

T O R R A N C E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary Giordano
Assistant City Manager
(310) 618-5880
MGiordano@TorranceCA.Gov
www.TorranceCA.Gov

South Coast Air Quality Management District to Determine How \$2.5 Million from ExxonMobil Fine will Benefit Torrance, Region

Torrance, Calif., April 22, 2016 – At an April 2, 2016 public hearing held in Torrance, the South Coast Air Quality Management District Hearing Board levied an approximate \$5 million fine on ExxonMobil for air pollution as a result of a February 2015 explosion at the company's Torrance refinery.

The Hearing Board earmarked \$2.5 million of that fine to be used in projects to benefit the neighborhoods and communities surrounding the refinery. The City can propose projects it would like to see implemented with these funds.

South Coast Air Quality Management District will have discretion over how the funds are disbursed. Projects will be considered by the board at a future meeting. The date for that meeting has not yet been announced.

The Torrance City Council, at its April 19, 2016 meeting, discussed projects that may be included in its proposal to the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Projects under consideration by the City for submission include but are not limited to:

- Developing and/or supplementing rapid multi-agency response to critical situations, which could include but is not limited to radios and communications equipment for Emergency Operations Center

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(More)

- Transitioning a portion of City Fleet vehicles to electric vehicles
- Installing solar panels at City Hall and/or the City Yard
- Increased Community training and education

Community members also expressed interest in more robust community warning and air quality monitoring systems.

City officials also encourage residents to contact the South Coast Air Quality Management District directly to suggest projects they would like to see funded.

To be considered for discussion by the board, suggestions must be emailed to all board members. Visit TorranceCA.Gov/Refinery to obtain the [South Coast Air Quality Management District Governing Board Roster](#). For additional information the Public Information Center can be reached at (800) CUT-SMOG (288-7664) or via email at PICRequests@aqmd.gov.

Go to www.TorranceCA.Gov/Refinery for more information about the Feb. 18, 2015 incident at the ExxonMobil Torrance refinery and the public hearings held Jan. 13, 2016 and April 2, 2016, as well as informational handouts and other links.

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