SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN

## Air Pollution Data for Informing Communities and Guiding Local Development

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## Inspiration for the City of Sacramento and District Partnership

#### **History of Sacramento**

- Recent AB617 legislation and environmental justice efforts work to address systematic injustices to create a more equitable future
- City of Sacramento Climate
  Implementation Work Plan

#### **Environmental Justice Efforts**

- District's Community Air Protection Program (AB617)
  - Community Air Monitoring Plan
  - Community Emission Reduction Plan
- Targeted incentives and investments in underserved air pollution burdened communities

AB 617 and the corresponding Community Air Protection Program helped inspire local agencies to search for ways to get involved.



## **California's Assembly Bill 617 (Community Air Protection)**



- Sac Metro Air District recommended 10 communities in Sacramento County to be in the State Program
- A lot of communities across the state wanted to be a part of the state program
- Only one community in Sacramento was selected to participate in the state program



### **Project Overview & Objectives**

#### City of Sacramento and Sac Metro Air District Partnership

Conduct Neighborhood-Scale Air

Monitoring

Deploy 200 portable air sensors in low-income, under-resourced communities within the city of Sacramento, CA



#### **Objectives:**

- Provide localized data in under-resourced communities and fill air monitoring data gaps
- Build community engagement
- Inform land use planning and clean air project funding decisions



Develop and implement a middle/high school air quality curriculum





## Deploy 200 Portable Air Sensors





## **Air Sensor Deployment Objectives**

- Prioritize deployment to communities with higher sensitivity
- Increase spatial coverage of air monitoring
- Enhance air quality awareness
- Provide publicly available real-time air sensor data to enable:
  - 1. Community members to inform personal decisions
  - 2. Local officials to consider the information in general planning and air quality management practices





#### **Geographical Coverage Pre- and Post-Deployment**



## Portable Air Sensor Network During a Wildfire Smoke Event





- The public can use the sensor network as an immediate health decision-making tool
- School districts can use this resource to inform outdoor activity for their students
- Local agencies can use this to communicate to the public about wildfire smoke status and public health



# Neighborhood-Scale Air Monitoring

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN





*STi* Sonoma Technology





## **Objectives**

- Perform neighborhood mobile air monitoring in the City of Sacramento to collect data for:
  - Criteria pollutants (PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>),
  - Climate forcers (BC, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>), and
  - Volatile Organic Compounds (aromatics, alkanes, dienes)
- Focus on areas with higher sensitivity and environmental burden
- Identify areas of higher pollutant concentrations



## **Mobile Monitoring Results**

- Results were aggregated into maps
- The data represents how the mean concentration for each cell compares to the overall mean concentrations measured in all communities during the campaign
- Example: PM<sub>2.5</sub>



North Sacramento PM<sub>2.5</sub> Results

## Mobile Monitoring Results (cont.)

- Areas with comparatively higher concentrations are considered 'Pollution Focus Zones' that may warrant further investigation
- Helps initiate conversations with local jurisdictions on priority areas within their communities



South Sacramento PM<sub>2.5</sub> Results

# Cultivating Long-Term Community Engagement







## **Community Engagement**

- Develop an air quality school curriculum to further air quality education in a classroom setting.
- Foster active student learning through hands-on air quality activities.
- Incorporate field trips to air monitoring stations.
- Continued engagement at community events.
- Facilitate air quality workshops to garner public interest and engagement.







#### **Conclusions & Lasting Impacts**

Access to air quality data can help course correct history of pollution burden on environmental justice communities within the City of Sacramento. This project helped:

- 1. Inform widespread immediate health protective decisions for the community, local agencies, and school districts.
- 2. Inform policy decisions for local partners such as those related to infrastructure development, identification of areas to focus resources, and areas to make investments in air pollution mitigation strategies.
- 3. Develop a sustainable strategy to engage students and build long term capacity of air quality engagement and understanding.



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## **Thank You**