CHAPTER 2

AIR QUALITY ISSUES REGARDING LAND USE

- **LOCAL GOVERNMENT SITING CRITERIA FOR SENSITIVE RECEPTORS**
- **JOB-HOUSING BALANCE**
- **SUGGESTED GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES/STRATEGIES RELATED TO LAND USE**

AIR QUALITY ISSUES REGARDING LAND USE

Local government land use authority in planning, zoning, and permitting can be a very effective tool to minimize air pollutant emissions and associated health risks. However, it is important to recognize that traditional assumptions about planning and zoning compatibility to protect the public may not always eliminate adverse health impacts of air pollution. While it is recognized that local governments, to make the best decisions for the benefit of their residents, must weigh and balance multiple issues, demands and concerns, including, but not limited to, the need for housing, existing development and development patterns, environmental responsibilities and more when making land use decisions, some projects being considered by local land use decision-makers may comply with zoning and air pollution control requirements but still result in adverse health impacts on nearby sensitive receptors. These health impacts may result from emissions released at a single site, along a transportation corridor or a combination of co-located air pollution sources in a community. For example, the co-location of residential and commercial zones often minimize transportation-related emissions, but in some situations this mixed land use may also increase health risks if commercial facilities that emit toxic chemicals are over concentrated. While mixed-use zoning offers economic, social, and environmental benefits compared to single-use zoning, this chapter describes certain industrial, commercial and transportation uses that may pose health concerns with residences, schools, and other sensitive sites. This document introduces land use related policies that rely on design and distance parameters to minimize emissions and lower potential health risk.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SITING CONSIDERATIONS FOR SENSITIVE RECEPTORS

There is a strong connection between health risk and the proximity of the source of air pollution. Local jurisdictions have the responsibility for determining land use compatibility for sensitive receptors. A sensitive receptor is a person in the population who is particularly susceptible to health effects due to exposure to an air contaminant. The following are land uses (sensitive sites) where sensitive receptors are typically located:

- schools, playgrounds and childcare centers
- long-term health care facilities
- rehabilitation centers
- convalescent centers
- hospitals
- retirement homes
- residences

Facilities and Operations That Emit Odors and Dust

Both the AQMD and local governments receive complaints about dust and offensive odors. Odors and dust are air pollutants that can have negative health impacts. While

almost any source may emit objectionable odors, some land uses will be more likely to produce odors or dust because of their operation. The types of facilities or operations that are prone to generate odors, and dust, and other air pollutants can be identified from complaints received by the AQMD (Table 2-1). While AQMD records indicate these facilities have the potential to emit odor or dust that may impact sensitive receptors, individual equipment and operations within each source category do not necessarily generate dust or odor. Special care needs to be given to the initial siting and design of operations and facilities listed in Table 2-1. Assessing potential impacts depends on a number of variables such as wind speed and direction, design features of the proposed facility such as stack height, and the physical distance from the source and the sensitive receptors. Local governments should identify both new projects that have a probability of pollution-related complaints and new developments that may be affected by existing upwind sources. Ideally, potential odor and dust emissions from new projects should be identified and evaluated while the project is still in its initial design phase. This early effort could provide an opportunity to change the project design to minimize or eliminate emissions before the facility becomes operational. Potential odor and dust sources that can be identified and mitigated before construction of a project begins will minimize health impacts and enforcement problems. Local governments are advised to contact the AQMD's Office of Engineering and Compliance to determine if complaints have been filed by property owners or occupants in the general vicinity of a proposed project site to help evaluate the potential for dust or odor complaints.

Table 2-1

Sources of Odor and Dust Complaints Received by the AQMD

Sources of Odors	Sources of Dust
Agriculture (farming and livestock) Chemical Plants Composting Operations Dairies Fiberglass Molding Landfills Refineries Rendering Plants Rail Yards Wastewater Treatment Plant	Agricultural (Land Tilling) Asphalt and Cement Plants Auto Body Facilities Construction Activities Diesel Engines/Vehicles Composting Operations Fertilizer Operations Fiberglass Molding Furniture Manufacturing - Sawdust Landfills and Transfer Stations Refineries Roofing Operations Rubber Manufacturing Sand and Gravel Operations Sandblasting Silk Screening Wood dust

Toxic Air Contaminants

Sensitive receptors (and the facilities that house them) in proximity to sources of air pollutants that emit TACs are of particular concern. Exposure to TACs can increase the risk of contracting cancer or result in adverse non-cancer health effects. Non-cancer health risks associated with TAC exposure include birth defects and other reproductive damage, neurological disorders, and damage to the respiratory system. A comprehensive monitoring study of TACs was initiated as part of AQMD's environmental justice program. The Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES-II) included fixed sites characterizing neighborhood-scale conditions and a complementary microscale study to sample potential localized influences of toxic-emitting sources near residential neighborhoods. Inventories of TACs were utilized in computer simulation models to depict toxic risks for the entire South Coast basin. The MATES-II project represents one of the most comprehensive air toxics monitoring programs ever conducted in a major urban area in the country, and it has been recognized as a model program. Findings from the study revealed the following:

- Average cancer risk from ambient measurements in the South Coast basin was found to be 1400 in a million;
- Diesel exhaust is responsible for about 70 percent of the total cancer risk from air pollution;
- Emissions from mobile sources -- including cars and trucks as well as ships, trains and planes -- account for about 90 percent of the cancer risk. Emissions from businesses and industry are responsible for the remaining 10 percent; and
- The highest cancer risk occurs in south Los Angeles county -- including the port area -- and along major freeways.

In 2005, the AQMD plans to release the results of another intensive one-year study that examined current levels of cancer-causing TACs and the risk they pose to district residents. This study will help gauge the effectiveness of current regulations and serve as a vital tool in helping shape future air quality and environmental justice policies. MATES-III will monitor 21 TACs and four other substances at 10 sites across the Los Angeles basin. The AQMD will use mobile monitoring stations to sample at neighborhood sites near toxic emission sources or in areas where community members are concerned about health risks from air pollution. Such neighborhood sites could be near airports, rail yards, warehouses, landfills, high-volume vehicle traffic, or multiple commercial or industrial facilities. Sampling at each neighborhood site lasts for up to two months. The goal of MATES-III is to update TAC levels and toxic emission inventories, determine the cancer and non-cancer health risk from air toxics across the district. Also, the study will investigate potential toxic "hot spots" in local communities.

The potential impacts of new facilities on sensitive sites will depend on a variety of factors including the amount and toxicity of pollutants emitted, the type of air pollution control equipment at the facility, design features of the facility, the distance from the

source of emissions to the sensitive receptor, and local meteorology. All these factors should be carefully evaluated when siting a source of air pollution. Typically, the siting process followed by land use agencies to avoid the location of sensitive sites (e.g., residences, health clinics, etc.) near sources of air pollution does not involve the AQMD. The potential for public health impacts remains unchanged when siting sensitive receptors near a pollution source or a pollution source near a sensitive receptor. Therefore, local policies should allow for a thorough evaluation of the air quality impacts for both scenarios.

Where possible, CARB recommends a minimum separation between new sensitive land uses and the following eight categories of existing sources (Table 1-1 in CARB's Proposed Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective. March 2005, or subsequent versions adopted by CARB):

- high-traffic freeways and roads
- distribution centers
- rail yards
- ports
- refineries
- chrome plating facilities
- perchloroethylene dry cleaners
- large gasoline stations

It is recommended that the AQMD be consulted to obtain facility-specific emissions information and accepted assessment methods for determining relative exposure and health risk for proposed projects.

Recent studies have found an increased incidence of adverse effects among those who live near busy roadways; these include increased respiratory disease and increased mortality (Wilhelm, M., et al 2003; Kim, J. et al 2004). These studies found that residential proximity to traffic was associated with increased risk of low birth weight, increased medical visits for asthma and increased respiratory symptoms in children. Studies conducted near freeways in Southern California show that traffic emissions, such as carbon monoxide, ultra-fine particulates, and black carbon (soot) are several times higher next to freeways than the background concentrations. These concentrations fell to lower levels with increasing distance from the roadway, decreasing about 60-80 percent within 100 meters (Zhu, Yifang, et al, 2002).

Recent results from the Children's Health Study have shown strong evidence of adverse effects in children exposed to ambient levels of traffic-related pollutants. This study followed children in 12 communities in Southern California from 4th grade through 12th grade (McConnell, K., et al, 2002). Children in communities with high levels of NOx, $PM_{2.5}$, acid vapors, and elemental carbon showed reduced lung function growth over the study period. Additionally, a higher level of asthma was found in the children that lived nearest to busy roadways. In a report prepared for CARB, researchers concluded that the current levels of ambient air pollution in Southern California are associated with

clinically important chronic health effects that have substantial health and economic impacts (Peters, 2004).

The primary authority for siting public schools rests with local school districts which are the designated “lead agencies” for the CEQA environmental analyses. The California Education Code requires public school districts to notify the local planning agency when siting new public schools and the planning agency to determine if the proposed site conforms with the General Plan. If the proposed school is within 500 feet of the edge of a freeway or traffic corridor that has specified minimum average daily traffic counts, the school district is required to determine through specified risk assessment and air dispersion modeling that neither short-term nor long-term exposure poses significant heath risks to pupils. Both the California Education Code section 17213 and the California Public Resources Code section 21151.8 require school districts to consult with the AQMD when preparing the environmental assessment. The AQMD verifies all permitted and non-permitted sources of air pollution that might significantly affect health have been identified and evaluated.

Generally, cancer risk will drop off with distance from a ground level pollution source, such as a freeway. Freeways and busy traffic corridors are defined as traffic volume of over 100,000 vehicles per day in urban areas and 50,000 vehicles per day in rural areas (Education Code Section 17312). CARB studies show that air pollution levels can be significantly higher within 500 feet (150 meters) of freeways or busy traffic corridors and then diminish rapidly. Actual concentration of diesel particulate matter will vary at a particular location depending on traffic volume, vehicle mix, prevailing winds and other variables. The decline in the relative concentration of diesel particulate matter as one moves away from the edge of a freeway is illustrated Figure 2-1. These data have been normalized to a receptor located 20 meters from the edge of freeway (i.e., at a distance of 20 m, the receptor is exposed to 100 percent of the diesel particulate matter emissions from the freeway). A downwind distance of 328 feet (100 m) will reduce cancer risk by over 60 percent. If the physical downwind distance is increased to 984 feet (300 m), the relative concentration is reduced over 80 percent.

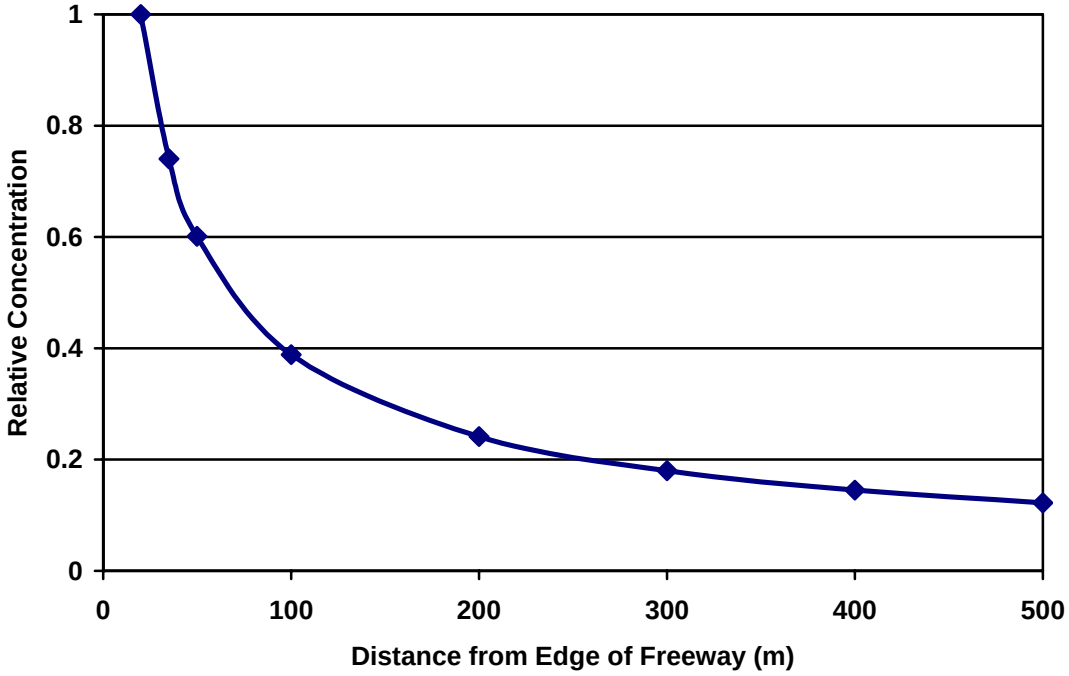

Figure 2-1

Relative Concentration of Diesel Particulate Matter in Relation to the Distance from The Edge of a Freeway

Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District. Adapted from the California Air Resources Board's Diesel Risk Reduction Plan.

A comparison of total cancer risk and cancer risk from diesel particulate matter emissions in rural and urban areas shows that cancer risk associated with elevated levels of diesel particulate both decrease rapidly within the first 100 – 150 meters from the edge of a roadway (Table 2-2). Estimated cancer risk from diesel particulate matter along rural and urban roadways is decreased approximately 68 percent at a distance 150 m (492 ft) from the edge of the roadway. Clearly, these data demonstrate that a minimum distance that separates sources of diesel emissions from nearby receptors is effective in reducing potential cancer risk. The AQMD recognizes that physical separation of the receptors from the pollution sources is not always reasonable or feasible particularly in mature communities. For example, in southern Los Angeles county a sequence of land use decisions in urban areas allowed freeway construction through existing neighborhoods.

Table 2-2

Cancer Risks from Diesel Particulate Matter at the Edge of Roadways in Rural and Urban Areas

Distance from Edge of Roadway (meters)	Diesel Particulate Matter Cancer Risk (in one million)		Total Cancer Risk (in one million)*	
	Rural	Urban	Rural*	Urban*
20 m	475	890	589	1104
150 m	151	277	187	343
500 m	86	159	107	197

Source: South Coast Air Quality Management District. Adapted from the California Air Resources Board's Diesel Risk Reduction Plan.

*To account for gasoline vehicle emissions, the diesel PM risk was multiplied by 1.24. This represents the relative risk contribution from benzene, 1, 3 butadiene, formaldehyde, and acetaldehyde on a basin-wide basis. It is assumed that the vast majority of benzene, 1, 3 butadiene, formaldehyde, and acetaldehyde emissions come from on-road gasoline vehicles.

The AQMD provides guidance for analyzing cancer risks from diesel particulate matter from mobile sources at facilities such as truck stops and warehouse distribution centers in the document titled Health Risk Assessment Guidance for Analyzing Cancer Risks from Mobile Source Diesel Idling Emissions for CEQA Air Quality Analysis. This document may be downloaded at http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/hdbk.html. This guidance describes analysis of potential cancer risks associated with diesel particulates from truck idling and movement (such as truck stops, warehouse and distribution centers, or transit centers), ship hotelling at ports, and train idling. It is suggested that projects with diesel-powered mobile sources use this health risk guidance document to quantify potential cancer risks from the diesel particulate emissions.

Projects that incorporate transit nodes may include a range of multiple services ranging from a bus or light rail stop to a combination of services that may include bus, shuttles, light and heavy rail systems. The concept of a "clean" transit node refers to transit services that predominately operate with zero emission vehicles (e.g., electric light rail), clean fuel vehicles (e.g., compressed natural gas or hydrogen), or vehicles powered with low-emission engines (e.g., California certified Super Ultra Low Emissions Vehicles). Projects that emphasize "clean" transit nodes not only minimize VMT, but also reduce the potential health impacts associated with transit-related emissions on individuals living near transit services.

Current USEPA regulations establish fuel registration and formulation requirements. All diesel fuels and all additives for on-road motor vehicles are required to be registered with the USEPA, and all new diesel-fueled on-road and off-road engines and vehicles sold in California are required to meet both federal and state emission certification requirements. In addition, the Carl Moyer Program, administered by CARB and local air

districts, is a clean engine incentive program that incentivizes projects that substantially reduce emissions of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and fine particulate matter (PM) from heavy-duty diesel engines. Funds are distributed to project proponents through the AQMD to incentivize cost-effective projects. Funds, in the form of grants for private companies, public agencies, or individuals operating heavy-duty diesel engines, cover an incremental portion of the cost of cleaner on-road, off-road, marine, locomotive, and agricultural irrigation pump engines. This framework is also used to award grants for other equipment and for retrofitting or repowering existing engines.

The CARB Diesel Risk Reduction Plan proposes a three-pronged approach that would require use of low-sulfur diesel fuel; retrofitting existing engines with PM filters; and nearly a 90 percent reduction of PM emissions from all new diesel engines and vehicles. A number of adopted and proposed state regulations that will reduce diesel emissions target the following source categories: Heavy-Duty Public Fleets and Private Utilities; Cargo Handling Equipment; Non-Urban Transit Buses; Harbor Craft; Truck Idling from Sleeper Cabs; Off Road and Private On-Road Fleets; Agriculture Equipment; and Ships.

Further, the AQMD has adopted fleet rules that will gradually shift public agencies to lower emissions and alternative fuel vehicles whenever a fleet operator with 15 or more vehicles replaces or purchases new vehicles.

Rule 1186.1 Less – polluting sweepers
Rule 1191 Clean On-Road Light and Medium-Duty Public Fleet Vehicle
Rule 1192 Clean On-Road Transit Buses
Rule 1193 Clean On-Road Residential and Commercial Refuse Collection Vehicles
Rule 1194 Commercial Airport Ground Access Vehicles
Rule 1195 Clean On-Road School Buses
Rule 1196 Clean On-Road Heavy-duty Public Fleet Vehicles

Air regulatory agencies have collaborated closely with regulated industries, refineries and diesel vehicle manufacturers to establish cleaner fuel specifications and engine technologies. Although AQMD's fleet rules have been challenged, CARB is moving forward with its rulemaking to facilitate the implementation of fleet rules in the South Coast Air Basin that will result in significant emission reductions. In addition, state and federal requirements are the cornerstone of the clean air strategy to clean up diesel pollution in the South Coast district. Combined, the current and planned regulatory efforts by USEPA, CARB and AQMD are expected to substantially lower the average level of diesel emissions per vehicle. CARB or AQMD staff can be contacted to obtain additional information on the current status of rule development.

The goals established by the CARB plan call for a statewide reduction in diesel particulate emissions of 75 percent by 2010 and 85 percent by 2020. AQMD' s 2004 addendum to the 2000 Air Toxics Control Plan indicates that full implementation of the 2003 AQMP, including CARB's measures to reduce diesel particulate matter, would reduce basin-wide toxic-weighted emissions by 50 percent. While there continues to be

an overall reduction in air pollution for the region, the emission reductions expected from cleaner engine standards that employ new control technologies often require a lengthy "fleet turnover" time to be effective. Given projections for future growth and additional vehicles that will utilize the regions transportation corridors, there are no guarantees that localized cancer risk and non-cancer impacts will diminish rapidly in the short term or adequately in the long run. Cities are encouraged to join the AQMD in a proactive approach to address existing health concerns in their communities identified in the AQMD's Multiple Air Toxics Emissions Study (MATES II). Policies and strategies suggested in this guidance document can offer a near-term remedy to lower cancer risk from exposure to air pollution, and at the same time, provide preventive measures that protect health over the long-term planning horizon of the general plan.

TACs from stationary sources are of particular concern with regard to sensitive receptors. For example, state law requires school districts to consider the impact of siting a new school close to existing facilities that emit TACs. This same principle should be applied in siting other sensitive sites such as retirement homes and hospitals. AQMD serves as a clearinghouse for publicly available information on stationary sources that emit TACs and associated public health risks. This information is compiled from documentation required of facilities that emit TACs by AQMD Rules 1401 & 1402, and Assembly Bill (AB) 2588 Air Toxics Hot Spots Program (H&SC §§ 39660 et seq.). Toxic risk assessments are routinely included in CEQA evaluations performed by the local governments in its land use decisions

Jurisdictions may conduct a current inventory of all major sources of air pollution within a specified radius of the proposed sensitive site. Examples of facilities with the potential to emit TACs that could pose a health risk are shown in Table 2-3. Also, AQMD staff are available to assist local governments in identifying sources of TACs within their jurisdictions and evaluating potential health risk from TAC exposure. Local governments may contact the AQMD to obtain recommended analytical methods.

Existing land use conflicts are best addressed on an individual basis. AQMD is available to assist cities and counties in evaluating local government options and strategies for minimizing existing pollution exposure problems. Options may include relocation, recycling, redevelopment, rezoning, process changes, incentive programs, and other types of measures.

Table 2-3

Examples of Facilities That Emit Toxic Air Contaminants

Categories	Facility Type	Air Pollutants of Concern
Commercial		
	Perchloroethylene Dry Cleaners[1]	Perchloroethylene
	Chrome Platers/Chrome Spraying Operations	Hexavalent Chromium
	Gas Stations	Benzene
	Auto Body Shops	Metals, Solvents
	Furniture Repair	Solvents[2], Methylene Chloride
	Film Processing Services	Solvents, Perchloroethylene
	Cold Storage Distribution Centers, Warehouses	Diesel Particulate Matter
	Printing Shops	Solvents
	Diesel Engines	Diesel Particulate Matter
Industrial		
	Manufacturers	Solvents, Metals
	Metal Platers, Welders, Metal Spray (flame spray) Operations	Hexavalent Chromium, Nickel, Metals
	Chemical Producers	Solvents, Metals
	Gasoline Refineries	Benzene, Solvents, Metals, PAHs
	Furniture Manufacturers	Solvents
	Shipbuilding and Repair	Hexavalent Chromium and other metals, Solvents
	Hazardous Waste Incinerators	Dioxin, Solvents, Metals
	Power Plants	Benzene, Formaldehyde, Particulate Matter
	Research and Development Facilities	Solvents, Metals, etc.
	Freight Distribution Centers	Diesel Particulate Matter
Public		
	Landfills	Benzene, Vinyl Chloride, Diesel Particulate Matter
	Waste Water Treatment Plants	Hydrogen Sulfide
	Medical Waste Incinerators	Dioxin, Benzene, PAH, PCBs, 1,3-Butadiene
	Recycling, Garbage Transfer Stations	Diesel Particulate Matter
	Municipal Incinerators	Dioxin, Benzene, PAH, PCBs, 1,3-Butadiene
Transportation		
	Port Facilities	Diesel Particulate Matter, Methyl Bromide
	Airports	Benzene, Formaldehyde
	Rail Yards (diesel locomotives)	Diesel Particulate Matter
	Rail Corridors	Diesel Particulate Matter
	Intermodal Facilities	Diesel Particulate Matter
	Truck Stops	Diesel Particulate Matter
	Freeways and Roadways	Diesel Particulate Matter, Benzene, 1,3-Butadiene, Formaldehyde
Agricultural Operations		
	Farming Operations	Diesel Particulate Matter, VOCs, NOx, PM_{10}, CO, SOx, Pesticides
	Livestock and Dairy Operations	Ammonia, VOCs, PM_{10}

Source: Adapted from the Proposed Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective. CARB, March 2005.

[1]Non-perc alternatives (e.g. wet cleaning and CO_2 cleaning) may eliminate TAC emissions.

[2]Many, but not all solvents contain TACs.

Mapping Sources of Toxic Air Contaminants. Land use/zoning maps should be utilized to identify the location of facilities and transit corridors that are potential sources of TACs and the locations of sensitive receptors. An internet-based mapping tool is available from CARB that allows local planners to view maps showing the locations of air pollution sources. The Community Health Air Pollution Information System (CHAPIS) was developed by ARB and the State's 35 local air districts. The AQMD provides the data for facilities in its jurisdiction. Facilities that emit 10 or more tons per year of nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, carbon monoxide, PM_{10}, or reactive organic gases are included in the database. AQMD facilities that emit TACs are being phased in by categories. The CHAPIS database includes chemical manufacturing, metal fabrication, and aerospace/electronics manufacturing facilities if they have conducted health risk assessments under California's Air Toxics "Hot Spots" program. The remaining "Hot Spot" facilities and other industries and smaller businesses, such as gas stations and dry cleaners will eventually be added. An example of a CHAPIS map for the Central Los Angeles - Port region is shown in Figure 2-2.

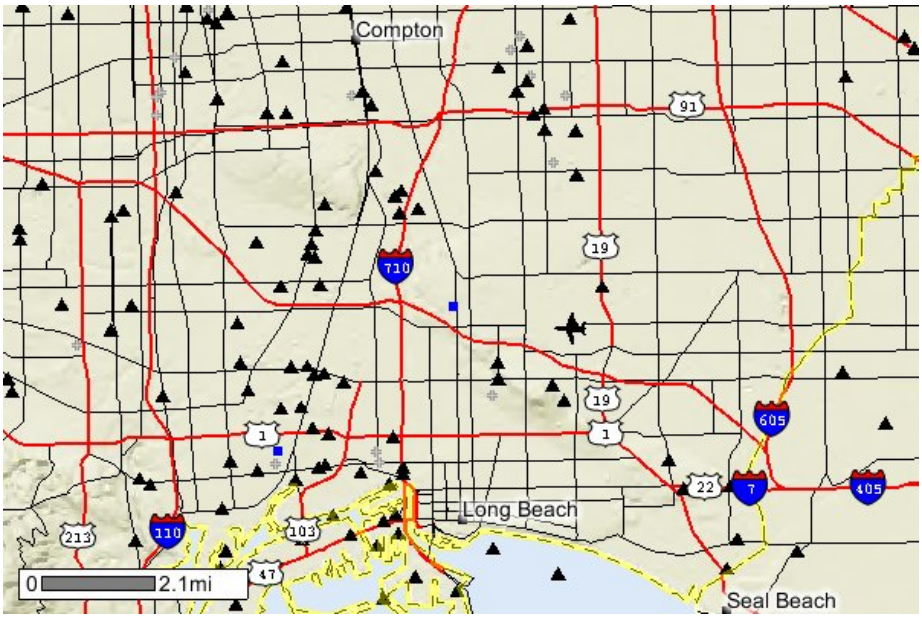

Figure 2-2
Example of a CHAPIS Map of Central Los Angeles Port Regions

CHAPIS maps may answer questions such as:

- What are the major sources of air pollution within several miles from a residence?
- What are the relative contributions of mobile and stationary source emissions?
- What are major sources of air pollution near schools?
- What air pollutants are emitted by a particular facility or from mobile sources?

While the CHAPIS information can serve as an indicator of local levels of air pollution, it is the exposure to emissions that influences health effects. Exposure is the amount of pollution that someone actually breathes or otherwise ingests. The degree of exposure varies with the distance from the source and the activities of the individual. Exposure is also dependent on how the emissions are released and dispersed into the atmosphere. Exposure to air pollutants can also occur from indoor sources such as cooking, cleaning, and smoking. Health risk, as it is related to exposure to air contaminants is influenced by the number of air pollutants an individual is exposed to and the relative toxicity of those pollutants. The air pollutant emission information contained in CHAPIS is provided for general informational purposes. This mapping tool does not address the contribution of indoor sources of air pollution, and it does not show exposure levels or the health risks associated with the pollutants and sources it tracks. Not all stationary source facilities that are required to be permitted by the AQMD can be identified by CHAPIS at this time. Also, there can be a lag time between when the emissions occurred and the reporting of the information to the AQMD or CARB emission inventory databases. The AQMD should be consulted for the most recent emissions data and for information on facilities that may not appear on CHAPIS maps.

Siting issues, with respect to sensitive receptors need to be identified early in the review process, preferably before projects are formally submitted to the public agencies' planning boards. The following three air quality questions related to land use compatibility should be considered for each project in close proximity to sensitive receptors:

- Will a sensitive receptor be located downwind from an existing source of dust or odors (Table 2-1)?

- Will a sensitive receptor be located in close proximity to a congested roadway or an existing facility that emits TACs (Table 2-3)?
- Is adequate separation provided, or are there established siting criteria to minimize exposure and health risk between sensitive receptors and sources of air pollution (see Table 1-1 in CARB's Draft Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Health Perspective. February 2005)?

Cities and counties could establish policies that provide for the location of sensitive sites and sources of air pollution in a manner that seeks to avoid the over-concentration of these facilities near sensitive sites. A number of strategies that may be employed to address over-concentration of emission sources and the cumulative impacts of the combined emissions include:

- physical separation between the source and the sensitive site
- design features at the source to minimize air pollution emissions
- siting, permitting and zoning policies
- capping cumulative impacts of various pollution sources

- changing the land use designations in areas where there are significant cumulative impacts

"Cumulative" air quality analyses describe health and nuisance impacts related to cumulative emissions from sources that individually comply with AQMD, state, and federal rules. For example, in local jurisdictions where there are neighborhoods near a relatively large number of industrial facilities or near heavy cross-town traffic, there is concern that there may be accumulated effects of numerous emission sources operating near residences, schools, or other sensitive sites. Cumulative impacts may be mitigated through siting and zoning policies that consider, where feasible, appropriate setbacks and buffer zones to disperse the air pollutants before they reach sensitive receptors. When physical separation of sensitive receptors from sources of air pollution is not a feasible option, particularly in older well-developed communities, the design features of a specific facility or project (e.g., barriers and walls, landscaping, stack height, and ventilation systems) should be evaluated as an alternative to physical land separation.

JOB-HOUSING BALANCE

Residents in urban areas in the South Coast basin have become increasingly concerned with increased traffic congestion and the failure of the region to achieve state and federal clean air standards. The concept of a "jobs/housing balance" is based on the premise that the number of vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled (VMT) can be reduced when sufficient jobs are available locally to balance the employment demands of the community, and when commercial services are convenient to residential areas. Achieving a good balance requires planning the location and nature of jobs and housing in order to encourage a reduction in vehicle trips and VMT while increasing mass transit ridership and alternative modes of transportation, such as bicycles and walking. The AQMD and the SCAG both embrace jobs/housing balance as a viable tool available to local governments to reduce air pollution.

SUGGESTED GOAL, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES/STRATEGIES RELATED TO LAND USE

Goal 1 **Land use policies that address the relationship between land use and air quality to protect public health and minimize impacts on existing land use patterns and future land use development**

Objective 1.1 **Through land use plans provide heightened consideration of policies and strategies to minimize exposure of sensitive receptors and sites (e.g., schools, hospitals, and residences) to health risks related to air pollution.**

Suggested Policies/Strategies to Protect Sensitive Receptors from Health Risks Related to Air Pollution:

AQ 1.1.1 Develop mapping and inventory resources to identify sensitive receptors and sources of air pollution.

AQ 1.1.2 Consider environmental justice issues as they are related to potential health impacts associated with air pollution and ensure that all land use decisions, including enforcement actions, are made in an equitable fashion to protect residents, regardless of age, culture, ethnicity, gender, race, socioeconomic status, or geographic location from the health effects of air pollution.

AQ 1.1.3 Encourage site plan designs to provide the appropriate set-backs and/or design features that reduce TAC at the source.

AQ 1.1.4 Encourage the applicants for sensitive land uses (e.g., residences, schools, daycare centers, playgrounds and medical facilities) to incorporate design features (e.g., pollution prevention, pollution reduction, barriers, landscaping, ventilation systems, or other measures) in the planning process to minimize the potential impacts of air pollution on sensitive receptors.

AQ 1.1.5 Promote and support mixed-use land patterns that allow the integration of retail, office, institutional and residential uses. Consult with the AQMD when siting new facilities with dust, odors or TAC emissions to avoid siting those facilities near sensitive receptors and avoid siting sensitive receptors near sources of air pollution.

AQ 1.1.6 Consider cumulative air quality impacts from both existing and new projects when making siting decisions.

AQ 1.1.7 Facilitate communication among residents, businesses and the AQMD to quickly resolve air pollution nuisance complaints. Distribute information to advise residents on how to register a complaint with AQMD (AQMD's "Cut Smog" program).

AQ 1.1.8 The owners of new developments that have the potential to emit air pollutants that would impact sensitive receptors are required, during the early stages of the business license, development or conditional use permit processes, to notify residents and businesses adjacent to the proposed site prior to starting construction. However, potential business and resident occupants newly locating near sites that may impact sensitive receptors should be encouraged to inquire through their local government or the AQMD about the air quality emissions from such sites.

AQ 1.1.9 Consider all feasible alternatives to minimize emissions from diesel equipment (e.g., trucks, construction equipment, and generators).*

AQ 1.1.10 Actively participate in decisions on the siting or expansion of facilities or land uses (e.g. freeway expansions), to ensure the inclusion of air quality

mitigation measures.

AQ 1.1.11 Where decisions on land use may result in emissions of air contaminants that pose significant health risks, consider options, including possible relocation, recycling, redevelopment, rezoning, process changes, incentive programs, and other types of measures.

Objective 1.2 Reduce mobile source emissions by reducing vehicle trips and vehicle miles traveled associated with land use patterns.

Suggested Policies/Strategies to reduce vehicle miles traveled:

AQ 1.2.1 For planned high density and mixed use developments, project proponents should consult with the local transit agency and incorporate all appropriate and feasible transit amenities into the plans.

AQ 1.2.2 Establish a Mixed-Use Zoning District that offers incentives to mixed use developments.

AQ 1.2.3 Encourage through the land use entitlement process or business regulation, design of commercial and residential areas to foster pedestrian circulation.

AQ 1.2.4 Adopt and implement zoning codes that encourage community centers, telecommuting programs, and home-based businesses.*

AQ 1.2.5 Create opportunities to receive State transportation funds by adopting incentives (e.g., an expedited review process) for planning and implementing infill development projects within urbanized areas that include job centers and clean transportation nodes (e.g., preparation of “transit village” plans).

AQ 1.2.6 Collaborate with local, regional, state and federal agencies to create incentives for “job/housing opportunity zones,” to promote housing in job-rich areas and jobs in housing-rich areas.

AQ 1.2.7 Design safe and efficient vehicle access to commercial land uses from arterial streets to ensure efficient vehicular ingress and egress.

AQ 1.2.8 Locate public facilities and services so that they further enhance job creation opportunities.

AQ 1.2.9 Ensure that development projects and zoning codes create the maximum opportunity for the use of bicycles as an alternative work transportation mode.*

AQ 1.2.10 Encourage “walkable neighborhoods“ by siting parks and community centers near residential areas.*

Objective 1.3 Reduce mobile source emissions by increasing population densities within one-half mile of clean transit nodes.

Suggested Policies/Strategies to Increase Densities:

AQ 1.3.1 Increase residential and commercial densities around clean rail and bus transit stations and corridors. Clean rail and bus transit nodes and corridors are those that are served by rail and buses that are powered by electricity, alternative fuels (i.e., CNG and LNG), or that meet or exceed SULEV emission standards.

AQ 1.3.2 Sponsor paratransit transportation systems, such as neighborhood electric vehicle "station cars" or jitneys for short trips to and from transit nodes.*

*Potential funding for these policies has been identified in Appendix E.