



# WASHOE COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

## AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### **DIVISION DIRECTOR STAFF REPORT** **BOARD MEETING DATE:** November 20, 2014

**DATE:** November 7, 2014

**TO:** District Board of Health

**FROM:** Charlene Albee, Director  
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**SUBJECT:** Program Update – Clean Cities Coalition, Accela Project; Divisional Update – Monthly Air Quality Index; Program Reports

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#### **1. Program Update**

##### **a. Clean Cities Coalition**

The AQMD provides funding to the University of Nevada, Reno – Business Environmental Program (BEP) for the Fleets Project which provides outreach, education, and technical assistance for fleet operations in Northern Nevada. The current economic recovery being experienced in the area continues to promote the region as one of the primary distribution centers for the West Coast. This results in an increase in the number and size of truck and automobile fleets operating in the area. If not well-managed, the potential exists for these expanding fleets to negatively impact regional air quality.

In order to further the effectiveness of the Fleets Project, the BEP is pursuing the re-designation of the Truckee Meadows region as a U.S. Department of Energy Clean Cities Coalition member. The Clean Cities Coalition advances the nation's economic, environmental, and energy security by supporting local actions to reduce petroleum use in transportation. There are almost 100 Clean Cities Coalitions nationally and since the inception of the program in 1993, the 14,000 stakeholders have saved nearly 6.5 billion gallons of petroleum which results in the avoidance of significant air quality emissions. In August 2013, the Eastern Sierra Clean Cities Coalition, which was run through the State of Nevada, was officially removed from the Clean Cities Program due to a lack of focus and participation.

The BEP, acting as a neutral coordinator, held a Kick-Off meeting to evaluate the local interest in pursuing the re-designation. The meeting was targeted at government fleet operators and included representatives from the Nevada Chapter of the Rocky Mountain Fleet Managers Association, the RTC, Airport Authority of Washoe County, Washoe County School District, Cities of Reno and Sparks, NV Energy, and the Nevada Department of Agriculture Division of Consumer Equitability. BEP was able to confirm there is a significant interest in completing the 8-step process to once again become recognized as a Clean Cities Coalition. The designation will not only help with the advancement of technologies but also opens the door for future grant opportunities.

b. Accela Project Update

The first Quarterly Oversight meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 2nd at 1:30 pm in the Reno City Council Chambers. The Oversight Committee is comprised of the four project sponsors including Andrew Clinger (Reno), Steve Driscoll (Sparks), John Slaughter (Washoe County), and Kevin Dick (Health District). The agenda for the meeting is currently being drafted and will be posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law upon completion. The Oversight Committee will receive an update on and provide direction regarding the overall project status, the project charter, regional GIS meetings, analysis sessions, and financials.

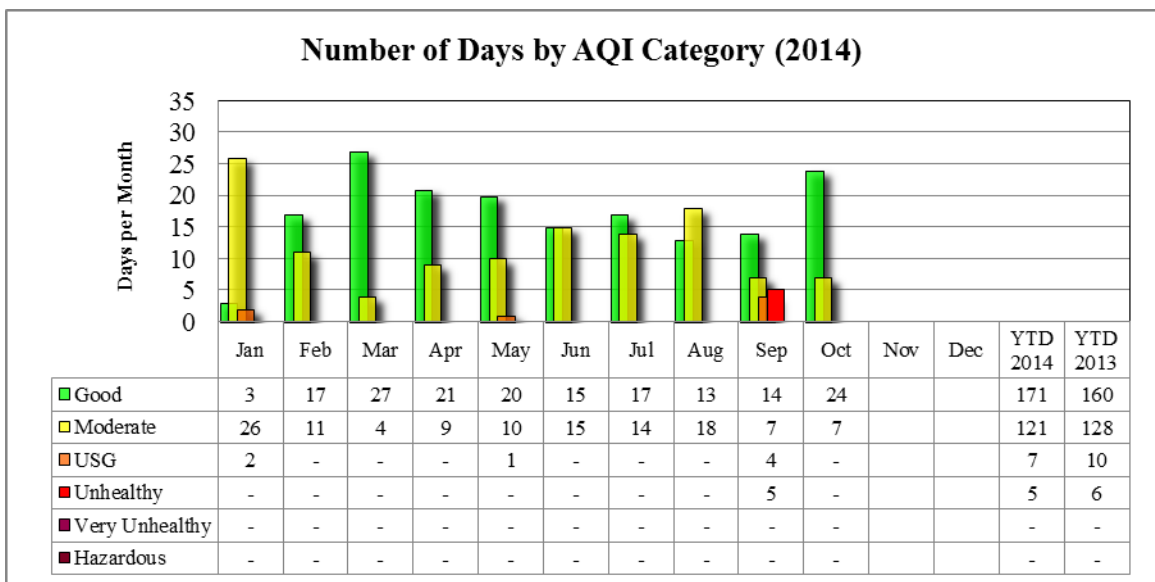
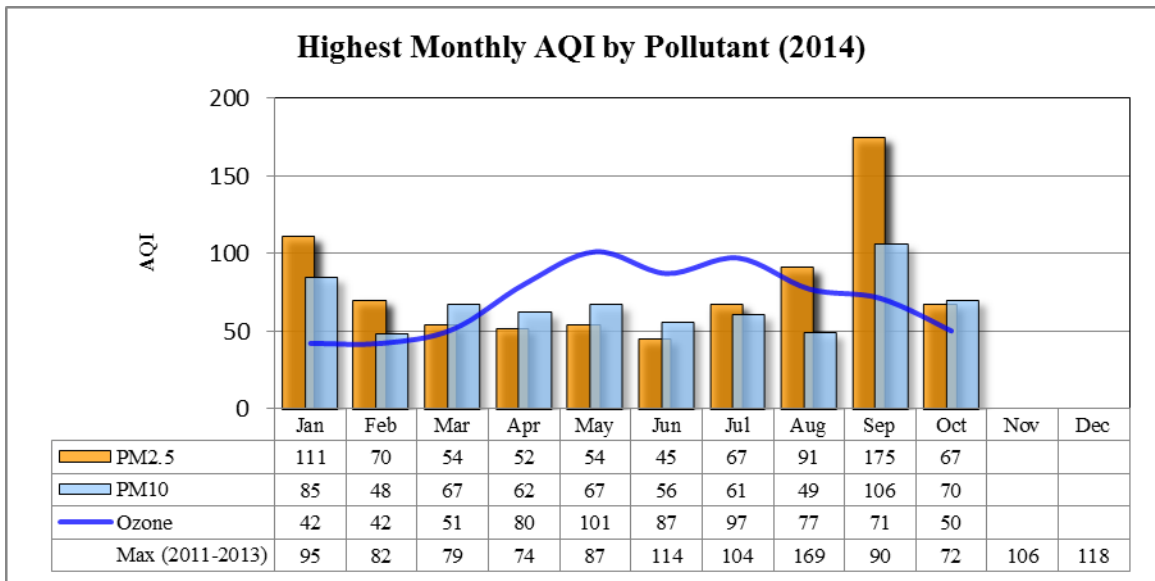
As the analysis sessions are being completed, the focus is turning to subject matters that will involve all of the participating agencies including electronic document review and mapping existing Permits Plus data for conversion into the new Accela Automation system. Training sessions have also been scheduled for January and February for Administrator and Report/Analysis Training to identify the functional abilities of the system. Train the Trainer sessions have been tentatively scheduled for September for the Accela Core Team.

The City of Reno Information Technology staff is currently working on coding and mapping their existing Accela Automation system in preparation for the move to the Cloud. The move is scheduled for May 2015 making it the first in the region to go live in the new regional platform.

Charlene Albee, REM  
Director, Air Quality Management Division

## 2. Divisional Update

- a. Below are two charts detailing the latest air quality information for the month of October. The top chart indicates the highest AQI by pollutant and includes the highest AQI from the previous three years in the data table for comparison. The bottom chart indicates the number of days by AQI category and includes the previous year to date for comparison.



Please note AQI data are not fully verified and validated and should be considered preliminary. As such, they should not be used to formulate or support regulation, guidance, or any other governmental or public decision. For a daily depiction of the AQI data, please visit [www.OurCleanAir.com](http://www.OurCleanAir.com) for the most recent AQI Summary

### **3. Program Reports**

#### **a. Monitoring & Planning**

There were no exceedances of any National Ambient Air Quality Standard during the month of October.

The 2014-15 Know the Code Season began on November 1st. AQMD staff met with the National Weather Service and local television media in preparation for the woodburning season. AQMD coordinates with these key partners to ensure the public has the best Know the Code information to Keep it Clean. A new video was produced for the Know the Code program and is available at [OurCleanAir.com](http://OurCleanAir.com).

The RTC received \$16 million for transportation and transit enhancements for the 4th Street/Prater Way RAPID Transit Project. Funding came from the U.S. Department of Transportation under the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The RTC 4th Street/Prater Way RAPID Transit Project will better connect downtown Reno and downtown Sparks and revitalize the 4th Street/Prater Way corridor. Four new all electric buses will also be purchased to serve this route. The project includes features to accommodate all modes of transportation. There will be wider sidewalks for pedestrians and dedicated bike lanes. The Health District submitted a letter of support for the project. Additional letters of support were sent by U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, Washoe County, Nevada Department of Transportation, The Chamber, Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living, Northern Nevada Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, University of Nevada, Reno, Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada, Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, Washoe County School District Police Department, and Truckee Meadows Tomorrow.

AQMD staff attended a Truckee Meadows Tomorrow Transportation Roundtable presentation. Staff from the RTC, Nevada Department of Transportation, and Federal Highway Administration shared their perspectives on the connection between quality of life and transportation planning in Washoe County.

Daniel K. Inouye  
Chief, Monitoring and Planning

b. Permitting & Enforcement

Type of Permit	2014		2013	
	October	YTD	October	Annual Total
<b>Renewal of Existing Air Permits</b>	85	835	84	1356
<b>New Authorities to Construct</b>	19	110	6	71
<b>Dust Control Permits</b>	4 (27 acres)	96 (974 acres)	15 (197 acres)	119 (1150 acres)
<b>Wood Stove Certificates</b>	34	289	33	364
<b>WS Dealers Affidavit of Sale</b>	27 (17 replacements)	95 (62 replacements)	13 (9 replacements)	99 (61 replacement)
<b>WS Notice of Exemptions</b>	712 (6 stoves removed)	5811 (59 stoves removed)	991 (10 stoves removed)	8356 (88 stoves removed)
<b>Asbestos Assessments</b>	74	683	72	828
<b>Asbestos Demo and Removal (NESHAP)</b>	21	169	12	199

Staff reviewed twenty-four (24) sets of plans submitted to the Reno, Sparks or Washoe County Building Departments to assure the activities complied with Air Quality requirements.

- The Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility H2S scrubbing system construction is nearing completion. All components are installed and hooked up. The current schedule is to have the system running any day now. Permitting staff is working with Reno City Engineers to assist in completing the required modeling of the emissions from the new scrubber system. This modeling is being performed to demonstrate the facility will be operating in compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.
- Permitting and enforcement staff is currently completing training on the new EPA reporting tool called ICIS AIR. The old system has been taken off line and all federal air quality reporting now must be performed using ICIS Air.
- MME Truckee sampling results were received from DRI. The results were consistent with staff emissions estimates and provide support to the upcoming permitting effort of the cultivation facilities. The State has finished their selection process for the MME facilities within Washoe County and we are expecting applications for cultivation, processing and lab facilities to be submitted in the near future.

Staff conducted fifty two (52) stationary source renewal inspections in October 2014. Staff also conducted inspections on asbestos removal and construction/dust projects.

COMPLAINTS	2014*		2013	
	October	YTD	October	Annual Total
Asbestos	3	21	2	18
Burning	0	4	0	8
Construction Dust	5	32	2	0
Dust Control Permit	4	17	0	7
General Dust	10	49	3	46
Diesel Idling	0	3	1	8
Odor	0	14	0	16
Spray Painting	1	5	2	5
Permit to Operate	2	27	8	55
Woodstove	2	10	1	16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>209</b>
NOV's	October	YTD	October	Annual Total
Warnings	7	33	4	46
Citations	1	9	4	40
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>86</b>

\*Discrepancies in totals between monthly reports can occur due to data entry delays.