

**AB 617 Community Air Protection Program
Calexico-Heber-El Centro
Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
Southwest High School Library**

**2001 Ocotillo Dr.
El Centro, CA 92243**

**MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, April 15, 2026
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

WELCOME

- 1. ROLL CALL/OPENING REMARKS BY CSC MEMBERS** **CSC**

- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** **CSC**
Comments are to be limited to no more than 3 minutes per person.

- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **CSC**
Review and approval of Minutes of the January 14, 2026 CSC Meeting.
(Attachment: [January 14, 2026 Minutes](#))

- 4. PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. Project ACE: Air Community Education** **SHS Community Health
Worker Students**

The 2026 Project ACE: Air Community Education program overview will be presented by the Southwest High School Community Health Worker Students who will demonstrate their knowledge and skills gained through this program.
(Attachment: [Project: Air Community Education](#))

 - B. Meadows USD AB 617 Projects Update** **Meadows USD**
Meadows USD Staff will present a progress update AB 617 emission reduction projects located at the school site and the benefits their community has experienced.
(Attachment: [Meadows USD AB 617 Projects Update](#))

 - C. AB 617 South-End Projects Update** **ICAPCD**
ICAPCD Staff will present an update on the AB 617 emission reduction projects.
(Attachment: [AB 617 South-End Projects Update](#))

- 5. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**
 - A. Imperial County AB 617 Open Discussion** **CSC**
Open discussion regarding the Imperial County AB 617 Calexico-Heber-El Centro Corridor.

- 6. AGENCY UPDATES** **CSC**

**AB 617 Community Air Protection Program
Calexico-Heber-El Centro
Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
Southwest High School Library
2001 Ocotillo Dr.
El Centro, CA 92243**

- 7. AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING** **CSC**
Discuss agenda topics for the next in-person CSC meeting on July 8, 2026 at the Heber Teresa Estrada Community Center (1132 Heber Ave., Heber, CA 92249).

- 8. CLOSING REMARKS/ADJOURNMENT** **CSC**

**AB 617 Programa de Protección del Aire Comunitario
Calexico-Heber-El Centro
Agenda de la reunión del comité directivo
Southwest High School Library**

**2001 Ocotillo Dr.
El Centro, CA 92243**

**AGENDA DE LA REUNIÓN
Miércoles, 15 de abril de 2026
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

BIENVENIDOS

- 1. PASE DE LISTA/PALABRAS DE APERTURA DE LOS MIEMBROS DEL CSC** **CSC**

- 2. PERÍODO DE COMENTARIOS PÚBLICOS** **CSC**
Los comentarios deben limitarse a no más de 3 minutos por persona.

- 3. APROBACIÓN DE LAS MINUTAS** **CSC**
Revisión y aprobación del Acta de la reunión del CSC del 14 de enero de 2026.
(Adjunto: [Acta del 14 de enero de 2026](#))

- 4. PRESENTACIONES**
 - A. Project ACE: Air Community Education** **SHS Community Health
Worker Students**

El resumen del programa Project ACE: Air Community Education será presentado por los estudiantes de la clase de Trabajadores Comunitarios de Salud estudiantil de Southwest High School, quienes demostrarán sus conocimientos y habilidades adquiridos a través de este programa.
(Adjunto: [Project: Air Community Education](#))

 - B. Actualización de proyectos Meadows USD AB 617** **Meadows USD**
El personal de Meadows USD presentará una actualización de los proyectos de reducción de emisiones AB 617 ubicados en el recinto escolar y los beneficios que ha experimentado su comunidad.
(Adjunto: [Actualización de proyectos Meadows USD AB 617](#))

 - C. AB 617 Actualización de Proyectos del Sur** **ICAPCD**
El personal de ICAPCD presentará una actualización sobre los proyectos de reducción de emisiones AB 617.
(Adjunto: [AB 617 Actualización de Proyectos del Sur](#))

- 5. PUNTOS DE DISCUSIÓN/INFORMACIÓN:**
 - A. Condado de Imperial AB 617 Discusión Abierta** **CSC**
Discusión abierta sobre el corredor Callexico-Heber-El Centro AB 617 del condado Imperial.

**AB 617 Programa de Protección del Aire Comunitario
Calexico-Heber-El Centro
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- | | |
|--|------------|
| 6. ACTUALIZACIONES DE LAS AGENCIAS | CSC |
| 7. TEMAS DE LA AGENDA PARA LA PRÓXIMA REUNIÓN
Discutir los temas de la agenda para la próxima reunión presencial del CSC el 8 de julio de 2026 en el Centro Comunitario Heber Teresa Estrada (1132 Heber Ave., Heber, CA 92249). | CSC |
| 8. OBSERVACIONES DE CLAUSURA/CIERRE | CSC |

**3. Minutes:
January 14, 2026
CSC Meeting**

**AB 617 Community Air Protection Program
Minutes of the Steering Committee Meeting
Heber, California
January 14th, 2026**

Facilitator: Imperial County Air Pollution Control District

I. Attendance:

Primaries: **Sergio Cabañas**, Community Corridor; **Rene Felix**, Community Corridor; **Michael Moore**, Community Corridor; **Mary Salazar**, Community Corridor; **Jose Landeros**, Community Corridor; **David Aguirre**, Community Corridor.

Alternates: **Melissa Sandoval**, Community Corridor; **Gustavo Gomez**, Community Corridor.

Other Agency Staff: **Thomas Brinkerhoff**, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District; **Adriana Carrillo**, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District; **Abigail Arballo**, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District; **Malinda Dumisani**, California Air Resources Board; **Suzanne Seivright-Sutherland**, California Baptist University.

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks by CSC Members

Adriana Carrillo welcomed everyone. She shared the different ways that the public could view the meeting. She explained how attendees could access the agenda packet for the discussion and how to submit comments for the debate.

Carlos Diaz de Leon gave instructions on how to use the translation services.

Adriana Carrillo explained the consent guidelines and noted they reached a quorum.

Sergio Cabañas thanked the group for continuing to meet, even if not as often as before.

II. Public Comments

Suzanne Sutherland said she had emailed APCD about her research and invited the committee to join. She explained that it focused on the members' learning experiences.

III. Approval of Minutes

Sergio Cabañas motioned to approve the minutes of the November 12th meeting.

Michael Moore seconded the motion.

The motion passed.

IV. Presentations

Charter and Code of Conduct, Adriana Carrillo; ICAPCD.

Michael Moore mentioned he would be glad to co-host the April meeting.

Sergio Cabañas volunteered to co-host the October meeting.

Jose Landeros volunteered to co-host the July meeting.

Adriana Carrillo clarified that the members would not be alone and that the team would walk them through the process of co-hosting a meeting.

AB 617 South-End Corridor Budget and Projects Update, Abigail Arballo; ICAPCD

A CSC member asked whether any projects were at risk of missing their deadlines.

Adriana Carrillo noted they expect the projects to be finished before the deadline.

A CSC member asked if extensions could be requested for projects that miss their deadlines.

Abigail Arballo said they had been in discussions with CARB about a CAP Year 5 extension and mentioned they would keep the committee updated.

A CSC member asked what would happen if there was a shortage of funding.

Abigail Arballo clarified that the funding had already been allocated. She added that APCD could cover the funds from another account if necessary.

Michael Moore asked how the extension approval worked with CARB.

Abigail Arballo mentioned that CARB could provide an extension once a formal request was submitted.

Michael Moore asked for an update on the school bus replacement program.

Adriana Carrillo mentioned that the buses were taking longer to be delivered because they were made to order.

V. Discussion / Information Items

AB 617 South-End Corridor Objectives.

Sergio Cabañas noted that he had observed younger community members in the valley to be motivated and participative, though they knew little about AB 617 or APCD's role. He suggested collaborating with Imperial County's Office of Education, IBC, and San Diego State to hold talks with students on the subject.

Adriana Carrillo said they would look into ways to get more involved and encouraged members to share any school contacts.

René Félix said his daughter is a member of a science club where there is a strong focus on connecting these types of student groups with the technical and scientific fields available in the county. He commented that the ideas suggested by **Sergio Cabañas** need to be put into practice, as there is a lot of talent among young people in their community with the potential for professional careers.

Adriana Carrillo said they would contact the science club.

Michael Moore noted he was pleased with the committee's transition toward a focus on education and outreach.

Adriana Carrillo mentioned that Project ACE would begin addressing monitoring and thanked **Jose Landeros** for making it possible.

Sergio Landeros thanked APCD for allowing him to participate in Project ACE. He said that incorporating monitoring would be a major benefit for their education.

Sergio Cabañas asked if it was possible to take students to a monitoring station and review the data on-site.

Jose Landeros commented that the idea was to have students review and observe how the program works.

Adriana Carrillo mentioned they were exploring the possibility of creating a new monitoring project. She clarified that discussions were still at an early stage and asked for the committee's feedback.

An attendee asked if they would be using new infrastructure.

Adriana Carrillo confirmed it would be new equipment.

Michael Moore asked what the future would be for the monitors that had been installed during their first year.

Adriana Carrillo noted that the IVAN monitors had been completed in December 2024. She clarified that those monitors were already up and running, which provided the opportunity to begin a new monitoring project. She added that a new RFP would need to be initiated for them.

Michael Moore asked for clarification on whether the new monitors would replace the existing IVAN network.

Adriana Carrillo mentioned that the contract with CCV and the use of the IVAN network had expired, which was why they wanted to propose a second opportunity for a monitoring project.

Jose Landeros said they should first discuss which parameters and areas they would want to cover.

Rene Felix agreed with **Jose Landeros**. He said that monitoring is an urgent need in his county and said he would support the proposed project.

Sergio Cabañas noted that during a few presentations on the IVAN monitors, the data had been very confusing, and the presentations were poorly done.

Abigail Arballo suggested monitoring PM 2.5 and PM 10, noting that the IVAN data had been presented poorly.

Jose Landeros asked for an update on the New River.

Adriana Carrillo said they would provide an update at the next meeting. Regarding the monitoring project, she noted the discussion could be brought up at their April meeting or held in a special meeting dedicated to that topic, where potential parameters and locations could be discussed.

Imperial County AB 617 Open Discussion.

Jose Landeros suggested inviting the schools they had been working with so the students could present their thoughts on the program.

Adriana Carrillo mentioned they would begin Project ACE earlier in the year to allow more time to reach out to additional schools.

Sergio Cabañas commented that he would share a contact at IBC, noting the importance of supporting the schools.

VI. Agency Updates

Melinda Dumasani noted that the Office of Community Air Protection had recently revived a consultation group, of which **Belen Leon-Lopez** was a member. She mentioned they were working on developing a draft charter and explained that part of the group's role was to advise CARB on how the air protection program should be implemented. She suggested members share their thoughts with **Belen Leon-Lopez** and noted that the next meeting would be on March 25th.

Adriana Carrillo reminded the committee that **Suzanne Sutherland** was still available for anyone interested in participating in her research project. She noted that their evaluation research group would also be reaching out to members regarding the project.

VII. Topics on the Agenda and Date for the Next Meeting.

Adriana Carrillo said their next meeting would be on April 8th.

Jose Landeros asked if they could have Southwest High School present their yearly plan.

An attendee suggested presenting updates on their projects.

Sergio Cabañas agreed on having a presentation to review the status of the projects.

Rene Felix asked if there is a visual archive of all the projects that have been done over the years.

Adriana Carrillo mentioned that they do have photos of all the projects. She commented that they can create a presentation with those photos.

An attendee agreed on using the photos for a presentation and suggested also featuring them on the website to showcase their achievements.

VIII. Final Observations / Closing Remarks

Sergio Cabañas asked what the plan was to replace **Israel Hernandez's** role. He suggested that **Adriana Carrillo** should take his position.

Adriana Carrillo appreciated **Sergio Cabañas's** comment. She clarified that there is an ongoing process to fill Israel Hernandez's position and added that she would be glad to take it if given the opportunity.

Meeting adjourned.

Programa Comunitario de Protección Atmosférica Bajo el Auspicio del Proyecto de Ley AB 617
Minuta de la Reunión del Comité Directivo
Heber, California
14 de Enero del 2026

Facilitadora: Distrito de Control de la Contaminación del Aire del Condado de Imperial

I. Asistencia:

Titulares: **Sergio Cabañas**, Corredor Comunitario; **René Félix**, Corredor Comunitario; **Michael Moore**, Corredor Comunitario; **Mary Salazar**, Corredor Comunitario; **José Landeros**, Corredor Comunitario; **David Aguiree**, Corredor Comunitario.

Suplentes: **Melissa Sandoval**, Corredor Comunitario; **Gustavo Gomez**, Corredor Comunitario.

Otro personal de las dependencias: **Thomas Brinkerhoff**, Distrito de Control de la Contaminación del Aire del Condado de Imperial; **Adriana Carrillo**, Distrito de Control de la Contaminación del Aire del Condado de Imperial; **Abigail Arballo**, Distrito de Control de la Contaminación del Aire del Condado de Imperial; **Malinda Dumisani**, Junta de Recursos del Aire de California; **Suzanne Seivright-Sutherland**, California Baptist University.

I. Bienvenida y Comentarios Iniciales por parte de los Integrantes del CSC

Adriana Carrillo dio la bienvenida a todos. Explicó las diferentes maneras en que el público podía ver la reunión. Explicó cómo los asistentes podían acceder a la agenda y cómo enviar comentarios para el debate.

Carlos Díaz de León dio las instrucciones sobre cómo usar los servicios de traducción.

Adriana Carrillo explicó las pautas de consentimiento y señaló que se alcanzó el quórum.

Sergio Cabañas agradeció al grupo por seguir reuniéndose, aunque no con tanta frecuencia.

II. Comentarios Públicos

Suzanne Sutherland comentó que había enviado un correo electrónico a APCD sobre su investigación e invitó al comité a unirse. Explicó que se centraba en las experiencias de aprendizaje de los miembros.

III. Aprobación de Minutas

Sergio Cabañas propuso aprobar las minutas de la reunión del 12 de noviembre.

Michael Moore secundó la moción.

La moción fue aprobada.

IV. Presentaciones

Carta y Código de Conducta, Adriana Carrillo; ICAPCD.

Michael Moore mencionó que estaría encantado de ser coanfitrión de la reunión de abril.

Sergio Cabañas se ofreció como voluntario para ser coanfitrión de la reunión de octubre.

José Landeros se ofreció como voluntario para ser coanfitrión de la reunión de julio.

Adriana Carrillo aclaró que los miembros no estarían solos y que el equipo los guiaría en el proceso de coorganizar una reunión.

Actualización del Presupuesto y Proyectos del Corredor Sur de la AB 617, Abigail Arballo; ICAPCD

Un miembro del CSC preguntó si algún proyecto corría el riesgo de incumplir sus plazos.

Adriana Carrillo señaló que esperan que los proyectos finalicen antes de la fecha límite.

Un miembro del CSC preguntó si se podían solicitar prórrogas para los proyectos que no cumplieran con sus plazos.

Abigail Arballo comentó que habían estado en conversaciones con CARB sobre una prórroga del CAP para el quinto año y mencionó que mantendrían al comité informado.

Un miembro del CSC preguntó qué sucedería si hubiera escasez de fondos.

Abigail Arballo aclaró que los fondos ya se habían asignado. Añadió que APCD podría cubrir los fondos de otra cuenta si fuera necesario.

Michael Moore preguntó cómo funcionaba la aprobación de la prórroga con CARB.

Abigail Arballo mencionó que CARB podría otorgar una prórroga una vez presentada una solicitud formal.

Michael Moore solicitó información actualizada sobre el programa de reemplazo de autobuses escolares.

Adriana Carrillo mencionó que la entrega de los autobuses estaba tardando más porque se fabricaban por encargo.

V. Temas Que Dialogar / Información

Objetivos del Corredor del Extremo Sur de la AB 617.

Sergio Cabañas comentó que había observado que los jóvenes de la comunidad del valle estaban motivados y participaban, aunque conocían poco sobre la AB 617 o el papel del APCD. Sugirió colaborar con la Oficina de Educación del Condado Imperial, IBC y la Universidad Estatal de San Diego para conversar con los estudiantes sobre el tema.

Adriana Carrillo dijo que buscarían maneras de involucrarse más y animó a los miembros a compartir cualquier contacto con las escuelas.

René Félix dijo que su hija es miembro de un club de ciencias en donde existe una gran preocupación por vincular a ese tipo de grupos de estudiantes con las áreas técnicas y científicas que hay en el condado. Comentó que se tienen que aterrizar las ideas sugeridas por **Sergio Cabañas**, ya que hay mucho talento en su comunidad por parte de los jóvenes a nivel de carrera profesional.

Adriana Carrillo dijo que se contactaran con el club de ciencias.

Michael Moore expresó su satisfacción con la transición del comité hacia un enfoque en la educación y la divulgación.

Adriana Carrillo mencionó que Project ACE comenzaría a abordar el monitoreo y agradeció a José Landeros por hacerlo posible.

Sergio Landeros agradeció al APCD por permitirle participar en el Proyecto ACE. Comentó que la incorporación del monitoreo sería un gran beneficio para su educación.

Sergio Cabañas preguntó si era posible llevar a los estudiantes a una estación de monitoreo y revisar los datos en el sitio.

José Landeros comentó que la idea era que los estudiantes revisaran y observaran el funcionamiento del programa.

Adriana Carrillo mencionó que estaban explorando la posibilidad de crear un nuevo proyecto de monitoreo. Aclaró que las conversaciones aún se encontraban en una etapa inicial y solicitó la opinión del comité.

Un asistente preguntó si utilizarían nueva infraestructura.

Adriana Carrillo confirmó que se trataría de equipo nuevo.

Michael Moore preguntó cuál sería el futuro de los monitores instalados durante el primer año.

Adriana Carrillo señaló que los monitores IVAN se habían completado en diciembre de 2024. Aclaró que esos monitores ya estaban en funcionamiento, lo que brindaba la oportunidad de iniciar un nuevo proyecto de monitoreo. Añadió que sería necesario iniciar una nueva convocatoria de propuestas para ellos.

Michael Moore solicitó aclaración sobre si los nuevos monitores reemplazarían la red IVAN existente.

Adriana Carrillo mencionó que el contrato con CCV y el uso de la red IVAN habían expirado, por lo que querían proponer una segunda oportunidad para un proyecto de monitoreo.

José Landeros indicó que primero deberían discutir qué parámetros y áreas querían cubrir.

Rene Félix estuvo de acuerdo con **José Landeros**. Dijo que el monitoreo es una necesidad urgente en su condado y dijo sumarse al proyecto propuesto.

Sergio Cabañas señaló que durante algunas presentaciones sobre los monitores IVAN, los datos habían sido muy confusos y las presentaciones estaban mal hechas.

Abigail Arballo sugirió monitorear PM2.5 y PM10, señalando que los datos de IVAN se habían presentado de forma deficiente.

José Landeros solicitó información actualizada sobre el Río Nuevo.

Adriana Carrillo indicó que proporcionarían información actualizada en la próxima reunión. Respecto al proyecto de monitoreo, señaló que el debate podría abordarse en la reunión de abril o en una reunión especial dedicada a ese tema, donde se podrían debatir los posibles parámetros y ubicaciones.

Discusión Abierta del Condado Imperial AB 617.

José Landeros sugirió invitar a las escuelas con las que habían estado trabajando para que los estudiantes pudieran presentar sus ideas sobre el programa.

Adriana Carrillo mencionó que comenzarían el Proyecto ACE a principios de año para tener más tiempo para contactar a más escuelas.

Sergio Cabañas comentó que compartiría un contacto en IBC, destacando la importancia de apoyar a las escuelas.

VI. Actualizaciones de las Dependencias

Melinda Dumasani señaló que la Oficina de Protección del Aire en la Comunidad había reactivado recientemente un grupo de consulta, del cual **Belén León-López** era miembro. Mencionó que estaban trabajando en la

elaboración de un borrador de estatuto y explicó que parte de la función del grupo era asesorar a CARB sobre cómo implementar el programa de protección del aire. Sugirió que los miembros compartieran sus ideas con **Belén León-López** y señaló que la próxima reunión sería el 25 de marzo.

Adriana Carrillo recordó al comité que **Sussane Sutherland** seguía disponible para cualquier persona interesada en participar en su proyecto de investigación. Señaló que su grupo de investigación de evaluación también se pondría en contacto con los miembros en relación con el proyecto.

VII. Temas de la Agenda y Fecha para la Próxima Reunión.

Adriana Carrillo dijo que su próxima reunión sería el 8 de abril.

José Landeros preguntó si podrían pedirle a Southwest High School que presentara su plan anual.

Un asistente sugirió presentar actualizaciones sobre sus proyectos.

Sergio Cabañas coincidió en realizar una presentación para revisar el estado de los proyectos.

Rene Félix preguntó si hay un archivo visual de todos los proyectos que se han hecho a lo largo de los años.

Adriana Carrillo mencionó que sí tienen fotos de todos los proyectos. Comentó que pueden crear una presentación con esas fotos.

Un asistente estuvo de acuerdo en utilizar las fotografías para una presentación y sugirió incluirlas también en el sitio web para mostrar sus logros.

VIII. Observaciones Finales / Clausura

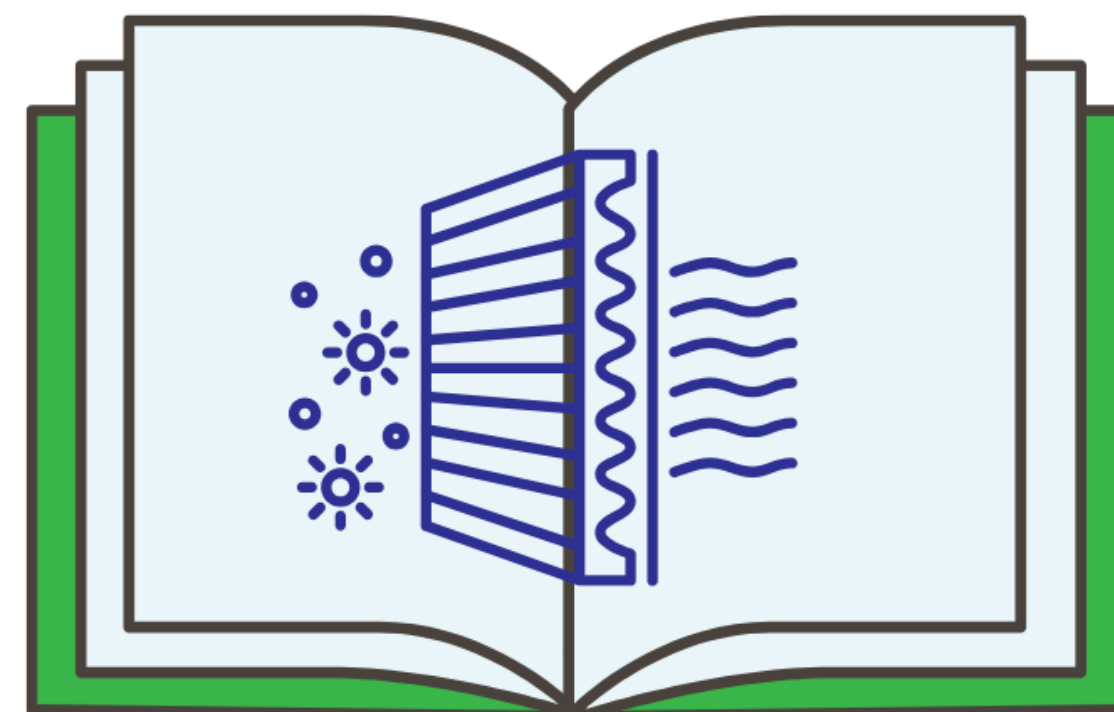
Sergio Cabañas preguntó cuál era el plan para reemplazar a **Israel Hernández**. Sugirió que **Adriana Carrillo** asumiera su puesto.

Adriana Carrillo agradeció el comentario de **Sergio Cabañas**. Aclaró que hay un proceso en curso para cubrir el puesto de **Israel Hernández** y añadió que estaría encantada de asumirlo si se le diera la oportunidad.

Se levanta la sesión.

4. Presentations:

A. Project ACE: Air Community Education (SHS Community Health Worker Students)



PROJECT ACE: AIR COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Southwest High School: Community Health Worker
Environmental Health Literacy Project

*Addressing health impacts
of air quality, particulate matter,
asthma and air filtration*

Community Health Worker



Cohort Year 3
Class of 2026

Accomplishments

Continued partnership with the
Imperial County Air Pollution Control District



Accomplishments

Recipient of the California Teachers Association Institute for Teaching -Environmental Educator Grant

El Centro, CA

Project ACE: Air Community Education

Grant Amount
\$5,000

Year Awarded
2025-2026

Project Coordinator
Jacqueline Valadez

Grant Type
Individual

Local Association
El Centro Secondary Teachers Association

Focus Area
Environmental Justice

About the Project

Project ACE (Air Community Education) is an environmental health initiative embedded in the Community Health Worker course at Southwest High School in El Centro, CA. This project empowers students, especially those from historically marginalized communities, with knowledge about air quality and its effects on respiratory health. Students partner with the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District to conduct research, analyze real-time air data, and lead peer education. The program includes field visits to environmental sites, student-created outreach materials, and presentations at district and community events.



Link: [CTA-IFT](#)

Accomplishments

Hanna Zia, SHS and UCSD Graduate

Project ACE Curriculum Co -Developer and Facilitator



Accomplishments

Visit to the Salton Sea Management Program Site



Video

Video

Video

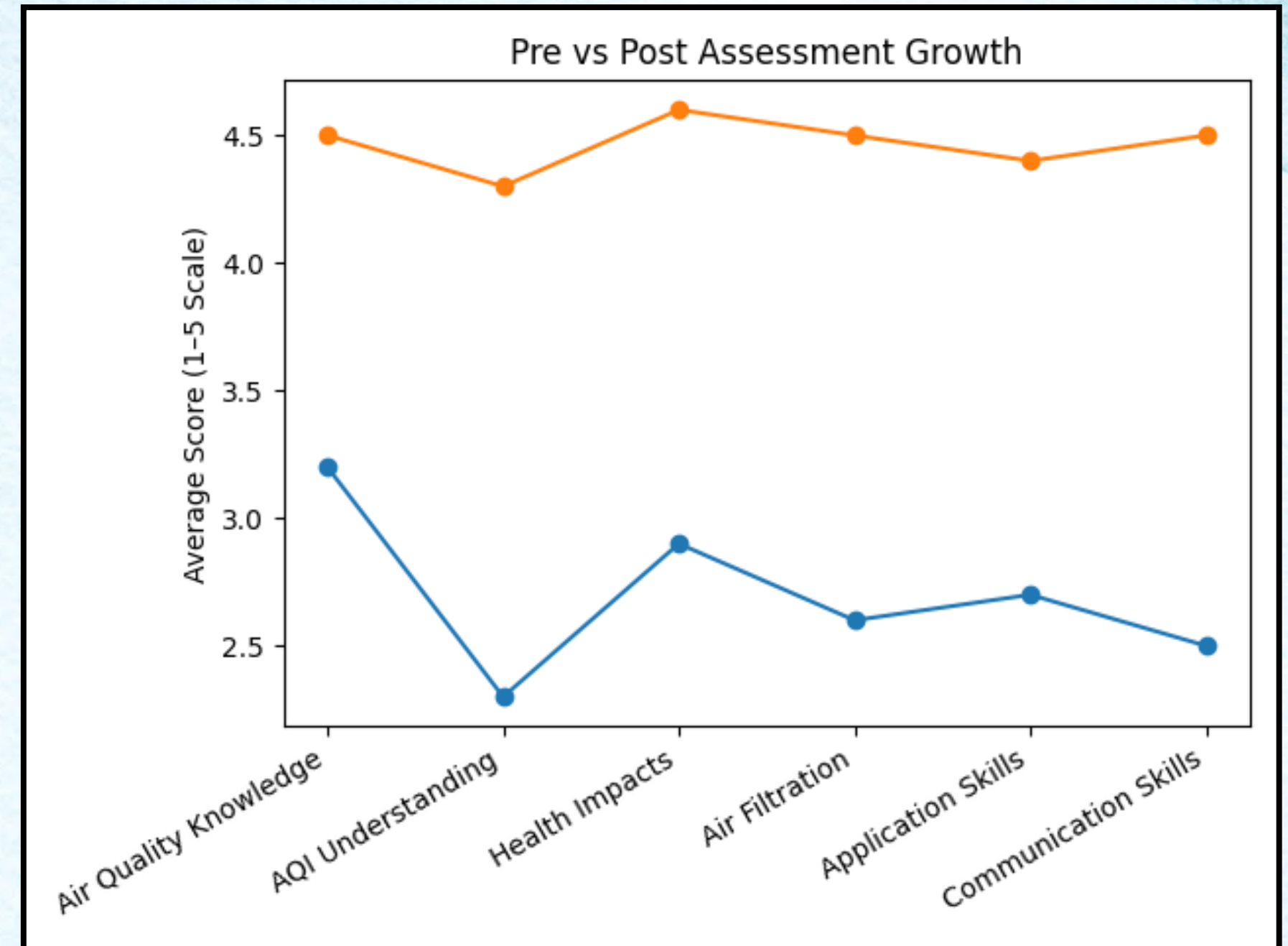


Growth in Knowledge

Significant Academic Growth

- Students demonstrated substantial improvement across all measured learning targets.
- Pre-assessment averages ranged from approximately 2.3 to 3.2 (Disagree → Neutral).
- Post-assessment responses shifted to 4–5 (Agree → Strongly Agree) across nearly all categories.

This reflects a clear transition from limited understanding to strong mastery.



Growth in Knowledge

Increased Content Knowledge

Students showed marked improvement in:

- Understanding air quality and its health impacts
- Explaining the Air Quality Index (AQI)
- Identifying relationships between air pollution, particulate matter, and asthma
- Recognizing the role of air filtration in reducing health risks



Growth in Knowledge

Increased Environmental Health Awareness

Students demonstrated improved familiarity with:

- Environmental Health Literacy concepts
- Local agencies (Imperial County APCD)
- Community programs (flag program, air monitoring)
- Environmental and health impacts of the Salton Sea

Why Are You at Risk?

OUTSIDE WORKERS ARE EXPOSED TO MORE:

- PESTICIDES
- MACHINE EXHAUST
- SILICA (DUST, SAND, CONCRETE)

How to protect yourself?

- WEAR MASKS
- CHECK AIR QUALITY OF THE DAY
- UP TO DATE WITH VACCINATIONS

Be Aware of Outside Air

EVER COME HOME AND YOU CAN'T STOP COUGHING? YOUR JOB MIGHT BE THE REASON, BUT DON'T WORRY BECAUSE THERE IS A SOLUTION.

“More than 10% of all lung diseases are estimated to result from workplace exposures.”

PUBMED, NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

PROJECT ACE: AIR COMMUNITY EDUCATION

ICAPCD IMPERIAL COUNTY AIR QUALITY CONTROL DISTRICT



Growth in Knowledge

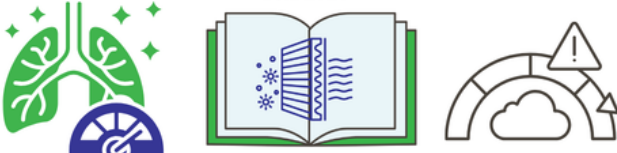
Stronger Communication & Advocacy

- Students reported increased confidence in:
 - Communicating environmental health concepts
 - Encouraging others to adopt healthier practices
- This reflects growth in real-world application and leadership skills.

The Air You Breathe Matters

Breathing air is an essential part of staying healthy. Breathing in bad air will cause more health issues.

"Bad Air" is the air we breathe that is not suitable for inhalation. Bad air contains a surplus in "particulate matter", which is harmful because it can enter your lungs and bloodstream. The particulate matter is categorized in PM10 and PM2.5. PM10 are the larger particles in the air like dust, pollen, and soot. PM2.5 are the smaller particles in the air like pollen, industrial emission, and chemicals. Each one is harmful in the body, but by identifying the AQI (Air Quality Index) it can help you identify when it's a safe, and unsafe time to go outside. The AQI is how we read the air quality based on how much particulate matter is in the air. The scale is read from 0-500, 0-50 being the safest air to breathe. The rest goes from levels of moderate, to unsafe.



PROJECT ACE:
AIR COMMUNITY
EDUCATION

What's in the Air You're Breathing?



1 What is Air Quality?
Air quality tells us how clean or polluted the air is. The Air Quality Index (AQI) measures pollution levels and shows whether the air is safe to breathe. When AQI levels are high, it can be unhealthy, especially for children, athletes, and people with asthma.

2 Why it Matters
Particulate Matter (PM2.5) is tiny pollution particles that can enter your lungs and bloodstream. Poor air quality can cause coughing, trouble breathing, asthma attacks, and long term lung problems. In the United States, about 1 in 13 children has asthma.

3 What You Can Do

- Check the AQI before outdoor activities.
- Limit outdoor exercise on unhealthy air days.
- Carpool, reduce energy use, and support clean air efforts.

Your lungs matter. Your community matters. Let's work together for cleaner air.

#ProjectACE #CleanAir #CommunityHealth

ASTHMA

WHAT IS ASTHMA?
lung condition where the airways become inflamed, narrow, and produce extra mucus, making it difficult to breathe

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?

- wheezing
- shortness of breath
- chest tightness or pain
- a persistent cough

WHAT CAN HELP?

- using prescribed inhalers,
- minimizing exposure to allergens
- staying hydrated to thin mucus
- practicing low-impact exercise
- and managing stress.

"EVERY BREATHE COUNTS."



AIR JUSTICE

More Info:
• +123-456-789
• www.reallygreatsite.com

Student Testimonial

WHAT I LEARNED

One thing I learned during the Project ACE is that air quality can truly affect someone's health. People with asthma are affected the most due to their condition and it could make them take more medicine which is unhealthy.

MY IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

My participation helped make a difference in my awareness of environmental health by learning what affects air quality. My awareness of the Air Quality Index improved and I now know more about it.

MY FUTURE WORK & ADVOCACY

I could use this to impact my community about what we can do to improve air quality in the future. We can reduce fires and find other ways to get rid of trash and also pollution created by dust.

Student Testimonial

WHAT I LEARNED

During Project ACE, I learned about the different types of air pollutants, such as P.M. 2.5, which is the smallest, P.M. 10 and Ground Level Ozone. I also learned about some of the different sources of pollution, like farm practices and oil consumption.

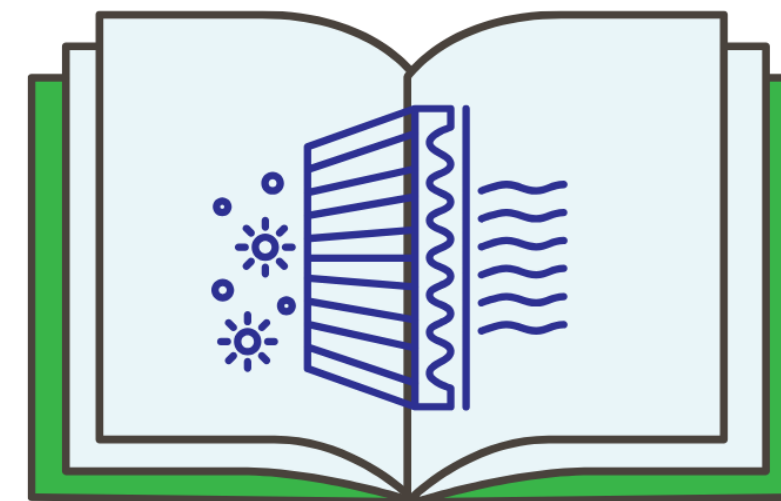
MY IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

As a class, we learned about many things that are not talked about very constantly and that most people do not know, such as checking AQI (Air Quality Index) for the day or the use of air filters. With our work, we created brochures that can help inform certain groups of people about air quality.

MY FUTURE WORK & ADVOCACY

In the future, I can use what I learn to share information with other people who are uneducated in these fields. Some of these people could be groups that are sensitive to these environmental issues but they are not well informed about what precautions they can take to improve their health

Thank You!



PROJECT ACE:
AIR COMMUNITY
EDUCATION

Southwest High School: Community Health Worker
Environmental Health Literacy Project

*Addressing health impacts
of air quality, particulate matter,
asthma and air filtration*

4. Presentations:
B. Meadows USD AB 617
Projects Update
(Meadows USD)



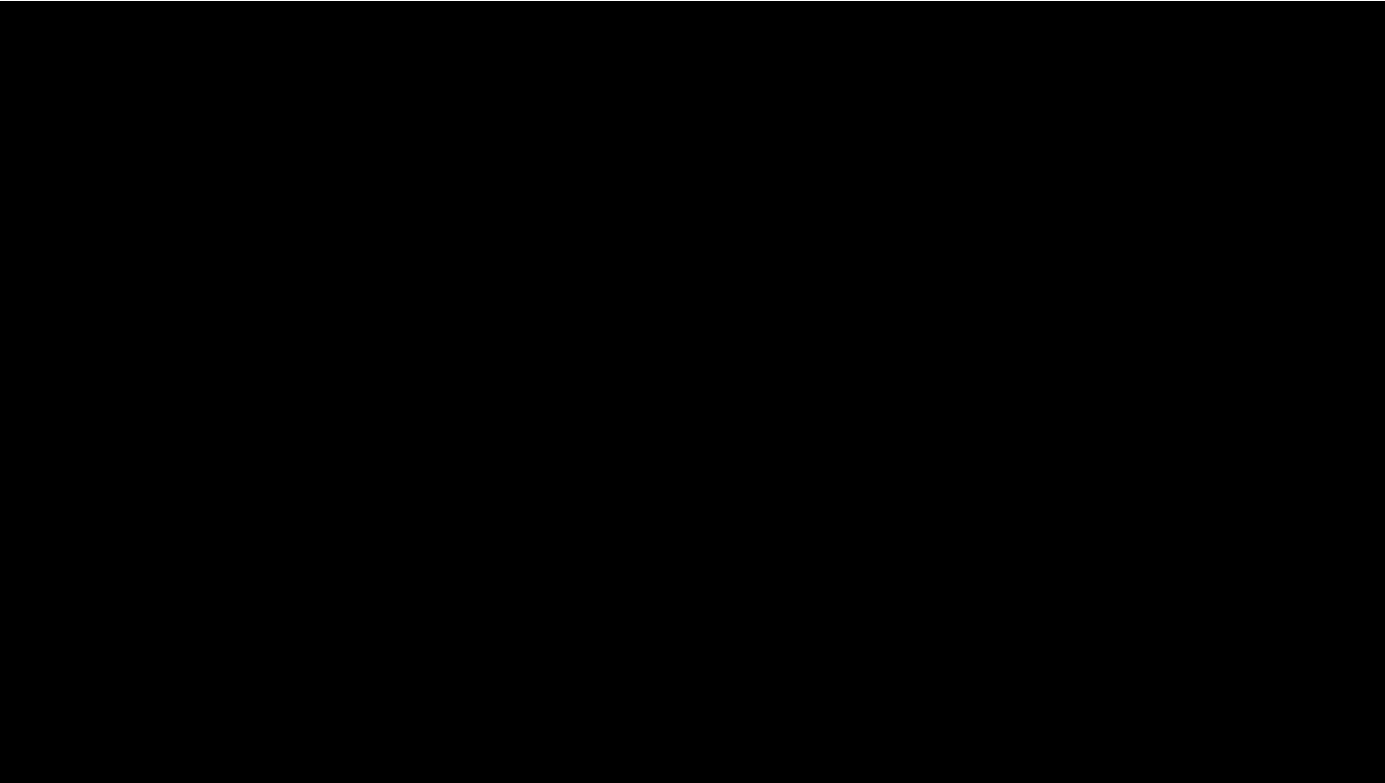
***From Vision to Impact: Meadows USD Air Quality & Infrastructure Improvements
AB 617 Community Steering Committee Update***

Keila Rodriguez, MUSD Superintendent

Cynthia Z. Beltran, MUSD Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services



Video



- TK-8 Rural Single School District
- 310 Enrollment
- 76% Socioeconomically Disadvantaged

Projects like AB 617 are not typically possible for districts like ours!!

The Opportunity: AB 617

- Applied in 2023
- Focus: Air Quality & Student Health
- Community-driven funding priorities
- Partnership with Imperial County APCD



Project 1: EV Charging Infrastructure



- Funding awarded for EV charging stations
- Supported transition to green school buses
- Located on campus transportation bus

Impact of EV Project



Reduced emissions
from diesel buses



Cleaner air for students
and community



Long-term sustainability



Alignment with
environmental goals

Project 2: Paving and Infrastructure Improvement

- Funding for paving:
 - Bus shop parking area
 - Gymnasium parking area
- Replacing dirt surfaces



Environmental & Student Benefits

- Significant reduction in dust emissions
- Improved air quality on campus
- Safer and cleaner environment
- Better access for staff, students, and community







Paving project in progress



Challenges Along the Way...

Final Reflection

- Transformational impact for Meadows
- Equity for rural students
- Investment in health and future
- Aligned with our Comprehensive School Safety Plan, LCAP Priorities, and long-term sustainability goals.



4. Presentations:

C. AB 617 South-End Projects Update (ICAPCD)



AB 617 Calexico- Heber-El Centro Projects Update

April 15, 2026

Projects in Progress (15 total)

- CAP3-01 Heber ESD Bus Electrification
- CAP3-02 Heber ESD Bus Electrification
- CAP3-03 Heber ESD Bus Electrification
- CAP3-04 Heber ESD EV Infrastructure
- CAP3-08 Callexico USD EV Infrastructure
- CAP5-01 Meadows USD Paving
- CAP5-03 Heber Townsite Improvements Phase II
- CAP5-04 Center for Employment Training - Student Parking Lot
- CAP5-06 Callexico USD - High School Fire Lane Paving
- CAP5-08 Callexico USD - Kennedy Gardens Paving
- CAP6-04 Seeley Townsite Improvements North Paving
- CAP6-05 Seeley Townsite Improvements South Paving
- CAP6-12 SCWD - John Robert Bates Park Urban Greening
- CAP6-13 ICOE - Valley Academy School Wellness Garden Urban Greening
- CAP6-14 HPUD Dogwood Greenbelt Urban Greening

Projects Completed 2025 - Present

- CAP3-05 Meadows USD EV Infrastructure
- CAP3-06 McCabe USD EV Infrastructure
- CAP3-07 El Centro ESD EV Infrastructure
- CAP3-09 ICOE EV Infrastructure (1398 Sperber)
- CAP3-10 ICOE EV Infrastructure (4202 Sperber)
- CAP5-02 El Centro ESD Kennedy Middle School Paving

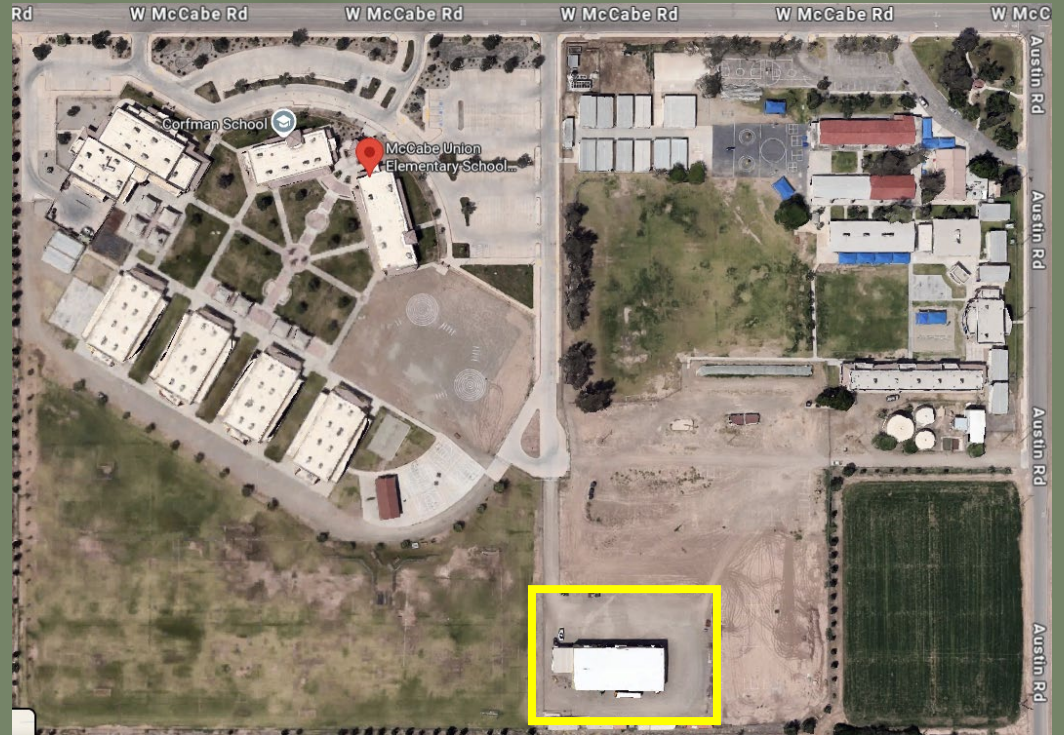
CAP3-05 Meadows USD EV Infrastructure

2059 Bowker Rd, El Centro, CA 92243



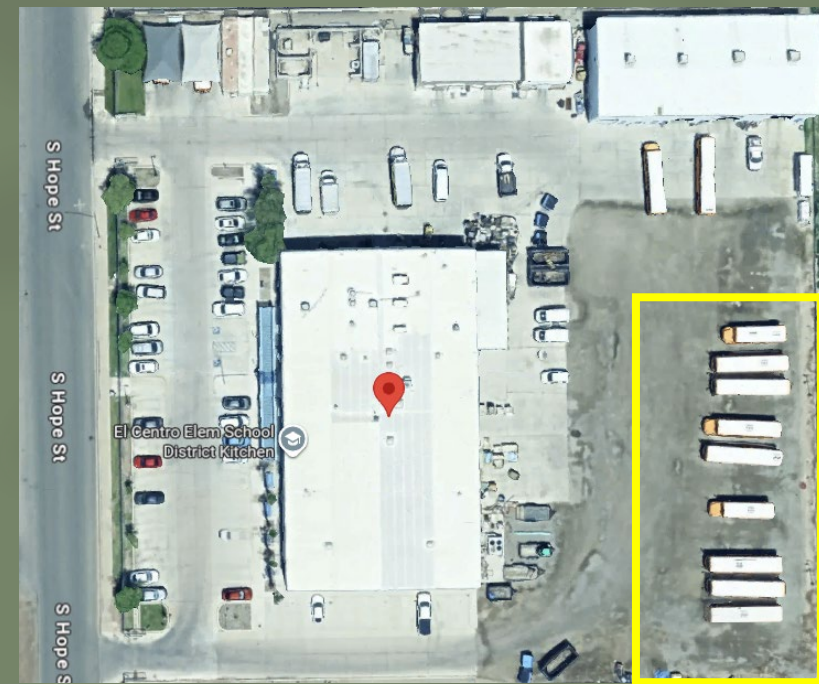
CAP3-06 McCabe USD EV Infrastructure

701 W. McCabe Rd, El Centro, CA 92243



CAP3-07 El Centro ESD EV Infrastructure

951 Hope Street, El Centro, CA 92243



CAP3-09 ICOE EV Infrastructure

1398 Sperber Rd, El Centro, CA 92243



CAP3-10 ICOE EV Infrastructure

4202 Sperber Rd, El Centro, CA 92243



CAP5-02 El Centro ESD Kennedy Middle School Paving

900 N. 6th St, El Centro, CA 92243



Discussion / Q&A

Thank you

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(442) 265-1800

<https://www.icab617community.org>

<https://apcd.imperialcounty.org>