Capital Area Council of Governments Clean Air Coalition

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July 5, 2017

Dear Central Texas Clean Air Coalition Member Jurisdictions,

The regional air quality program at the Capital Area Council of Governments (CAPCOG) is in jeopardy as a result of the Governor's line-item veto of the 2018-2019 "near nonattainment" area grant funding in the state budget. Central Texas has relied on this state funding for the past twenty years to support our successful and nationally acclaimed regional air quality planning efforts. As the officers of CAPCOG's Central Texas Clean Air Coalition (CAC), we are now asking the local governments that participate in the regional air quality planning effort help preserve this important program.

Continuing CAPCOG's air quality program through 2018 will be important to fulfill our region's commitments as part of our Ozone Advance Program Action Plan, to help ensure that the region remains in compliance with federal standards, and to help ensure that we don't lose irreplaceable air quality monitoring data. CAPCOG has already taken steps to try to preserve as much of the existing 2016-2017 state funding as possible, but financial support from Clean Air Coalition members is needed to avoid the most damaging cuts to the program. Additional funding is needed from CAC members to avoid an immediate loss of air monitoring data and a loss of some of CAPCOG's air quality planning, technical analysis, and outreach expertise starting on October 1, 2017, and the entire program after June 2018. Without CAPCOG's air quality program, our region would be solely dependent on the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on air quality issues and information.

At an emergency June 28th CAC meeting, the Clean Air Coalition representatives were unanimous in asking CAPCOG staff to submit budget requests to each CAC jurisdiction consistent with maintaining CAPCOG's current air quality monitoring network through the end of calendar year 2018 and maintaining staffing levels through the end of FY 2018 ("Tier 4" level of service on the enclosed proposal). This funding will be essential to successfully completing our regional air quality plan in 2018 and buys us time to figure out a long-term plan for our regional air quality planning efforts beyond 2018. The enclosed proposal helps us do that in a way that we think helps spread costs fairly among all CAC members. We ask that you provide a response to Andrew Hoekzema, CAPCOG's Director of Regional Services, at ahoekzema@capcog.org no later than July 24, 2017.

Sincerely,

Judge Sarah Eckhardt
Travis County
Clean Air Coalition Chair

Commissioner Ray Whisenant
Hays County
Clean Air Coalition Vice Chair

CAPCOG Air Quality Program Funding Request to Clean Air Coalition Members for Completing 2017 Monitoring and Maintaining Air Quality Program in 2018

Jurisdiction	Population	Funding %	Complete Basic 2017 Monitoring	2018 Tier 1: Reduced Staffing at 1.5 FTE, no monitoring in 2018	2018 Tier 2: Reduced Staffing at 1.5 FTE, basic monitoring in 2018	2018 Tier 3: Maintain Staffing at 2.5 FTE, basic monitoring in 2018	*2018 Tier 4: Maintain Staffing at 2.5 FTE, full monitoring in 2018 (CAC recommend-ation)*
Bastrop County	82,733	1.65%	$543	$1,746	$2,849	$3,903	***$4,726***
Caldwell County	41,161	0.82%	$270	$868	$1,417	$1,942	***$2,351***
Hays County	204,470	4.07%	$1,343	$4,314	$7,041	$9,646	***$11,681***
Travis County	1,199,323	23.87%	$7,878	$25,306	$41,301	$56,580	***$68,516***
Williamson County	528,718	10.52%	$3,473	$11,156	$18,207	$24,943	***$30,205***
County Subtotal	**2,056,405**	**40.93%**	**$13,508**	**$43,390**	**$70,816**	**$97,013**	***$117,480***
Rate	**n/a**	**n/a**	**$0.0066**	**$0.0211**	**$0.0344**	**$0.0472**	***$0.0571***
City of Austin	947,890	37.74%	$12,453	$40,001	$65,284	$89,436	***$108,304***
City of Bastrop	8,519	0.34%	$112	$360	$587	$804	***$973***
City of Bee Cave	6,535	0.26%	$86	$276	$450	$617	***$747***
City of Buda	15,023	0.60%	$197	$634	$1,035	$1,417	***$1,716***
City of Cedar Park	68,918	2.74%	$905	$2,908	$4,747	$6,503	***$7,874***
City of Elgin	9,323	0.37%	$122	$393	$642	$880	***$1,065***
City of Georgetown	67,140	2.67%	$882	$2,833	$4,624	$6,335	***$7,671***
City of Hutto	23,832	0.95%	$313	$1,006	$1,641	$2,249	***$2,723***
City of Lakeway	14,641	0.58%	$192	$618	$1,008	$1,381	***$1,673***
City of Leander	42,761	1.70%	$562	$1,805	$2,945	$4,035	***$4,886***
City of Lockhart	13,527	0.54%	$178	$571	$932	$1,276	***$1,546***
City of Luling	5,878	0.23%	$77	$248	$405	$555	***$672***
City of Pflugerville	59,245	2.36%	$778	$2,500	$4,080	$5,590	***$6,769***
City of Round Rock	120,892	4.81%	$1,588	$5,102	$8,326	$11,406	***$13,813***
City of San Marcos	61,980	2.47%	$814	$2,616	$4,269	$5,848	***$7,082***
City of Sunset Valley	696	0.03%	$9	$29	$48	$66	***$80***
City of Taylor	16,857	0.67%	$221	$711	$1,161	$1,590	***$1,926***
City Subtotal	**1,483,657**	**59.07%**	**$19,492**	**$62,610**	**$102,184**	**$139,987**	***$169,520***
Rate	**n/a**	**n/a**	**$0.0131**	**$0.0422**	**$0.0689**	**$0.0944**	***$0.1143***
TOTAL		**100.00%**	**$33,000**	**$106,000**	**$173,000**	**$237,000**	***$287,000***

*The difference in rates for Cities and Counties is based on CAPCOG's membership dues formula - cities pay a per-capita rate 2x the per-capita rate paid by counties

*Column totals show cumulative totals starting with completing 2017 monitoring

*Basic monitoring is partial ozone season (5/1/2018 - 10/31/2018) at all 8 sites doing 3 calibrations without data validation

*Full monitoring is full ozone season (3/1/2018 - 11/15/2018) at all 8 sites doing monthly calibrations with data validation

*CAPCOG staff can work with CAC members on setting up contracts/invoices as needed, including figuring out whether an organization is better able to fulfill this request within its FY 2017 budget, FY 2018 budget, or both