

I. Advisory Body Policy Issues (if applicable)

The purpose of this section is to briefly describe any potential issues raised by advisory body members, stakeholders, or the general public that the advisory body has been unable to resolve.

a. Provide a brief description of the issue:

Include enough information to give context for the issue. Helpful information includes:

- i. What is the specific problem or concern?
- ii. Who does this issue affect?
- iii. What is the advisory body's role related to the issue?
- iv. Has there been any previous legislative action related to the issue?

In 2000, after several years of study and discussion, the Hazardous Materials Commission wrote a report to the Board of Supervisors on Environmental Justice. This report resulted in the Board accepting this report, endorsing the County's application of environmental justice as defined by the State of California, and directing the County Administrator to assemble the appropriate County departments to work with the Commission to develop and implement policies related to environmental justice. The Board also established an Ad Hoc Committee of the Board to work with the Board and the County Administrator's office on this issue. (Item D.3 of Board agenda for 10/24/2000).

The Board then authorized the hiring of an Environmental Justice Coordinator to work with the County Departments to develop policies related to Environmental Justice. This resulted in the Board adopting an Environmental Justice Policy in 2003 (Item D.2 of the Board agenda for 9/24/03). This Board Order also directed the CAO's office to appoint a coordinator who would be responsible for County-wide oversight of Environmental Justice, to chair periodic meetings with departmental representatives, and to report annually to the Board. However, this process stopped in 2005 and annual reports to the Board have never been provided.

b. Possible solutions and Impact:

Provide potential recommendations to solve the problem.

In 2008 the Commission conducted a review of the implementation of the County's Environmental Justice policy and recommended that the Board:

- 1) Direct the CAO to re-appoint an Environmental Justice coordinator in the CAO's office to coordinate implementation of the County's Environmental Justice policy.
- 2) Direct the Environmental Justice coordinator to reconvene periodic meetings of Environmental Justice representatives from County Departments to address Environmental Justice issues.

- 3) Direct the Environmental Justice coordinator and County Departments to prepare annual reports to the Board of Supervisors that describe Departmental Environmental Justice priorities and the activities they are undertaking to address these priorities.
- 4) Direct the Environmental Justice coordinator and the County Departments to report back to the Board of Supervisors in three months with a progress report.

The Commission never received a response from the Board and none of these recommendations has been carried out.

c. How will the proposed solution fix the problem or issue?

It will provide for Board oversight and will allow for the public to participate in the process.

ii. How will the proposed change impact any entities or interest groups?

Closer attention to Environmental Justice Concerns may provide more equitable services to underserved residents of the County and may provide better health protection to those most impacted by environmental pollution.

iii. How will the advisory body's performance be impacted by the proposed change?

None

iv. What are the benefits of the recommended change?

More equitable distribution of the costs and benefits of activities that impact the environment and public health, and potentially better mitigations for environmental impacts.

v. What are the possible drawbacks of the recommended change?

Potential impacts on economic development.

vi. What is the fiscal impact of the proposed change, if any?

For the County staff time and resources will be needed to implement the policy. There may also be impacts on businesses regulated by the County.

II. Advisory Body Comments and Suggestions

a. Describe the effect the advisory body has made on the target population.

The Commission has had a major impact on the development and implementation of the County's Industrial Safety Ordinance, the County's Community Warning System, air monitoring within the County, and pharmaceutical disposal education

- b. Describe the specific impact the work of the advisory body has made in achieving its mission.**

The Board of Supervisors accepted a recommendation from the Commission to encourage the Department of Toxic Substances Control to improve its Brownfield database. The Commission sponsored a workshop on pharmaceutical disposal that

- c. Are the advisory body bylaws reflective of the body's mission and purpose?**

Yes

- d. Do you recommend changes to the advisory body bylaws (e.g., adjustment to term length, required qualifications, number of meetings, or primary focus)? If yes, please state why?**

No

- e. Does the advisory body have a sufficient number of members to achieve its mission? Do you recommend an adjustment to the number of advisory body seats (an increase or decrease)?**

No

- f. If you recommend making an adjustment to the number of advisory body seats, please indicate which seats and why?**

No

- g. If special requirements or prerequisites exist for members to serve on the advisory body, do you believe the requirements are important and necessary, or do they limit the recruitment of potential candidates?**

No

- h. Additional Comments**

Please use the following space to share additional comments about the work of the advisory body, its effectiveness, the services it provides, or any other related subject.

[Click here to enter text.](#)