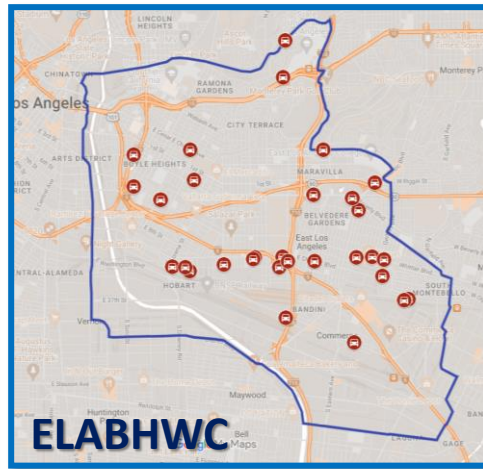
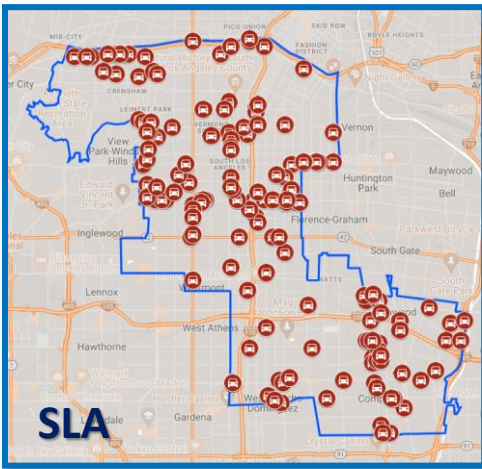




Auto Body Shops Mobile Monitoring

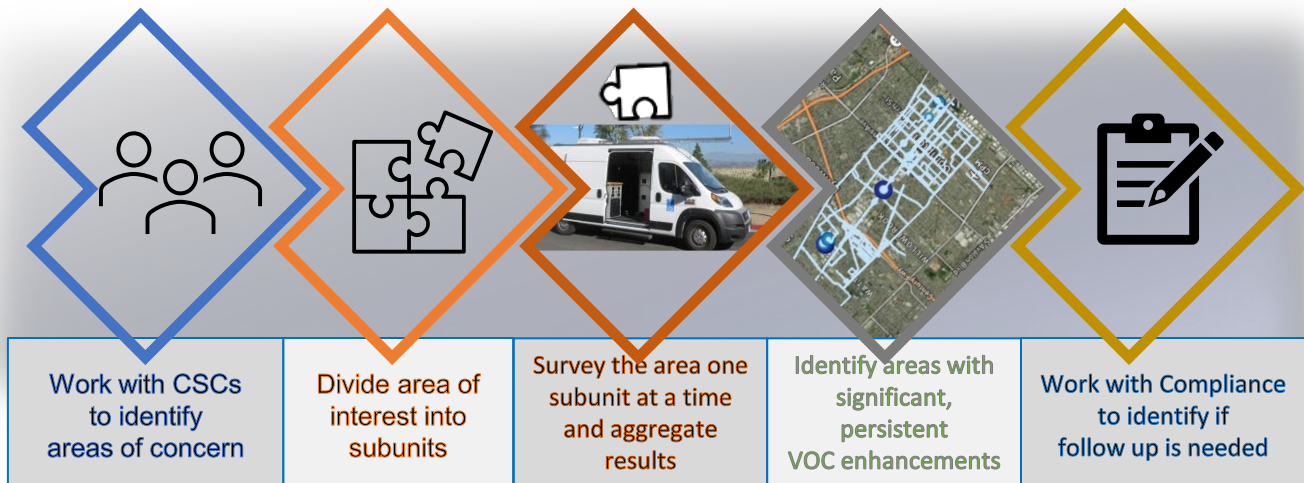
Monitoring & Analysis Division

Auto body shops specialize in repairing vehicles by fixing paint or body damage from scratches, dents, and collisions. The paints or coatings used at auto body shops may cause odors and emit air pollutants, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Auto body shops were identified as an air quality priority in the East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce (ELABHWC), and South Los Angeles (SLA) communities.



There are 169 permitted auto body shops in SLA (red icons, left map) and 31 permitted auto body shops in ELABHWC (red icons, right map). Community members have also expressed concerns about auto body shops not holding South Coast AQMD permits.

South Coast AQMD staff have developed a state-of-the-art mobile platform, housing a Proton-Transfer-Reaction – Mass Spectrometer (PTR-MS). The PTR-MS is a research-grade instrument used for real-time monitoring of VOCs at very low concentrations. This mobile platform is used to support the implementation of AB 617 Community Air Monitoring Plans (CAMPs).



Unique VOC tracers can be used to identify specific activities and sources. Solvent VOCs present in spray coatings can be used as tracers to identify emissions from spray operations at auto body shops. Areas where these tracers are enhanced can be used to identify facilities requiring further monitoring or other follow-up action to help understand, and potentially reduce emissions.