

# CITY OF OAKLAND



CITY HALL • 1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

REBECCA KAPLAN  
Council President  
atlarge@oaklandnet.com

(510) 238-7008  
FAX: (510) 238-6910  
TDD: (510) 839-6451

Date: October 20, 2020  
To: Members of City Council and Members of the Public  
From: Council President, Rebecca Kaplan  
Re: Providing an Oakland Member on the BAAQMD Board of Directors

---

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

I am asking for you to support my recommendation to seek inclusion of representation of the City of Oakland, a community heavily impacted by air pollution, on the Board of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD).

The BAAQMD is a public agency that regulates numerous sources of air pollution in the nine counties of California's Bay Area, and distributes many millions of dollars every year for programs and projects to improve air quality. It is governed by a 24-member Board of Directors composed of elected officials from each of the nine Bay Area counties. The board has the duty of adopting air pollution regulations for the district.

The City of Oakland is the largest and most diverse city in Alameda County, with an approximate population of 430,000 people. The people of Oakland suffer from disproportionate exposure to pollution and toxins, including the heavy concentration of air pollution, causing asthma, cancer, and other devastating harms. The decades of environmental racism have caused a disproportionate impact on communities in West and East Oakland. It is essential that these communities, as well as the entirety of Oakland, be represented on the body that generates policy about air pollution and funding to remedy it. I am advocating for the City of Oakland to have a seat on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Board of Directors.

When the City of Oakland had representation on the board of directors of BAAQMD, we were successful in adopting policies to clean up hard-hit areas, and bringing funds to our community, for cleaner cranes, trucks, and more. Currently, there is no Oakland representation on this Board, which makes vital decisions impacting our community. As air pollution and climate change continue to harm our residents, it is important that our community have a voice in these decisions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Kaplan', is written over a light-colored rectangular background.

Rebecca Kaplan  
Oakland City Council President

Oakland City Council Meeting  
October 20, 2020  
File # 20-0667