing safe and respectful spaces (working with local organizations that can foster engagement spaces appropriate for community members).

## THE SPECTRUM OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO OWNERSHIP

The Spectrum of Community Engagement to Ownership is a framework and tool adapted by Rosa González of Facilitating Power to facilitate inclusive, participatory decision making. It defines five types of stages on the spectrum of community engagement that range from marginalization and exclusion of impacted communities to full community ownership of decision making. The Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative aims to delegate as much direct decision-making as possible to those who are most impacted by air pollution in project area communities, with recognition that some technical decision-making will fall to Aclima's project team. The project team uses the Spectrum of Community Engagement as a tool for transparency and reference point for defining which project-related decisions lie with participants in engagement activities (Table C).



#### POPULAR EDUCATION

Popular Education is a participatory approach to education that emphasizes collective learning and empowerment, with emphasis on the lived experience of marginalized communities as a crucial form of knowledge. This model challenges traditional, hierarchical models of teaching, where knowledge and information flow one way; it instead builds collective knowledge through dialogue, critical thinking, and critique of oppressive systems. This project follows a core tenet of Popular Education that values lived experience as a central form of knowledge; Community Air Monitoring Plans rely on testimony from community members about their experiences with air pollution in their communities. Popular Education is also a relevant tool for Engagement Leads who will lead capacity building or educational workshops in their communities as optional activities (Table F). These workshops may help build community knowledge of air quality issues through shared experiences and peer-to-peer learning, and help contextualize local air quality issues within larger systems of oppression.

#### PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH

Participatory Action Research is a collaborative research approach that involves researchers and community members working together to identify problems, develop solutions, and take action for change. Rooted in principles of inclusion and empowerment, Participatory Action Research emphasizes shared decision-making, valuing the knowledge and experiences of all participants. A key aspect of Participatory Action Research is capacity building within communities to develop, advocate for, and implement tangible solutions that are responsive to their needs. The scope of this project does not allow for a meaningful integration of Participatory Action Research because its focus is to collect and make accessible air quality data - not identify and advocate for solutions. However, Engagement Leads are encouraged to consider a Participatory Action Research model if they choose to use optional activities (Table F) as a means of catalyzing community members to actionize project data into projects or programs.



## 3. Community Air Monitoring Plan Development

Community knowledge is key to developing a Community Air Monitoring Plan that is comprehensive and actionable. Community Air Monitoring Plans should reflect community knowledge about pollution sources, impacted populations, and contaminants that most concern community members. The lived experiences that residents share during the Community Air Monitoring Plan development process help to "ground truth" existing data and community assumptions about pollution. However, in some cases, air quality monitoring may reveal pollution patterns that are not in alignment with community expectations and assumptions; data may indicate lower levels of pollution from a particular source due to seasonality, operational hours, or lower than anticipated emissions from

a particular facility. Air quality monitoring may also detect sources of pollution that communities were unaware of or had underestimated. The process of developing a Community Air Monitoring Plan must reasonably defer to community knowledge and experience, while also making space for data that don't always align with community assumptions.

The California Air Resources Board has outlined 14 elements of Community Air Monitoring Plans, many of which community members and community organizations take the lead in shaping. Table C describes which groups and individuals are responsible for addressing each element of the Community Air Monitoring Plan, how they will do so, and where each element falls on the spectrum of community engagement.

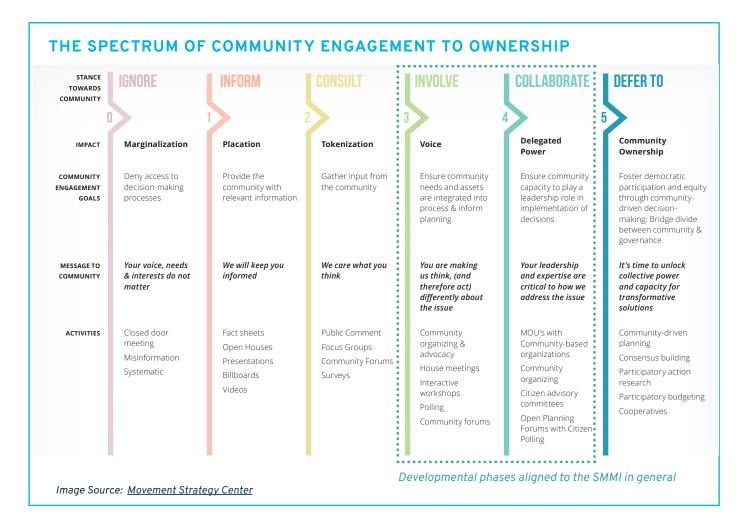




Table C. Elements of a Community Air Monitoring Plan

W	What is the reason for conducting community air monitoring?				
	Element	Project Process	Timeline	Spectrum of Community Engagement	
1	Form community partnerships	Work with Project Expert Group to develop a Community Engagement Plan. Identify and sub-contract with trusted community-based organizations to convene and engage residents and other interested parties on the project.	Prior to Community Meeting 1	Collaborate	
2	State the community- specific purpose for air monitoring	Identify the community's pollution burdens through review of existing data and studies, and solicitation of resident and other interested parties' knowledge through community meetings and other engagement activities.	Survey prior to Meeting 1; community knowledge collected during Meeting 1	Collaborate	
3	Identify scope of actions	Identify potential emissions reductions actions that are responsive to community concerns with residents, air district, and project team.	Survey prior to Meeting 1; community ideas collected during Meeting 1	Involve - Collaborate	
4	Define air monitoring objectives	Based on elements 2 and 3, the project team, community members, CBOs, and other interested parties identify monitoring objectives within the project team's technical capabilities, including monitoring boundary and focal points.	Meeting 1	Involve - Collaborate	
5	Establish roles and responsibilities	Define roles of the project team and ask meeting participants how they would like to be involved	Prior to Meeting 1; during Meeting 1	Involve - Collaborate	
Н	ow will monitori	ng be conducted?			
6	Define data quality objectives.	Data quality objectives will be drafted based on monitoring objectives and preferred analysis and visualization approaches	Flexible components to be developed by the project team after incorporating output from Meeting 1	Inform - Consult	
7	Select monitoring methods and equipment	Monitoring equipment and methods are mostly fixed based on Aclima and PML capabilities. Flexible components will be the data collection approach for targeted area monitoring, which will be responsive to the monitoring objectives defined in 4.	Flexible components to be developed by the project team after incorporating output from Meeting 1	Inform - Consult	
8	Determine monitoring areas	Project team to draft monitoring areas based on Meeting 1; presentation and revisions at Meeting 2	Meeting 1; Meeting 2	Involve - Collaborate	
9	Develop quality control procedures	Project team to develop and document quality control procedures. To be included as accompanying material.	Prior to Meeting 1	Inform	
10	Describe data management	Project team to draft detailed data management plan to be reviewed and approved by the California Air Resources Board. Summary of this plan will be included in the Community Air Monitoring Plan.	Prior to Meeting 1	Inform	



	Element	Project Process	Timeline	Spectrum of Community Engagement
11	Provide work plan for conducting field measurements	Project team to develop work plan and timeline for monitoring. Targeted area monitoring will be responsive to the monitoring objectives in 4.	Developed by the project team after incorporating output from Meeting 1; to be finalized after Meeting 2.	Inform
н	ow will data be	used to take action?		
12	Specify process for evaluating effectiveness	Project team and meeting participants agree on benchmarks for assessing whether monitoring objectives are met	Meeting 2	Involve - Collaborate
13	Analyze and interpret data	Project team to provide a defined set of possible analysis approaches that are responsive to the monitoring objectives. Community members will select the types of analyses that are of most value to their chosen monitoring objectives.	Project team to analyze between Meeting 2 and 3	Delegated Power
14	Communicate results to support action	Project team and CBOs to hold meetings with community members and other interested parties to communicate project findings relative to that community's concerns and objectives. Distribute survey to capture community sentiments on how the project and engagement process went for them, and how we can improve these processes in the future.	Meeting 3	Inform - Consult



# 3.1 Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative's Sequence for Community Air Monitoring Plan Development and Implementation

This section provides a comprehensive overview of the project's approach to developing Community Air Monitoring Plans that address the 14 elements described above. Roles and responsibilities are defined for each step in the sequence, accompanied by a detailed description of tasks. Timelines for each step in the sequence may vary depending on when Engagement Leads are identified, and when they are able to schedule activities.

#### **NOVEMBER 2024 - FEBRUARY 2025**

#### Relationship Development and Identifying Engagement Leads and Community Engagement Coordinators

Through the Project Expert Group and the California Air Resources Board and local air district staff, the Aclima team will meet with local air district staff and community organizations who work with and/or have knowledge of air pollution issues in the Consistently Nominated Communities. The project team will proactively reach out to community organizations who may want to apply as Engagement Leads. The Aclima team will begin to review Engagement Lead applications in February, with the goal of hiring most or all of them by late February. Community Engagement Coordinators will be hired as needed after subcontracting with Engagement Leads is completed for a Consistently Nominated Community.

#### FEBRUARY 2025

#### **Mileage Allocation Process**

The Aclima project team and the Project Expert Group have developed a method to equitably distribute approximately 12,000 available monitoring miles to Consistently Nominated Communities. Monitoring miles will be allocated to Consistently Nominated Communities within a particular air district proportionate to the population of those communities in comparison to the population of all project area communities as a whole. Individual Consistently Nominated Communities will then be allocated monitoring miles based on health and environmental metrics in combination with their distance to a regulatory air monitor. The appropriate health and environmental metrics will be selected by Aclima in close collaboration with the Project Expert Group.

#### **MARCH 2025**

#### Pre-Meeting: Introduction to Project

The Aclima project team will organize an online community pre-meeting that should be attended by Engagement Leads, community members in the Consistently Nominated Communities, and other interested parties, for the purpose of introducing the project, answering community questions, and listening to community concerns. This pre-meeting will be organized at the air district level for a total of five pre-meetings, with all Consistently Nominated Communities within the same air district attending the same pre-meeting. Engagement Leads will play a major role in outreach and promoting community attendance at this meeting. Pre-meetings will be conducted in English with Spanish interpretation and designated Spanish breakout rooms.

#### **MARCH 2025**

#### **Air Pollution Concerns Survey**

The Aclima project team will develop and release an online air pollution concerns survey in English and Spanish, as well as any other languages that the Aclima project team and Engagement Leads agree on as necessary. Engagement Leads will conduct outreach to communicate the availability of the survey and help ensure community members have the opportunity to respond. Specific potential outreach approaches are detailed in Section 5 below. This survey will be complementary to other survey data that the California Air Resources Board has collected in the past, with additional questions that collect more detailed information on their personal observations about the pollution concern. The goals of the survey will be to:

- Identify the priority air pollution concerns in each community in order to guide locations for targeted area monitoring studies
- Collect specific information from community members to identify the appropriate monitoring objectives for a given air pollution concern
- Collect information from community members about their observations of air pollution around the sites of concern (acute or long term health impacts, visual identification of pollution, trends with time of day or time of year, etc.)
- Inform the data collection, analysis, and visualization approach for the target area monitoring studies
- Identify the scope of actions that communities would like the collected data and results to support





The survey will ask respondents to indicate on a map the location of pollution sources where they have concerns, provide information about the times of day or year that air quality is most impacted, indicate locations where the impacts of bad air quality is felt most severely (if different from the location of the source or if the source is unknown), indicate what their most pressing questions are about the pollution concern, and select the type of action(s) they would like the collected data to support. Some sample questions are listed in Appendix G. This survey is meant to directly shape Elements 2 (community-specific purpose for air monitoring), 3 (scope

of potential actions), and 4 (monitoring objectives) of the Community Air Monitoring Plan. The Aclima team will design the survey so that responses, excluding personal information, will be viewable by other respondents, as will other data sources like CalEnviroScreen 4.0 scores, air district complaint records, and the California Air Resources Board survey responses. Engagement Lead staff may offer to complete the survey as directed by a community member in cases where that community member has lower digital literacy or prefers to provide verbal responses.



#### MARCH - APRIL 2025

#### Meeting 1: First Draft Community Air Monitoring Plan Boundary

Engagement Leads will organize Meeting 1 for individual Consistently Nominated Communities, unless they have an agreement with the project team to combine engagement activities for multiple Consistently Nominated Communities. The tasks for Meeting 1 are for the community to review the project purpose, review air pollution survey responses together, discuss the mobile monitoring mileage available for the Consistently Nominated Community, and collaboratively decide on a geographic area to conduct mobile monitoring. The Aclima team will provide Engagement Leads with a digital tool to compare desired monitoring areas with the mileage budget available, as well as templates for documenting other aspects of the meeting. During this meeting, existing data related to air pollution will be available for community members to review, including air pollution concern survey responses, locations of permitted sources, and any existing air quality data available from current or prior monitoring efforts. Engagement leads will submit meeting summaries, attendance and compensation records to Aclima staff at the end of this meeting.

#### **APRIL 2025**

#### Community Data Processing and First Draft Community Air Monitoring Plan Developed

The Aclima team will review the first draft Community Air Monitoring Plan boundary from each Consistently Nominated Community Meeting 1, meeting summaries, and air pollution concern survey responses associated with that Consistently Nominated Community to develop a first draft of the Consistently Nominated Community's Community Air Monitoring Plan. The Aclima team will review this first draft with the Engagement Lead before releasing a draft to community members to review prior to Meeting 2.

#### **APRIL - MAY 2025**

#### Meeting 2: Affirming Community Air Monitoring Plan

The purpose of Meeting 2 is for the community to finalize the Community Air Monitoring Plan and discuss the monitoring period. The Engagement Lead and Aclima staff will present the first draft Community Air Monitoring Plan to the community and discuss whether changes may need to be made for the Community Air Monitoring Plan to best reflect community needs and concerns. Aclima staff will discuss what community members can expect during the monitoring period, and how

to stay in touch with the project team. Engagement Leads submit meeting summaries, attendance and compensation records to Aclima staff at the end of each meeting.

#### **MAY - JUNE 2025**

#### Community Air Monitoring Plan Finalized

The Aclima team will integrate any necessary changes to the Community Air Monitoring Plan based on Meeting 2, and submit a preliminary final draft to the California Air Resources Board, who may request additional changes before finalization.

#### **JUNE 2025 - FEBRUARY 2026**

## Monitoring Period and Continued Community Communications

During the nine-month monitoring period, some Engagement Leads may carry out capacity building workshops or exercises with communities if they have included it in their budget and workplan. Aclima staff will maintain a project website with monitoring updates that community members can follow, and will hold office hours for community members to ask project-related questions. Aclima will also hold a limited number of training and educational webinars related to data literacy and interpretation, success stories of communities translating data into emissions reduction, and air management policies and regulations.

#### MAY 2026

#### Meeting 3: Project Results

Aclima and California Air Resources Board staff will organize online meetings by air district (or sub-group within air district if necessary) to explain project results, answer questions, have community members share their experiences engaging with the project, and discuss possible next steps. Engagement Leads will play a major role in outreach and promoting community attendance at this meeting. Specific potential outreach approaches are detailed in Section 5 below. Meeting 3 will be conducted in English with Spanish interpretation and designated Spanish breakout rooms. By the time this meeting takes place, StoryMaps with data visualizations in each Consistently Nominated Community will be publicly available for community members to explore. At the conclusion of this meeting, staff will distribute a digital survey to capture community perspectives on the project, whether they felt meaningfully engaged, and how CARB and Aclima may improve project design and community engagement in the future. Respondents may submit the survey anonymously.



#### 3.2 Engagement Infrastructure

This project relies on partnerships within project area communities to carry out community engagement that is inclusive, mutually beneficial, and effective at producing useful data for communities.

#### ENGAGEMENT LEADS: COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS OR LEADERS

The project team will subcontract with trusted community-based organizations or leaders to lead and co-manage community engagement efforts in designated Consistently Nominated Communities. Some community-based organizations may lead engagement in more than one Consistently Nominated Community, depending on their geographic reach and staff capacity. Engagement Leads are responsible for designing and implementing appropriate engagement strategies consistent with this plan (see Section 5 below), conducting outreach and awareness about the project, and working with the project team to translate community knowledge and experiences into responsive Community Air Monitoring Plans.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATORS

Community Engagement Coordinators, hired or contracted directly by the project team, may supplement and provide additional support to Engagement Leads in certain project areas where regional circumstances add additional complexity to the work of Engagement Leads. In cases where appropriate Engagement Leads are not identified and contracted, Community Engagement Coordinators may be hired or contracted to lead engagement efforts in a particular community. In these cases, Community Engagement Coordinators will be from that community or region and have knowledge of air quality issues and existing community relationships.

#### **ACLIMA'S PROJECT TEAM**

Aclima's project team monitors local engagement strategies and serves as a support tool for Engagement Leads in Consistently Nominated Communities. The project team will offer technical expertise, interpretation and explanation of data, presentation and outreach material templates, and meeting support as possible.



Aclima's mobile monitoring fleet vehicle and an Aclima driver





## 4. Identifying Interested Parties for Engagement

Engagement Leads must consider the following individuals and groups for engagement to develop Community Air Monitoring Plans. The project team and Project Expert Group recognize that all communities are unique, and one or more of the groups noted below for engagement may not apply in a specific area or may substantially overlap with other categories of engagement. However, in all cases, the project team and Project Expert Group expect that the Engagement

Leads will make an effort to provide opportunities for people in all engagement categories to participate in Community Air Monitoring Plan development if appropriate. Engagement Leads should advise the project team if they are unable to meaningfully engage one of these categories of interested parties. The Aclima team can work with the Engagement Lead to strategize how to maximize inclusion for as many interested parties as possible.

Table D. Interested Parties to Engage in the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative

Engagement Category	Description
Frontline Community Members, including Youth and Older Adults	Frontline community members include those that are most exposed to pollution sources, working families, people who are Black, Indigenous, or other people of color, immigrants, and other residents that the Engagement Lead considers marginalized and/or excluded from power and decision-making. CalEnviroScreen 4.0 can be used to identify some of these characteristics within a community.
Nonprofits, Community-Based Organizations, Neighborhood, Civic Organizations, and Faith- Based Organizations	Community organizations, congregations and faith-based organizations, civic organizations and neighborhood associations that are trusted in the communities may have subject matter expertise, community context and history, and resident ties that set the stage for meaningful community interactions.
Community Leaders and Promotores	Promotores and other community and neighborhood leaders and communicators are often parents and trusted community members who have a deep pre-existing relationship with the community. Engaging with Promotores is a great way to reach residents and build a trusted relationship with community members.
Tribes and Indigenous Organizations and Individuals	While some project-related engagement with Tribal government happens independently of the engagement (see <u>Tribal Engagement</u> ), Engagement Leads must make an effort to engage Indigenous-led organizations, associations, and/or residents. See <u>Appendix B</u> for a list of Tribes whose ancestral land overlaps or is near to project areas.
Schools	As sites serving sensitive populations (children), school administrators, teachers, and Parent Teacher Associations may be eager to participate in the development of Community Air Monitoring Plans.
Businesses, Industry, and Chambers of Commerce	Depending on community dynamics, small businesses and chambers of commerce may serve as thought partners for developing monitoring strategies (and eventually emissions reductions) strategies that support communities while minimizing impact to operations.
Local Government and Elected Officials	Local government may include environmental remediation departments, public health departments, or county/city executives. Elected officials may include city councilmembers, county supervisors, or another locally elected seat.
Healthcare Providers	Public health departments, clinics, and individual health providers may contribute important knowledge and context on health patterns in the community related to air pollution.
Scientists and Academia	Inclusion of scientists and researchers from local universities and public agencies helps facilitate relationship building with communities and supports future cross-sector initiatives.
Local Air District Representatives	Local air district staff are familiar with documented air quality concerns and sources in Consistently Nominated Communities. Their inclusion in the process offers technical and contextual knowledge for Community Air Monitoring Plans and facilitates long-term relationship building between air districts and communities.



#### 4.1 Tribal Engagement

All land in California is the ancestral territory of Native Peoples, who have environmental, biological, and socio-cultural knowledge and wisdom rooted to the land and its ecosystems, and may choose to contribute this knowledge to public projects and plans with implications for people and the environment. This project welcomes any and all contributions of knowledge and expertise from California Native Tribes and organizations, acknowledging their positions as historical and contemporary environmental stewards across the project area.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The project team used two methods to identify Tribal and Native groups that may be interested in project participation:

1) an analysis of geographic proximity between federally-recognized Tribal land and Consistently Nominated Community boundaries and 2) an analysis of the geographic overlap between Native ancestral land, as mapped on <a href="mailto:native-land.ca">native-land.ca</a>, a living, collaborative map based on contributions from Indigenous communities, and Consistently Nominated Community boundaries.

## Federally-Recognized Tribal Land adjacent to Project Area

Based on the analysis of federally-recognized Tribal land, the project team, along with the California Air Resources Board's Office of Environmental Justice, Tribal Affairs, contacted the two Tribal governments whose jurisdiction is adjacent to the project area to provide an overview of the project, discuss remunerated opportunities to participate, and answer project-related questions. These two Tribal governments are the Yuhaaviatam of San Manuel Nation, whose land is adjacent to the southwest San Bernardino and the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, whose land is adjacent to the Salton City area. These outreach efforts are ongoing as of the finalization of this Community Engagement Plan.

#### Ancestral Land within or adjacent to Project Area

The overlap analysis of ancestral land with the project area boundaries yielded 25 Tribal identities. Given the complexity of understanding the boundaries of ancestral land, which often overlap and may be contested by different Native groups, the project team opted to delegate outreach to organizations and affiliations identified through this method to the Engagement Leads, who have a much better understanding of the Native organizational landscape in their community than does the project team. That list is provided below in Appendix B.



# 5. Designing Engagement Activities and Outreach Strategies for a Consistently Nominated Community

# 5.1 Required and Optional Engagement Activities for the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative

Engagement Leads should design engagement strategies that are responsive to the cultural, linguistic, and practical needs of community members in the Consistently Nominated Community to maximize access and participation. To guarantee sufficient community engagement for the purpose of developing a Community Air Monitoring Plan, this plan outlines required activities that Engagement Leads must address (Table E). Table F outlines flexible, supplemental activities that an Engagement Lead may include in their engagement strategy in addition to the required activities, as appropri-

ate. Engagement Leads should use a combination of virtual and in-person activities to ensure maximum accessibility to community members and other interested parties. Wherever possible, a hybrid format should be used. All required engagement and outreach activities should be offered in the dominant language(s) in the Consistently Nominated Community that Engagement Leads deem appropriate; where there are multiple dominant languages, Engagement Leads should host bilingual community meetings, breakout groups by preferred language, and multilingual outreach. Engagement and outreach materials, including presentations, social media toolkits, handouts, flyers, and the pollution concerns survey will be provided to Engagement Leads in English, Spanish, and other threshold languages identified by Engagement Leads at the beginning of the project; translation to other languages should be facilitated by the Engagement Lead and incorporated into the proposed budget.

#### **ALL ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES MUST:**

- Be language accessible: Hold meetings in language(s) most appropriate for community members and offer translation/interpretation as necessary
- Be accessible and presented in plain language to ensure information is clear, concise, and easy to understand for a wide range of people
- Be accessible consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Be intentional about time-of-day and schedules of community members, especially those that are often excluded from decision-making
- Offer breaks during in-person events

- Lead with nonviolent, culturally sensitive facilitation
  - Ample Opportunity for Participants to Ask Questions and Comment
  - Facilitation to ensure all meeting participants have a chance to participate
- Take place in well-known and familiar community spaces
- Provide sufficient staff support for one-on-one interactions
- Designed utilizing reasonably available marketing, communication and outreach approaches to reach the maximum number of impacted individuals for awareness, feedback and participation.



Table E. Required Engagement and Outreach Activities for Engagement Lead

Deliverable	Description	Format
Project and Tools Orientation & Relationship Building Exercise, Feb and March 2025	<ul> <li>Attend one mandatory two-hour training on the project and Community Air Monitoring Plan development tools and templates that Engagement Leads will use during community meetings. Multiple sessions will be available.</li> <li>Attend one mandatory one-hour relationship-building exercise with other organiza-</li> </ul>	Online
	tions and agencies in your air district.	
Check-Ins with Aclima Project Team	Attend weekly 30-min project check-in meetings with Aclima staff from project orientation until submission of Meeting 2 materials.	Online
Outreach for Pre-Meeting	Conduct outreach to spread community awareness of an online pre-meeting organized by the Aclima project team for all Consistently Nominated Communities within the air district, which will introduce community members to the project, upcoming activities, and give them space to share experiences in a less structured way. Social media and flyer design templates will be provided in multiple languages.	Social media and physical flyers
Community profile, March - April 2025	Write a 2-3 page community profile with information about the community demographics, social and cultural characteristics, environmental justice context, air pollution concerns, and any monitoring or emissions reduction activities planned or conducted to date. A modifiable template will be provided.	Written
Survey Outreach, March 2025	Distribute a community air quality concern survey in English and Spanish. Request additional language translations as necessary. Survey respondents will be directly compensated by Aclima.	Online
Meeting 1, March 2025	Organize and lead outreach for a hybrid community meeting to provide a project introduction and facilitate activities to identify community air quality concerns, monitoring objectives, monitoring areas, and community roles in the project. The Aclima project team will provide meeting materials, including a meeting guide, powerpoint template, a digital monitoring boundary drawing tool, and a meeting report template. Engagement Lead will provide the Aclima project team with meeting notes, recording, and post-meeting report within one week of holding the meeting so that staff can begin drafting the Community Air Monitoring Plan. The Aclima team will use these materials to build out a preliminary Community Air Monitoring Plan for the Consistently Nominated Community.	In-person and online (hybrid)
Meeting 2, April 2025	Organize and lead outreach for a second hybrid community meeting to confirm monitoring areas and review a draft Community Air Monitoring Plan based on community contributions from the survey and Meeting 1. Communicate next steps with meeting participants. The Aclima project team will provide meeting materials, including a meeting guide, powerpoint template, and meeting report template. Engagement Lead will provide the Aclima project team with meeting notes, recording, and report within one week of holding the meeting so that staff can finalize the Community Air Monitoring Plan.	In-person and online (hybrid)
Outreach for Meeting 3, May 2026	Conduct outreach to spread community awareness of an online data results meeting in Spring 2026, organized by the Aclima project team (by a subgroup of Consistently Nominated Communities by air district). Social media and flyer design templates will be provided in multiple languages.	Social media and physical flyers



Table F. Supplemental Engagement and Outreach Activities

Activity	Description
Educational and Capacity Building Workshops	Workshops may focus on the intersection between pollution, climate change, and natural hazards, case studies of communities that have successfully reduced their emissions using air monitoring data, indepth exploration of air quality management policy and funding pathways for emissions reductions, or another relevant subject that the Engagement Lead and Aclima project team agree on.
Focus Groups	Focus groups may convene a sub-group of interested parties outside of the required community meetings to understand their specific concerns in a more intimate setting.
Tabling or Presenting at Community Events	Engagement Leads may table or present at existing community events like school functions, faith-based events, farmer's markets, etc.
Arranging briefings with electeds or presenting at public meetings	Engagement Leads and/or Aclima's project team may arrange briefings with public officials or public comment at city council, county supervisor, Air District Board, or Community Advisory Council meetings.
Door-to-door outreach	Engagement Lead staff may organize door-to-door outreach for general project awareness, distribution of project overview materials, and/or survey completion.
Phone call/text message outreach	Engagement Lead staff may conduct phone call or text message campaigns to raise awareness about the project and invite community members to upcoming engagement activities.
Radio announcements and/or project interviews	Radio announcements or project interviews may help spread project awareness and inform residents of upcoming engagement opportunities, particularly for those that have low internet access.
Web-Based Public Engagement Tools (MySideWalk, PlaceSpeak, CitySourced, Crowdbrite)	Engagement Leads may opt to request access to web-based public engagement tools if community members have a known preference for such a tool as well as an appropriate digital literacy level.
Other activities agreed upon by the Engagement Lead and Project Team	-



#### Evaluating Effectiveness of Engagement and Outreach Activities

Engagement Leads will evaluate how effective an engagement or outreach activity was for accomplishing its goal and report this evaluation to the Aclima project team through the <u>Post-Meeting Report</u>, which will be integrated into a Google Form. If particular activities are evaluated as having low effectiveness for achieving the engagement or outreach goal,

the Engagement Lead and Aclima staff will discuss the feasibility of trying other strategies for future project activities. The table below provides a snapshot of what kind of evaluation measures Engagement Leads will need to consider, with the majority of evaluation measures considered qualitatively by Engagement Leads and Aclima staff. Evaluation measures are subject to change and will be updated accordingly in the form that Engagement Leads fill out.

Table G. Evaluation Measures by Activity

Activity	Goal of Activity	Who Evaluates?	Evaluation Measures
Air Pollution Survey (Outreach)	Make interested parties, especially pollution- overburdened community members, aware of the survey, how it will be used, why it's important they fill it out, and compensation information.	Engagement Lead	<ul> <li>How many people filled out the survey in the Consistently Nominated Community?</li> <li>How many respondents were community members?</li> </ul>
Air Pollution Survey	Provide an accessible, digital opportunity for community members and other interested parties to describe their air quality concerns and integrate this information into the Community Air Monitoring Plan.	Aclima Team	<ul> <li>Did the Engagement Lead and/or Aclima team receive questions or concerns from interested parties that indicated they might not understand the purpose of the survey and/or how to take it?</li> <li>Did respondents provide enough detail about their concerns for the project team to meaningfully incorporate responses into the Community Air Monitoring Plan?</li> </ul>
Pre-Meeting (Outreach)	Make interested parties, especially pollution- overburdened community members, aware of the project, the pre-meeting, its purpose, and how to join.	Aclima Team	<ul> <li>How many people attended the meeting?</li> <li>How many people identified as community members?</li> <li>How many contributed their ideas or asked questions at least once?</li> </ul>
Pre-Meeting	Introduce interested parties to the project and its purpose, how they can be involved, and when different project milestones will take place. Provide a space for participants to ask questions, express themselves, and familiarize themselves with other community members, organizations, and agencies connected to the project.	Aclima Team	<ul> <li>Were the main objectives of the meeting achieved?</li> <li>How many participants were active in discussion and exercises?</li> <li>Were important topics thoroughly discussed, or did some feel rushed or unresolved?</li> <li>Did the meeting feel engaging and productive, or did it feel tense or disengaged? Why?</li> </ul>



Activity	Goal of Activity	Who Evaluates?	Evaluation Measures
Meeting 1 (Outreach)	Make interested parties, especially pollution- overburdened community members, aware of Meeting 1, its purpose, and how to join.	Engagement Lead	<ul> <li>How many people attended the meeting?</li> <li>How many people identified as community members</li> </ul>
Meeting 1	Reintroduce the project for interested parties, especially community members, review air pollution survey results and other relevant data, discuss pollution concerns, and draw a preliminary boundary for a monitoring area.	Engagement Lead	<ul> <li>Were the main objectives of the meeting achieved?</li> <li>How many participants were active in discussion and exercises?</li> <li>Were important topics thoroughly discussed, or did some feel rushed or unresolved?</li> <li>Did the meeting feel engaging and productive, or did it feel tense or disengaged? Why?</li> </ul>
Meeting 2 (Outreach)	Make interested parties, especially pollution- overburdened community members, aware of Meeting 2, its purpose, and how to join.	Engagement Lead	<ul> <li>How many people attended the meeting?</li> <li>How many people identified as community members?</li> </ul>
Meeting 2	Reintroduce events of past meeting(s) for new participants, discuss draft Community Air Monitoring Plan, and confirm the monitoring boundary proposed at the Meeting 1. Ensure meeting participants understand project next steps and how to stay involved during the monitoring phase.	Engagement Lead	<ul> <li>Were the main objectives of the meeting achieved?</li> <li>How many participants were active in discussion and exercises?</li> <li>Were important topics thoroughly discussed, or did some feel rushed or unresolved?</li> <li>Did the meeting feel engaging and productive, or did it feel tense or disengaged? Why?</li> </ul>
Meeting 3 (Outreach)	Make interested parties, especially pollution- overburdened community members, aware of Meeting 3, its purpose, and how to join.	Aclima Team	<ul><li>How many people attended the meeting?</li><li>How many people identified as community members?</li></ul>
Meeting 3	Communicate the results of air quality monitoring to interested parties, especially community members, in a way that is understandable and accessible. Provide an overview of the scope of actions that communities and local air districts could pursue as a result.	Aclima Team	<ul> <li>Were the main objectives of the meeting achieved?</li> <li>How many participants were active in discussion and exercises?</li> <li>Were important topics thoroughly discussed, or did some feel rushed or unresolved?</li> <li>Did the meeting feel engaging and productive, or did it feel tense or disengaged? Why?</li> </ul>



#### **COMPENSATION**

Community members who contribute their knowledge to the project can opt in to be treated as vendors and receive compensation for their contributions if that is within the practice of the Engagement Lead organization. Engagement Leads can decide the amount of compensation to offer. Facilitators will offer guidance for how to proceed as a vendor at the beginning of any engagement activity, including what level of participation meets the threshold for receiving compensation. The Aclima team will directly compensate survey participants based on the projected amount of time it may take a participant to fill it out (\$15 for a 30-minute survey). Engagement Leads must maintain a record of vendor agreements, with the names and contact information of vendors, the activity(ies) they contributed their knowledge to, and the compensation amount they received. Sign-in sheets should be designed to collect all of this information. Payment should be issued at the end of each activity. The project team will provide Engagement Leads with simple vendor agreements to use.

## 5.2 Project Materials and Learning Tools

The Aclima project team will provide Engagement Leads with project materials and templates to customize as necessary. All of these materials will be available to Engagement Leads in a shared online folder. Using templates ensures all project area communities have access to the same content, while allowing flexibility for Engagement Leads to incorporate community-specific considerations into project materials. Materials will be available in English and Spanish, as well as other languages identified as project threshold languages. Engagement Leads can request additional funding in their budgets to translate materials into languages needed for the Consistently Nominated Communities they are serving that are not offered by Aclima.



Aclima's mobile monitoring fleet vehicle



Table H. Engagement Materials

Material	Description	Required/ Optional Use
Powerpoint presentation templates for Meetings 1 and 2	Presentation templates will guide meetings through Community Air Monitoring Plan development activities. The templates will include project overview, aspects of the community profile that Engagement Leads will fill in, purpose of Community Air Monitoring Plan, overview of health impacts of pollution, community-specific context (Engagement Leads complete this), and exercises for community data contributions.	Required
Air Pollution Concern GeoSurvey	The online survey solicits community knowledge and concerns regarding pollutants, facilities, and impacts.	Required
Social Media Graphics	A variety of editable social media graphics and accompanying text will be provided for Engagement Leads to customize and use in outreach efforts for engagement activities and general project awareness.	Required
Physical Flyers	Customizable flyers will be provided for physical distribution at community hubs like community centers, libraries, public bulletins, schools, post offices, cafes, etc.	Required
Community Sign In Sheet	A standard sign in sheet for in-person meetings will be provided; Zoom attendance records will be requested for online participants.	Required
Vendor Agreement Template	A simple vendor agreement template will be provided to Engagement Leads for community participants receiving compensation for their contributions to the project. This form will be required for payment.	Required
Meeting Summary Report	A meeting summary template will be provided to Engagement Leads to document the content of community meetings.	Required
Project Website	Aclima will maintain a <u>project website</u> with updates on project status, resource libraries, and points of contact.	Required
Workplan	Aclima will provide a <u>workplan template</u> for Engagement Leads to plan engagement activities.	Required
Progress Report	Aclima will provide a <u>progress report template</u> that Engagement Leads will submit with each invoice.	Required
Project Overview Printout	A project printout providing an overview of the Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative, FAQs, and project contact information will be provided.	Optional
Community Air Monitoring Plan Development Handout	An infographic detailing Community Air Monitoring Plan development process will be provided.	Optional
MiroBoard	A MiroBoard template and access will be provided for online Community Air Monitoring Plan development activities.	Optional





### 6. Continued Community Communications and Updates During Monitoring

The project team commits to maintaining communications with communities and other interested parties during the air monitoring process to provide updates, answer questions, and provide a forum for communities to react or provide feedback about monitoring. Communications lists compiled by Engagement Leads during the engagement process (sign-in sheets, subscriptions to mailing lists, survey respondent data) will be used by the project team to provide key updates on monitoring via email if consent has been provided. Project updates will also be available on the project website, which will host individual project pages for each Consistently Nominated Community where community members can receive updates, view contact information of project team members, and post comments and feedback. In communities with low access to the internet and/or low digital literacy, the project team will co-create a strategy with the Engagement Leads for continued engagement after monitoring begins. Additional strategies may include individual phone calls or additional in-person meetings, and providing project team contact information on project materials distributed in the community during engagement. The project team will also stay in contact with representatives from local air districts during the monitoring process, giving them project progress updates and communicating with them on any preliminary findings of interest.

### 6.1 Building Capacity to Translate Data into Action

During the monitoring phase, the Aclima project team will partner with community organizations and leaders to offer a series of webinars that cover the topics of 1) interpreting and using air quality data 2) best practices and success stories of using data to accomplish emissions reductions and 3) policies and regulations in California related to air quality management. These webinars are intended to support communities to use the data produced through this project to measurably reduce emissions in their communities. Materials used in these webinars can be repurposed to hold in-person training by interested community leaders and organizations. More information about these webinars will be listed on the project website as the monitoring phase nears.





### Appendix A: Environmental Justice in California

The burden of air pollution in California is disproportionately shouldered by communities of color, with Latino, Black, and Pacific Islander people representing 89% of the population in California communities most impacted by environmental pollution, according to the tool CalEnviroScreen. The least pollution-burdened communities in California, by contrast, are predominantly white, underscoring the persistent racial and ethnic inequities in exposure to environmental hazards.

This racial disparity in pollution exposure is not a coincidence, but rather the result of historical and systemic racism embedded in land use policies and urban planning practices. Redlining, a practice established in the 1930s by the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, denied mortgage lending to residents in areas with a high proportion of Black, Latino, and other minority populations. As a consequence, these communities were often excluded from the economic opportunities and services enjoyed by predominantly white neighborhoods. In many cases, these redlined areas became designated for industrial zoning, resulting in hazardous facilities like oil refineries, power plants, and landfills being located in these communities. Racially restrictive housing covenants segregated neighborhoods further and helped enable the concentration of environmental hazards in areas populated by non-white residents.

In addition to these discriminatory practices, urban planning decisions such as the routing of roads and freeways through predominantly Black and Latino neighborhoods, particularly in the 1960s and 1970s, exacerbated exposure to traffic-related air pollution and other environmental hazards, and in the process destroyed or damaged the social cohesion of communities of color. The impacts of these decisions are measurable today in the form of higher rates of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, including asthma, bronchitis, and heart disease, as well as higher rates of low birth weights and preterm births.

Environmental justice is a framework and movement that seeks to rectify the harms created by environmental racism and ensure that all communities, regardless of race or socioeconomic status, live in a healthy environment. For decades, grassroots organizations and community advocates have

demanded greater accountability from government agencies and industries in the form of more protective regulations, enforcement, environmental cleanup, and increased resources for disproportionately impacted communities. One of the most significant legislative responses to this advocacy in California was the passage of Assembly Bill 617 in 2017.



# Appendix B: Consistently Nominated Communities and Overlapping Native Ancestral Land

Consistently Nominated Community	County	Air District	Ancestral Land
East Contra Costa County (includes Pittsburg Bay Point)	Contra Costa	BAAQMD	Muwekma Me-Wuk (Bay Miwok) Confederated Villages of Lisjan, Karkin, and Miwok
East Palo Alto	San Mateo	BAAQMD	Tamien Nation Ohlone Ramaytush Muwekma
Fairfield	Solano	BAAQMD	Miwok Patwin
Gilroy	Santa Clara	BAAQMD	Popeloutchom (Amah Mutsun) Ohlone
Greater Oakland	Alameda	BAAQMD	Ohlone Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
Hayward (parts)	Alameda	BAAQMD	Ohlone Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
Morgan Hill	Santa Clara	BAAQMD	Tamien Nation Popeloutchom (Amah Mutsun) Ohlone Muwekma
North Central San Mateo	San Mateo	BAAQMD	Ohlone Ramaytush Muwekma
Redwood City	San Mateo	BAAQMD	Ohlone Ramaytush Muwekma
Rodeo to parts of Crockett	Contra Costa	BAAQMD	Miwok Karkin Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
San Francisco	San Francisco	BAAQMD	Ohlone Ramaytush Muwekma



Consistently Nominated Community	County	Air District	Ancestral Land
San Jose	Santa Clara	BAAQMD	Tamien Nation Ohlone Muwekma
San Leandro	Alameda	BAAQMD	Ohlone Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
San Rafael	Marin	BAAQMD	Graton Rancheria Miwok Me-Wuk (Coast Miwok)
Santa Rosa	Sonoma	BAAQMD	Graton Rancheria Southern Pomo
South San Francisco	San Mateo	BAAQMD	Ohlone Ramaytush Muwekma
Treasure Island	San Francisco	BAAQMD	Ohlone Muwekma
Tri-Valley	Alameda, Contra Costa	BAAQMD	Ohlone Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
Vallejo	Solano	BAAQMD	Miwok Karkin Patwin Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
West Berkeley	Alameda	BAAQMD	Ohlone Miwok Muwekma Confederated Villages of Lisjan
Northern Imperial County Corridor - unincorporated communities of Niland, Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach, Salton Sea, Bombay Beach, Seeley	Imperial	Imperial APCD	Cocopah Kumeyaay/Kumiais
Salton City	Imperial	Imperial APCD	Cocopah Cahuilla
Florin (Community C)	Sacramento	Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD	Miwok Plains Miwok
Meadowview (Community G)	Sacramento	Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD	Miwok Plains Miwok
North Sacramento	Sacramento	Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD	Nisenan Miwok
Del Paso Heights, Norwood/Old North Sacramento (Community B in District analysis)	Sacramento	Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD	Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla Nisenan Miwok
Oak Park, Fruitridge	Sacramento	Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD	Nisenan Miwok



Consistently Nominated Community	County	Air District	Ancestral Land	
South Natomas (Community A in District analysis)	Sacramento	Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD	Cayuse, Umatilla and Walla Walla Nisenan Miwok	
"The West Side" (Huron, Avenal, and Coalinga)	Fresno	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Delano	Kern	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Fairmead	Madera	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Kettleman City	Kings	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
La Viña	Madera	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Lanare	Fresno	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Le Grand	Merced	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Lindsay	Tulare	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Lost Hills	Kern	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
North Bakersfield	Kern	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
South Madera - La Vina, Parkwood, Parksdale, Borden, Italian Swiss Colony, Iragose, and Ripperday	Madera	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
South Merced	Merced	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
South Modesto (Modesto, Modesto Airport neighborhood)	Stanislaus	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Miwok Yokuts	
South Tulare & Matheny Tract	Tulare	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Southwest Modesto	Stanislaus	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Wasco	Kern	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Chumash Yokuts	
West Stanislaus County	Stanislaus	San Joaquin Valley APCD	Yokuts	
Bloomington, Fontana, Rialto	San Bernardino	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)	
Buena Park, Anaheim, Fullerton, Orange	Orange	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno) Acjachemen (Juaneño)	
Central and East Riverside, Rubidoux	Riverside	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno) Cahuilla Payómkawichum (Luiseño)	
Chiriaco Summit	Riverside	South Coast AQMD	Cocopah Cahuilla	
Colton, Grand Terrace, San Bernardino (southwest)	San Bernardino	South Coast AQMD	Yuhaaviatam/Maarenga'yam (Serrano) Tongva (Gabrieleno)	
Compton, Rancho Dominguez, Willowbrook, Lynwood	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)	
Corona, Temescal Valley	Riverside	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno) Acjachemen (Juaneño) Payómkawichum (Luiseño)	
El Monte, South El Monte, Avocado Heights, Hacienda Heights, La Puente (west), Bassett	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno) Kizh (Gabrieleno)	



Consistently Nominated Community	County	Air District	Ancestral Land
Gardena, Alondra Park, Lawndale	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Inglewood, Hawthorne, Westmont, Vermont	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Chumash Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Maywood, Commerce (east), Vernon, Bell	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Chumash Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Mira Loma, Jurupa Valley, Eastvale, Pedley	Riverside	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Pacoima, North Hollywood, Sun Valley, San Fernando, Sylmar	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Chumash Tongva (Gabrieleno) Fernandeño Tataviam
Paramount, North Long Beach	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Rancho Cucamonga, Ontario (east)	Riverside	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Santa Ana	Orange	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno) Acjachemen (Juaneño)
Torrance	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Tongva (Gabrieleno)
Van Nuys	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Chumash Tongva (Gabrieleno) Fernandeño Tataviam
Westlake, Korea Town, Mid-city, Mid-Wilshire	Los Angeles	South Coast AQMD	Chumash Tongva (Gabrieleno)



### Appendix C: Criteria Air Pollutants, Toxic Air Contaminants, and Greenhouse Gases

- Criteria Air Pollutants: Six ambient air pollutants regulated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency that have been shown to impact human health and the environment. They are measured by Federal Reference Methods or Federal Equivalent Methods, 40 CFR part 53, as approved by the Environmental Protection Agency. They include:
  - Carbon monoxide (CO)
  - Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂)
  - Ground-level ozone (O₂)
  - Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Particulate matter, initially total suspended particulate matter (TSP), which was revised to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>
  - Lead (Pb)
- Carbon Monoxide (CO): Results from incomplete combustion; is emitted from vehicles, industry, and other sources; and may be <a href="harmful to the health">harmful to the health</a> of sensitive groups, such as those with preexisting heart disease.
- Nitrogen Dioxide ( $NO_2$ ): Mostly formed in air from the conversion (oxidation) of nitric oxide (NO) to  $NO_2$ . Nitrogen dioxide and NO are important chemicals involved in making a portion of fine particulate matter and ozone ( $O_3$ ); collectively they are referred to as NOx.  $NO_2$  is a Criteria Air Pollutant and has been associated with a range of health effects (<u>USEPA</u>).
- Ozone (O₃): A gas, found in the earth's upper atmosphere (stratosphere), which protects lifeforms from the harmful rays of the sun. When found at the earth's surface, O₃ is a criteria pollutant. It is the main ingredient in summertime smog and can degrade human health, vegetation, and buildings (USEPA).
- Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>): A colorless gas that is classified as a criteria air pollutant by the Environmental Protection Agency (<u>USEPA</u>). It is primarily released into the atmosphere

through the burning of fossil fuels, such as coal and oil, at power plants and industrial facilities. Other sources include industrial processes, diesel engines, and volcanic eruptions. Exposure to sulfur dioxide can cause respiratory problems like difficulty breathing and worsen existing conditions like asthma. It can also irritate the eyes and throat. Additionally, it contributes to the formation of acid rain, which has harmful effects on the environment.

- Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>): Airborne particles approximately 25 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair and smaller. As defined by the Environmental Protection Agency, particles equal to and less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter. PM<sub>2.5</sub> is harmful to human health once inhaled (<u>USEPA</u>; <u>WHO</u>) causing a range of heart, lung, and other adverse health issues.
- Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>): Airborne particles approximately 10 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair and smaller. As defined by the Environmental Protection Agency (<u>USEPA</u>), particles equal to and less than 10 micrometers in diameter. PM<sub>10</sub> is harmful to human health once inhaled. Particles larger than PM<sub>2.5</sub> are more likely to cause asthma and upper respiratory issues.
- Lead (Pb): Lead is a heavy metal and a criteria air pollutant regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). While lead levels in the air in the United States have significantly decreased since the phase-out of leaded gasoline, it still poses a health risk as an air pollutant. Lead emissions can originate from various sources, including industrial processes (smelters, battery manufacturing), waste incineration, and aircraft engines using leaded aviation fuel (USEPA).
- Toxic Air Contaminants (TAC): AB 1807 or Section 39655 of the California Health and Safety Code defines Toxic Air Contaminants as "air pollutants which may cause or contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious illness, or which may pose a present or potential hazard to human health." CARB has formally identified over 200



substances (or groups of substances), including the 188 pollutants classified as Toxic Air Pollutants by the Environmental Protection Agency, as TACs, except in their pesticidal use

■ Greenhouse Gases (GHGs): Chemical components found in the atmosphere that absorb infrared radiation emitted by the earth after the earth is warmed by sunlight. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) and methane (CH₄) are the two most important greenhouse gases in the earth's atmosphere that contribute to global warming.



## Appendix D: Post-Meeting Report

Note: These reporting questions may be amended during the project as needed, and Engagement Leads will be provided with the most updated version.

#### MEETING INFORMATION

- Indicate whether this report is for Meeting 1 or 2.
- Meeting Description (briefly describe the purpose of the meeting include canned language)
- Time and location of Meeting
- How many people attended the meeting?
- How many people identified as community members?
- Other notes about who attended (older adults, young people, community members highly impacted by pollution, air districts, elected officials, etc.)

#### **MEETING EVALUATION**

- Do you feel the main objectives of the meeting were achieved?
- Did participants (especially community members) understand meeting topics?
- How many participants were active in discussion and exercises?
- On a scale from 1 to 10, how productive do you feel the meeting was? Why?
- Were important topics thoroughly discussed, or did some feel rushed or unresolved?
- Were there any parts of the meeting that felt redundant or unnecessary?
- Was there a clear process for making decisions, and were key decisions made?
- Did the meeting stay focused on its goals, or did discussions go off track?
- Did the meeting feel engaging and productive, or did it feel tense or disengaged? Why?
- Did participants seem aligned in their views, or was there noticeable tension or disagreement?
- Were staff able to answer participant questions and concerns in an adequate way? Were there concerns left unaddressed?
- What comments, if any, did community members make about what they liked about the meeting and how we can make future ones better?



#### CALIFORNIA CLIMATE INVESTMENTS REPORTING QUESTIONS

#### Which of these took place? Check all that apply.

- Informed the community about various aspects of the project, including the process by which major decisions about the project would be made.
- Solicited and recorded written or spoken input from the community about specific aspects of the project or potential project alternatives before decisions on those aspects and alternatives were finalized.
- Incorporated proposals or ideas from the community into project alternatives or components.
- Reported back to the community on how their input was incorporated.
- One or more workshops or other meetings in which the community developed a project alternative or specific component to address unmet community needs, which was subsequently included in the project's application for funding or final design.
- Formal cooperation with a community-based organization (i.e., via a memorandum of understanding, community benefits agreement, steering committee, labor agreement, etc.) to acquire or distribute funding, identify project alternatives or project components, or otherwise enhance community engagement in project design, planning and implementation.
- Delegation of authority to choose between project alternatives or components to the community through a steering committee, organized voting process, representative community-based organization, or other means.
- A community-based organization, community-driven steering committee, or similar entity designed, planned, and implemented the project in whole or in significant part.

#### Which statements are true?

- The participants comprised a broadly representative sample of the population potentially benefiting from, or affected by, the project
- Project proponents identified key community leaders and organizations and engaged them directly.
- The events and input opportunities were hosted at varied and accessible times and locations throughout the area potentially affected by the project, and included both in person and online forms of engagement.
- Events and written materials were offered in languages other than English.
- The participation process was conducted or assisted by a professional facilitator or public participation expert.
- The project proponents, or those acting on their behalf, prepared and followed a community engagement plan that meets the minimum criteria originally established by the Transformative Climate Communities Program (option is available for all project types).

#### CAMP INFORMATION (MEETING 1 ONLY)

What sites or other specific areas did meeting participants identify as wanting to do extra monitoring? Include the following information for each area or site and rank their priority.

- Which of the following describes the air pollution concern?
  - There is a specific polluting facility that I am concerned about
  - There is a specific polluting facility that I am concerned about because of vehicle or truck traffic associated with it



- I am concerned generally about a specific type of pollution source, and there are many of these types of polluters in my communit
- Air pollution is impacting my well-being (or my family's/neighbor's/community's ,etc), but I do not know where the pollution is coming from
- There are so many different polluting facilities and types of pollution that I am concerned about in my community. I want to know how we can determine which ones are the most impactful.
- I am less interested in where the pollution is coming from, but I want to know what locations in my community are most impacted by specific pollutants.
- Describe the location of the source(s) and/or the impact zone(s).
- What kind of pollution do you think is there?
- Is there a specific facility that they think is responsible? Who operates it?
- What have they observed about pollution there? Describe any smells and health impacts.
- Times of day? Days of week? Times of year?
- Are there kinds of weather that make air quality worse?
- What kinds of actions would community members take or encourage others to take if they had more data about your pollution concern?
- What kind of information did meeting participants most want to know about? Examples include:
  - Where is the pollution coming from?
  - What's in the pollution? What kind of contaminants?
  - What levels of pollution are in the community?
  - Who's being impacted by it and where?
  - How does pollution vary over time?

#### CAMP INFORMATION (MEETING 2 ONLY)

- What changes were recommended to the broad area monitoring boundary?
  - Were enough community members and/or other meeting participants aligned on this change that you would recommend us adopting it?
- If your community was allocated a targeted area monitoring study, what changes were recommended by community members and/or other meeting participants?
  - Were enough community members and/or other meeting participants aligned on this change that you would recommend us adopting it?
- How did your community respond to the proposed visualizations for communicating the anticipated monitoring results?
  - Are the visualizations intuitive for the community members to understand, or would additional technical training and capacity building be required?
  - Do community members have alternative suggestions for how the data should be visualized?



### **Appendix E:** Meeting Guide

Note: This guide may be amended during the project as needed, and Engagement Leads will be provided with the most updated version.

#### **MEETING 1**

#### Purpose:

Understand community air pollution concerns, and identify monitoring objectives and boundaries.

#### Meeting Length and Format:

2 hours, Hybrid

#### Tools and materials:

- Presentation slides, provided by Aclima and customized by Engagement Lead
- Digital monitoring boundary drawing tool, provided by Aclima
- Sign-in sheets
- Vendor agreement form for community compensation, provided by Aclima

#### Agenda:

- Welcome and brief introductions to Engagement Lead team
- Review the agenda
  - Describe the steps community members need to take to be compensated for participation
- Overview of project, its purpose and outcomes
- Discuss decision-making process for meeting (i.e. majority vote, consensus)
- Review air pollution survey data and other air pollution data with meeting participants as necessary, which will be provided by the Aclima team. This can help to set the stage for discussing and elaborating upon known pollution concerns and sources.
- Discuss community concerns around air pollution, guiding community members to elaborate on their concerns through the following questions:
  - Which of the following describes the air pollution concern?
    - There is a specific polluting facility that I am concerned about.
    - There is a specific polluting facility that I am concerned about because of vehicle or truck traffic associated with it.
    - I am generally concerned about a specific type of pollution source, and there are many of these types of polluters in my community.



- Air pollution is impacting my well-being (or my family's/neighbor's/community's, etc), but I do not know where the pollution is coming from.
- There are so many different polluting facilities and types of pollution that I am concerned about in my community. I want to know how can we determine which ones are the most impactful.
- I am less interested in where the pollution is coming from, but I want to know what locations in my community are most impacted by specific pollutants.
- Describe the location of the source(s) and/or the impact zone(s). Location
- What kind of pollution do you think is there?
- What kind of information do meeting participants most want to know about?
  - Where is the pollution coming from?
  - What's in the pollution? What kind of contaminants?
  - Who's being impacted by it and where?
- Break
- Defining the monitoring boundary
  - Provide meeting participants with an explanation of the monitoring mileage "budget" available to them and how this is reflected in the boundary drawing tool
  - Provide a demonstration of the boundary drawing tool on a projector
  - Have meeting participants guide an Engagement Lead staff member to draw a boundary for broad area monitoring according to their pollution concerns
  - Remind them that targeted area monitoring sites don't have to be included in this boundary
- Discuss next steps for meeting participants, including:
  - What worked about this meeting and how to make the next one better
  - The purpose and activities for Meeting 2
  - Time and place of Meeting 2, and how outreach and reminders will occur
  - Project contact information
  - Reminder to fill out the vendor agreement form to be compensated for participation. Engagement Leads should provide compensation at the conclusion of the meeting as soon as they have received the vendor agreement form.

#### **MEETING 2:**

#### Purpose:

Review and make recommendations to change the draft Community Air Monitoring Plan, including the monitoring boundary.

#### Meeting Length and Format:

2 hours, Hybrid



#### Tools and materials:

- Draft Community Air Monitoring Plan
- Presentation slides, provided by Aclima and customized by Engagement Lead
- Digital monitoring boundary drawing tool, provided by Aclima
- Sign-in sheets
- Vendor agreement form for community compensation, provided by Aclima

#### Agenda:

- Welcome and brief introductions to Engagement Lead team
- Review the agenda
  - Describe the steps community members need to take to be compensated for participation
- Review the project scope, purpose and outcomes
- Review decision-making process for meeting (i.e. majority vote, consensus)
- Provide an overview of past meetings and decisions
- Review key aspects of the Community Air Monitoring Plan, including:
  - Community pollution concerns and actions they would like to pursue in the future using data collected through the Community Air Monitoring Plan
  - Monitoring objectives, including any targeted area monitoring studies
  - Broad area monitoring boundary
- If applicable, be clear with meeting participants about why certain areas or targeted studies are not included in the Community Air Monitoring Plan, which are limitations that will be communicated to Engagement Leads by Aclima staff, as applicable.
- Optional Break
- Discuss with meeting participants desired changes to the Community Air Monitoring Plan, keeping in mind any limitations communicated by Aclima staff.
  - The digital boundary drawing tool will be available to Engagement Leads as needed.
- Discuss next steps for meeting participants, including:
  - What worked about this meeting and how to make future ones better
  - Checking the project website for updates about monitoring
  - Reminder about Meeting 3 in May 2026, which will present results to community members
  - Project contact information
  - Reminder to fill out the vendor agreement form to be compensated for participation. Engagement Leads should provide compensation at the conclusion of the meeting as soon as they have received the vendor agreement form.



## **Appendix F: Community Profile Requirements**

Instructions: Write a 2-3 page community profile for the Consistently Nominated Community you are leading Community Air Monitoring Plan engagement for. Please address all of the following information.

- 1. What are the demographic characteristics of this Consistently Nominated Community? Include data on race, income, age, languages spoken, and educational attainment?
  - a. Describe how these community characteristics may impact community engagement needs.
  - b. What qualitative data could help us understand this community's community engagement needs?
- 2. Describe health trends in the Consistently Nominated Community are there any prevalent health conditions related to air quality (e.g., asthma, cardiovascular disease, low birth weight?)
- 3. Describe known pollution sources in the community and their impacts on health and wellness.
- **4.** What kind of air quality advocacy and/or environmental justice work is already happening in the community? What is the current status of these efforts?
- 5. Are there any past or current air quality monitoring efforts in the community, either by community members, community organizations, or in partnership with the local air district? What have these monitoring efforts revealed? Please link to these studies if so.
  - a. Who has benefitted from/who has been burdened by these existing efforts?
- **6.** Are there any past or current emissions reductions projects in the community? What is the current status of these projects? Please link to these projects if so.
  - a. Who has benefitted from/who has been burdened by these existing efforts?



## **Appendix G:** Air Pollution Concerns Survey

The final survey is still under development as of the publication of this Community Engagement Plan, but some sample questions are listed below:

- What best describes your air pollution concern? (Select All That Apply)
  - There is a specific polluting facility that I am concerned about
  - There is a specific polluting facility that I am concerned about because of vehicle or truck traffic associated with it
  - I am concerned generally about a specific type of pollution source and there are many of these types of polluters in my community
  - Air pollution is impacting my well-being (or my family's/neighbor's/community's etc), but I do not know where the pollution is coming from
  - There are so many different polluting facilities and types of pollution that I'm concerned about in my community. I want to know which ones are the most impactful?
  - I am less interested in where the pollution is coming from, but I want to know what locations in my community are most impacted by specific pollutants.
  - Other\_\_\_\_\_(specify)\_\_\_\_\_
- Where is(are) the facility(ies) that you are concerned about located? (Specify location on a map)
- What type of facility is it? (Multiple choice with "other" option)
- Where are you/others located when you experience poor air quality? (Specify location on a map)
- What pollution source types are you most concerned about? (Multiple choice with "other" option)
- What pollutants are you concerned about? (Multiple choice with "other" option)
- Are there particular times of day/week/month/year that you observe poor air quality due to this facility (or in general)? (Multiple choice along with short text input for additional context)
- Are there particular types of weather patterns present when you observe poor air quality due to this facility (or in general)? (Multiple choice along with short text input for additional context)
- What types of impacts (health impacts acute or chronic, odors, visibility, etc) do you experience due to air pollution from this facility (or in general)? (Multiple choice with short text input for additional context)
- What best describes what you would like the data from SMMI to support? (Rank in order of importance)
  - What types of pollutants (criteria, toxic air contaminants, or GHGs) are present in emissions from this facility



(or present in my community)

- Where are the locations most impacted by emissions from this facility (or in general)?
- What level of pollution is present in neighboring communities for the key pollutants associated with this facility?
- What actions would you like to see the monitoring for this concern support? (Multiple choice rank in order of importance)
  - Enforce compliance with existing rules
  - Development of a community emissions reduction plan
  - New zoning and land use requirements
  - Adopting cleaner technologies through grants and incentives
  - Developing new rules or modifying existing rules to reduce emissions from specific sources
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_(specify)\_\_\_\_\_
- Is there anything you would like to add?



## Appendix H: Engagement Lead Work Plan Template

#### Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative

**Engagement Lead Work Plan** 

Date	Please enter date
Organization	Please enter org name
Prepared by	Please enter your name

#### Overview of the Scope of Work

[Provide a brief summary of the project's objectives and the subcontractor's role in executing specific tasks]

#### Task Breakdown & Timeline

Task No.	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Methodology / Approach
1	Project and Tools Orientation & Relationship Building Exercise			
2	Check-Ins with Aclima Project Team			
3	Community Profile(s)			
4	Survey Outreach			
5	Meeting 1 Outreach			
6	Meeting 1			
7	Meeting 2 Outreach			









#### Engagement Lead Work Plan

Task No.	Task Description	Start Date	End Date	Methodology / Approach
8	Meeting 2			
9	[Optional Task 1]			
10	[Optional Task 2]			
11	[Optional Task 3]			
12	Meeting 3 Outreach			

#### **Deliverables**

[Describe the expected outputs for each task]

#### **Key Milestones**

[List important deadlines or milestones]

- Progress Reports Due: [Define frequency and format]
- Community Profile Due: [Define submission date]
- Meeting 1: [Define expected date]
- Meeting 2: [Define expected date]
- Meeting Reports Due: [Define submission dates]

#### **Budget & Resources**

[Include the budget allocation for each task - OR - insert a hyperlink to your budget spreadsheet]

#### **Additional Notes (Optional)**

[Include additional considerations, constraints, etc.]

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Engagement Lead Work Plan

#### Work Plan Approval & Sign-Off

#### [Subcontractor]

Prepared by: [Your Name]
Signature: [Your Signature]

Date: [Date]

#### Aclima

Accepted by: [Name]
Signature: [Signature]
Date: [Date]

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## Appendix I: Engagement Lead Progress Report Template

<b>△</b> aclima				
Statewide Mobile Monito Engagement Lead Progress Rep		ive		
Step 1: Enter basic information	_			
Today's Date 2/21/2025 Organization Please enter or name Prepared by Please enter or name Amount Due Please enter amount Contracted organizations receive 25% of their total budget upfront (February 2025), with subsequent purporets of 25% issued on a monthly basis through May 2025 upon receipt of this progress report				
Step 2: Update task information	Step 2A Select current status	Step 2B Provide a summary of completed activities, including attendance and community compensation records, meeting slides and recordings, copies of customized outleach materials, and number of community members reached via outleach.	Step 2C Provide a summary of anticipated activities in the coming weeks.	Step 2D (optional) Provide any additional relevant information, such as barriers encountered.
Task	Status	Progress to Date	Upcoming Activity	Additional Comments
Mandatory 2-hr Project Training	Not Started			
Project Team Check-Ins	Not Started			
Community profile	Not Started			
Outreach	Not Started			
Survey	Not Started			
Meeting 1 (Hybrid)	Not Started			
Meeting 2 (Hybrid)	Not Started			
Optional Task 1 please overwrite with actual task description	Not Applicable			
Optional Task 2 please overwrite with actual task description	Not Applicable			
Optional Task 3 please overwrite with actual task description	Not Applicable			
Step 3: Export to PDF	-			
Click File in the top menu Select Download from the dropdown menu Click PDF document (pdf) Select Portrait page orientation Click Export to download your PDF				



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Aclima is based in San Francisco, California All Aclima hardware is designed and manufactured in the USA

