

To the AB617 Steering Committee.

On behalf of United Latinos, I request the opportunity to repurpose two black carbon monitors (Aeth Labs MA200) that were used during the AB617 Phase II CAMP implementation, for our project Educating the Heart, Empowering the People US EPA American Rescue Plan funded project.

Request: For United Latinos to borrow two (2) AB617 Aeth Lab MA200 monitors from AB617 program

When: October 2024 – May 2025

Where it will be installed: 2 High Schools (Grant High School in North Sacramento, Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy SAVA)

Rational and or/ Alignment with AB617:

Here is an excerpt from our press release describing the project.

Along with partners, the City of Sacramento Office of Community Engagement, the Sacramento Air Quality Management District, Sacramento Municipal Utilities District, California State University Sacramento, World Resources Institute, and Valley Vision, United Latinos will lead a three phase project over two years that will deliver a culturally sensitive air quality monitoring curriculum to student demographics in selected Sacramento City School District Schools within environmental justice communities. United Latinos will deploy air quality monitors in schools and the surrounding neighborhoods and low-cost sensors in school bus routes. Data collected will help inform air quality management strategies and mitigation recommendations directly from the impacted residents and students. Unique to the plan is a public art project installed in the areas of focus that highlights the effects of air quality.

This aligns with AB617 efforts and objectives by implementing one of the strategic efforts defined in BluePrint 2.0 to create and facilitate a learning culture of peer-to-peer networks and mentoring for both communities and agency staff aimed at transferring knowledge and air quality solutions across communities. Our project is education focused at the high school level with schools that embrace the desire for their students to learn more and participate in understanding and providing solutions.

Additionally, goal 8 asks to make program and air quality information and tools more accessible to communities. By repurposing the air monitors in storage and implementing our educational lesson plans and actual air quality monitoring and sampling, plus incorporating arts integration as a teaching model, we build a future of community scientists who will learn advocacy, report writing, and provide community driven mitigation strategies based on their own lived experiences.

Our request is to acquire and conduct maintenance of the monitors, implement calibration of the monitors all under the education and guidance of AQMD and to physically install the monitors on the grounds of the two participating schools (Grant High School TRUSD and Sacramento Academic and Vocational Academy "SAVA") for a period to start October 2024 and complete in May 2025.

Funding for these efforts would come from the US EPA grant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Richard Falcon, United Latino Community Organizer