



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

725 "J" STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIF. 95814
TELEPHONE (916) 449-5604

MARTY VAN DUYN
PLANNING DIRECTOR

December 11, 1980

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Status of City Air Quality Planning Program (M-406)

SUMMARY

This is an informational report on the status of implementation of the 1979 Regional Air Quality Plan (AQP), the program for development of the 1982 Regional Air Quality Plan and pending air quality legislation. The 1979 AQP indicated that this region could not attain national standards for ozone and carbon monoxide by 1982, so the EPA approved an extension until 1987.

However, the EPA has not approved the Regional or State Implementation Programs because of the absence of a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program (MVIMP). The EPA has designated the Sacramento region and other metropolitan areas in the state as non-attainment areas and initiated the process to withhold federal funding for transportation and sewer projects. Final EPA action has been deferred until early next year. This status report is for the Council's information and does not require specific action unless desired by the Council.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1979 Air Quality Plan - In the 1979 Air Quality Plan, the City endorsed the evaluation and implementation of a number of measures projected to reduce pollutant emissions and to improve air quality conditions in the Sacramento region.

A number of the adopted actions have already been implemented in terms of studies or endorsements required to support the various programs included in the Air Quality Plan. The major studies which have recently been completed or are in progress include the North-East Corridor AA/EIS Study, the Park-and-Ride Feasibility Study, the joint City-County-State Parking Management Program, and Folsom Corridor Light Rail Study.

APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

DEC 16 1980

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

*Refer to
P&CD
Comm.*

The general approach of the joint City-County-State Parking Management Program was to develop disincentives for vehicle use as well as to provide incentives and facilities to encourage single-occupant automobile commuters to either rideshare or select an alternative transportation mode, such as transit or bicycles. The primary emphasis of the Parking Management Program is to establish a new set of policies, programs, and ordinances to increase the attractiveness of alternative travel modes.

A number of Planning Commission public hearings and presentations to interested citizen groups have been conducted during the past year regarding the proposals included in the Parking Management Program. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Draft Parking Management Program report on November 20th. The draft report will then be submitted to the City Council in January.

Land Use Strategies - The City has recently received a \$35,000 EPA grant through the Sacramento Regional Area Planning Commission, a portion of which will be used to develop land development strategies in the 1979 Air Quality Plan. The strategies to be evaluated would encourage and facilitate infilling and higher density developments, especially along transit corridors. The interrelationship between land development patterns, transportation methods, and air quality impacts will be analyzed as part of this study. This study is anticipated to be completed in April or May of next year.

1982 Air Quality Plan - The 1979 Air Quality Plan indicated that the Sacramento region will not be able to meet the federal air quality standards for ozone and carbon monoxide by 1982. The Clean Air Act allows the EPA to grant extensions for compliance with the federal standards until December, 1987. As a condition of this extension, however, a revised air quality plan must be prepared which demonstrates the attainment of the federal ozone and carbon monoxide standards by 1987. This revised plan must be submitted to EPA by December, 1982.

The Clean Air Act requires that the 1982 Plan contain a fully adopted and legally enforceable program that provides commitments in terms of staff and funding for implementation of the control measures required to attain the federal ozone and carbon monoxide standards. In addition, each air quality maintenance area must annually demonstrate reasonable further progress in the attainment of the federal standards as projected in the 1982 Air Quality Plan. A contingency plan for implementing additional control measures must also be prepared and enacted if annual emission reductions are not consistent with the projections included in the 1982 Air Quality Plan.

Status of EPA Funding Sanctions - In June the EPA initiated the process to sanction U.S. Department of Transportation (except for transit), and EPA sewer treatment plan construction grants and air quality planning and control grants for the metropolitan non-attainment areas in California. The Sacramento Air Quality Maintenance Area

December 11, 1980

(AQMA) will be affected by the sanctions if and when they are imposed. The EPA may decide to only apply the sanctions to the urbanized areas within the AQMA. Additionally, they may decide to exempt certain projects or categories of funds. However, they have not indicated the types of categories or projects which may be exempted.


The EPA has indicated that the Sacramento region could lose up to \$26 million in federal funding if the sanctions were imposed. This funding level is based on \$16 million for transportation projects and \$10 million for sewer projects. In addition, air quality planning and control grants may be withheld. The EPA has not specified which local projects may be affected. EPA's actions were triggered by the failure of the State Legislature to pass a motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program.

Senator Presley has recently introduced a measure (SB 33) which would establish a mandatory annual inspection program for vehicles licensed within the designated non-attainment areas. This measure incorporates features of a proposal prepared by the seven metropolitan air quality maintenance agencies within the state. This and similar legislation would be submitted early next year to the Council's Law and Legislation Committee for possible City action. Although legislative action on air quality measures may be deferred until the new administration takes over, it should be noted that California is the only one of twenty-nine states involved which has not adopted the mandatory inspection and maintenance program.

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational report which does not require Council action.

Respectfully submitted,


Marty Van Duyen
Planning Director

FOR CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION:


Walter J. Slipe, City Manager

MVD:TM:jm
M-406

December 16, 1980
All Districts