

# Chevron Richmond Community Action Plan Town Hall May 13, 2025

Facilitator: Ceres Policy Research



## WELCOME

- Welcome to the Community Action Plan (CAP) Town Hall
- This CAP was created because Richmond residents demanded accountability, truth, and a meaningful role in decisions that impact their health and environment.
- Tonight is about sharing updates, asking real questions, and shaping what transparency and safety should look like — together.





## COMMUNITY AGREEMENTS & GOALS FOR THE EVENING

- Honor this space as community-driven
- Uplift the truths of frontline residents
- Be clear about what this process is and what it's not
- Stay grounded in dialogue, not blame
- Use this space to build power not just vent frustration



## **GROUNDING THE SPACE**

- We are meeting in a city shaped by environmental resistance and deep community care.
- We recognize that trust must be earned through honest dialogue, clarity about responsibility, and long-term structural change.
- Let's begin today with clarity and purpose.



## WHO MAKES THIS CAP POSSIBLE

- This work is led by Richmond residents and community organizations committed to accountability, transparency, and local power:
  - **Neighborhood Council Reps & Residents:** Atchison Village, Parchester Village, Hilltop, Santa Fe, Coronado, Point Richmond, Central Richmond, Shields-Reid
  - **Community-Based Organizations:** RCF Connects, The Latina Center, NAACP Richmond Branch, Black Women Organized for **Political Action**
- Thank you for your time, leadership, and local knowledge.



## WHAT WE'LL DO TODAY

- Ground ourselves in why this Community Action Plan (CAP) exists
- Hear updates on Chevron's flaring, safety systems, and air quality reporting
- Have a break and then divide into a Gallery Walk exercise to share your questions, experiences, and ideas
- Hear directly from Richmond residents during a public comment session
- Identify next steps and ways to stay engaged in this process

## WHY WE'RE HERE

### **Purpose of the CAP**

The CAP was mandated by a 2024 settlement between Chevron and BAAQMD under Rule 6-5. It is a structured process focused on public transparency, real-time communication, and community input on air quality and refinery operations.

Our role is to center community voices, monitor data and communication efforts, and build feedback loops that challenge and improve refinery practices.



## **READ THE FULL CAP REPORT**

To read the full Community Action Plan, including priorities and feedback gathered since 2024:





## CAP IS...

- Focused on transparency, safety, and communication
- Not a health intervention or direct funding source
- Grounded in community input and organizing

## **OUR 2025 FOCUS AREAS**

- Sharing **clearer**, **real-time info** about air quality and flaring
- Understanding how to support **community health** initiatives
- Showing up more at **community-based and neighborhood** council meetings
- Making technical information easier to understand and access

<u>These priorities came from community feedback and will keep evolving.</u>

They reflect a deeper call for healing, justice, and real change. CAP is just one piece — let's honor these visions, even if they reach beyond this process.



## Why are we here?

- Transparency and Dialogue
- Education
  - Flaring
  - Air monitoring
  - Air District's \$20M Community Air Quality Fund
  - Where to find information



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## Flaring system overview

### Why do we need flares?

- Flares are heavily regulated safety devices that:
  - Protect the health and safety of workers and surrounding communities.
  - Prevent serious effects on air quality.
  - Allow us to dissipate excess pressure in a safe and controlled manner.

### Flare myths:

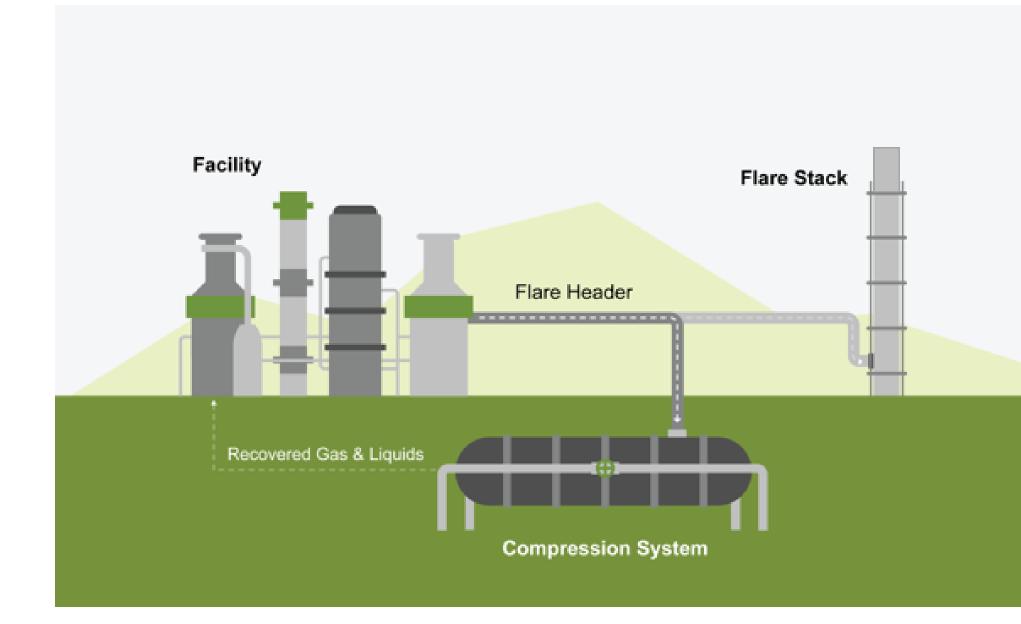
- Flares are uncontrolled fires: FALSE
- Flares are a sole indicator of a situation requiring emergency services: FALSE
- Flares are only present at refineries: FALSE



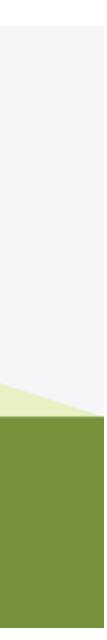




## Flaring system overview







## **Groundwork Richmond Finding**

### richmond emissions by source



### Background Wildfires, other pollution from outside sources

Area Residential wood burning, construction, restaurants





### Traffic **Resident and commuter** automobile emissions





Non-road Rail operations, ships, and port activity





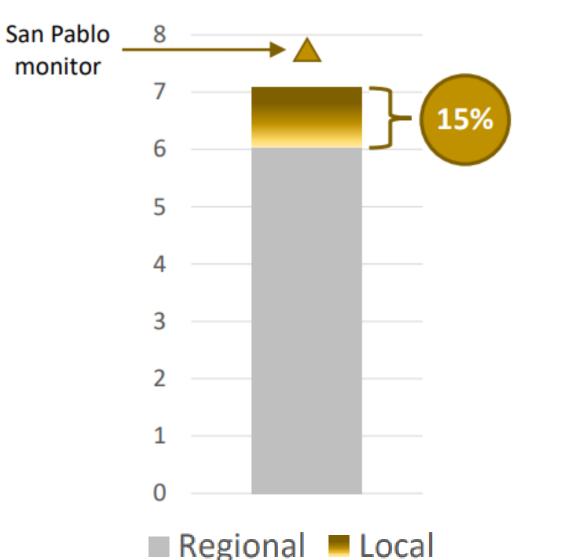
Point Industrial facilities such as Richmond Refinery

**6%** 

Source: Community Air Monitoring Webinar, Groundwork Richmond, Air Rangers Program, 2020

56%

## **AB-617** Path to Clean Air Finding **Community Emission Reduction Plan**



### $PM_{2.5} (\mu g/m^3)$

- 85% of small particulate matter  $\bullet$ (PM2.5) exposure in Richmond-San Pablo Area comes from regional sources
- 15% are from local sources, • including the refinery and other industrial facilities



Sources: Community Emission Reduction Plan (CERP) Community Steering Committee Meeting #12 - March 21, 2022, summary-of-pm-report draft aug-23.pdf (baagmd.gov)

## **Richmond Air Monitoring Network (RAMN) Finding** by APEN and PSE Health Energy

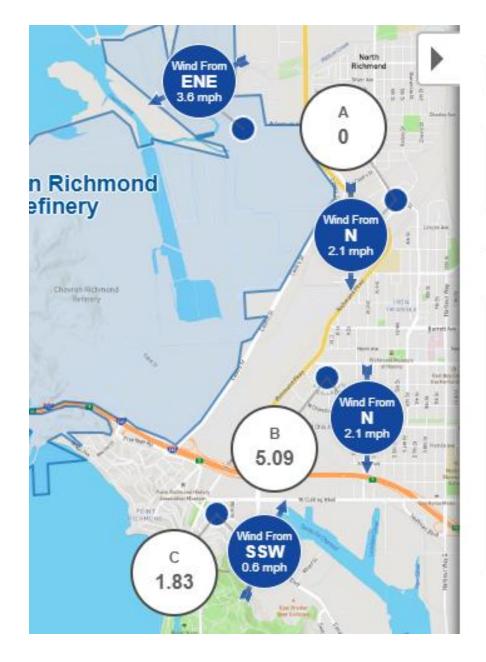
- "The large majority of flaring events did not coincide with spikes in the hourly PM2.5."
- "In fact, larger PM2.5 spikes were often observed on days when no flares were reported (outside of wildfire) season)."
- PM2.5 was elevated during commute hours, near freeways (I-80, I-580) and during times associated with industrial truck activity.



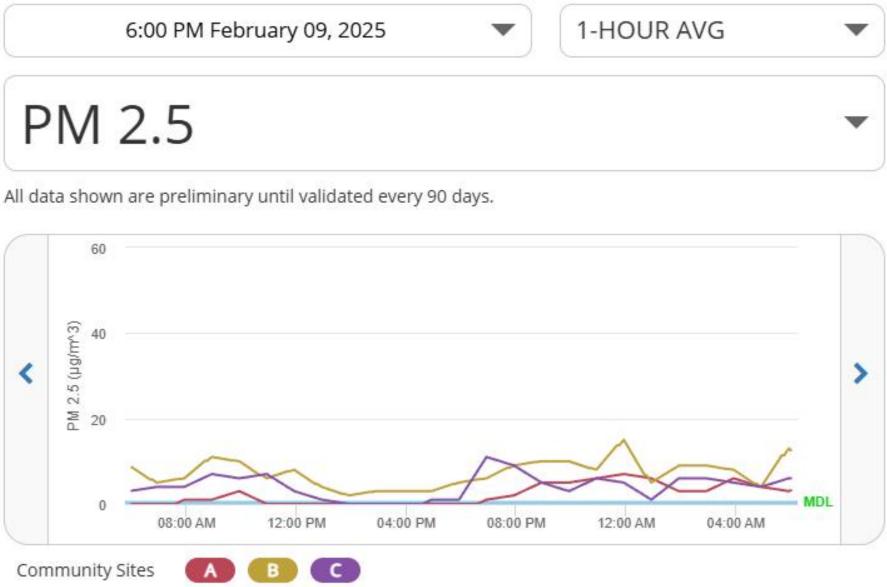
Source: https://www.psehealthyenergy.org/wpcontent/uploads/2023/04/Richmond-Air-Monitoring-Network Final-Report.pdf, 2022



### Air Monitoring on Feb 9, 2025 – No Flaring

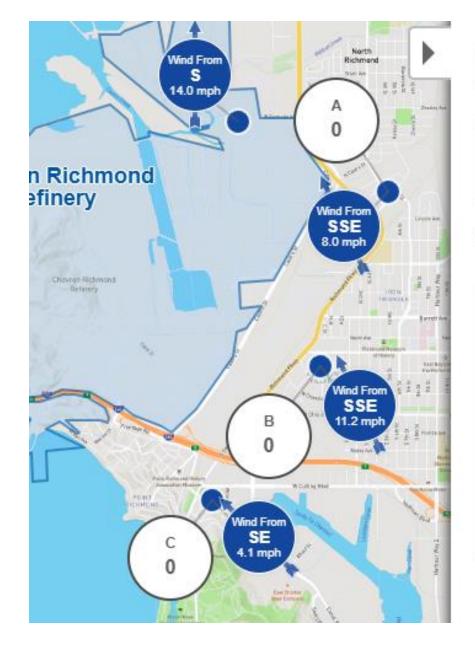




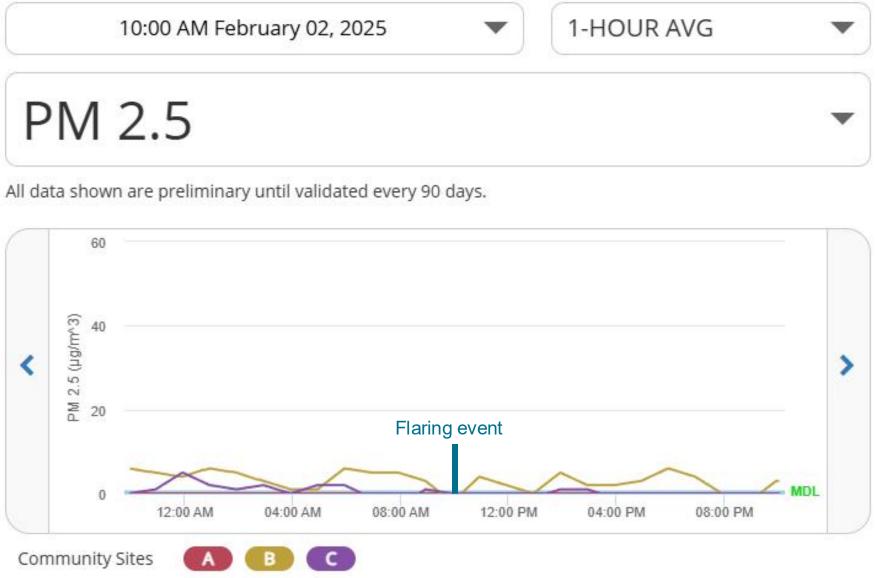




### Air Monitoring on Feb 2, 2025 – Flaring Event

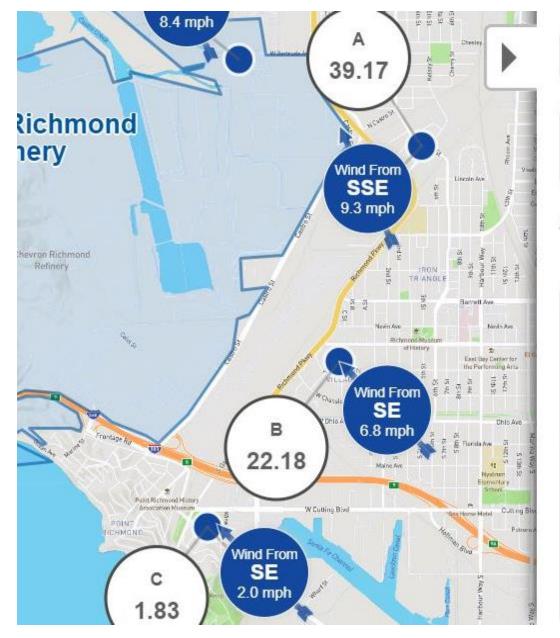








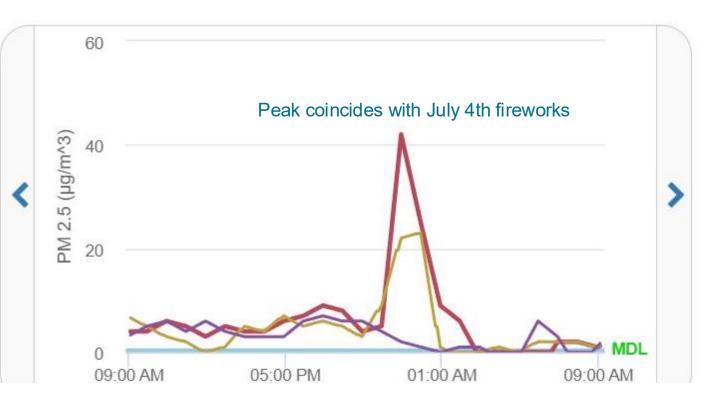
### Air Monitoring on July 4, 2024 – No Flaring



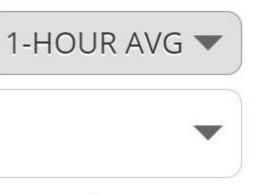
11:05 PM July 04, 2024

## PM 2.5

All data shown are preliminary until validated every 90 days.



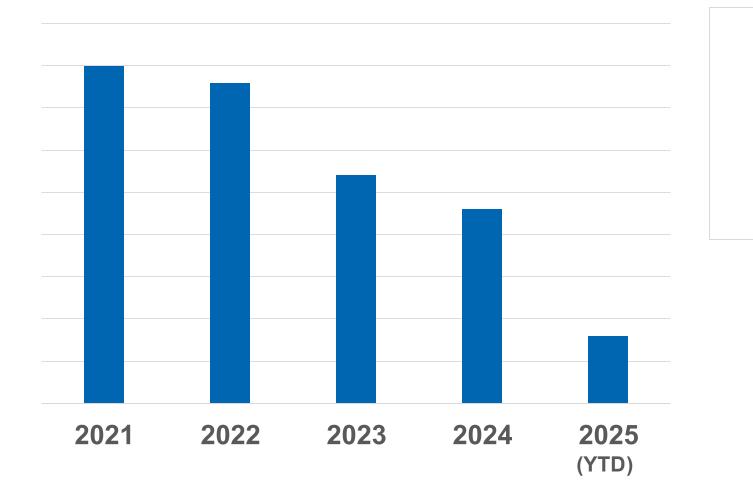




## **Flaring trends**

### number of events

### 2024 trends









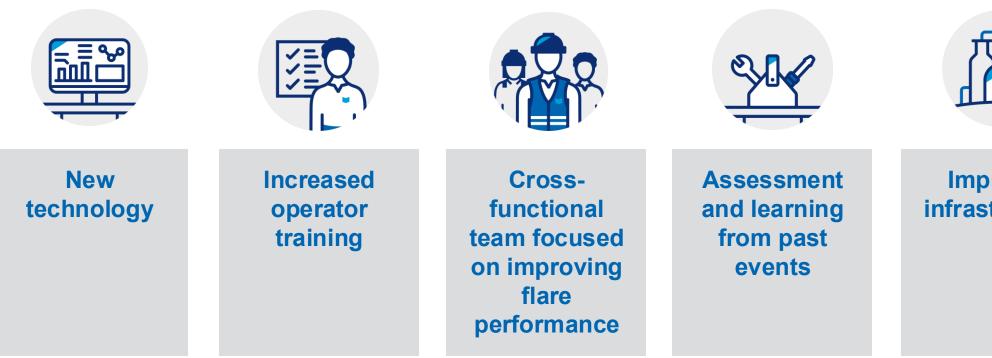
## **Flaring events** October 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

Date Range	Number of Flaring Events
Oct. 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	7
April 1, 2024 – Sept. 30, 2024	10





## **Flare improvement efforts**



# \$25+ million in projects completed \$15-\$20 million in upcoming projects





### Improved infrastructure



# air quality related notices of violation (NOVs)

October 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025

36 36 The BAAQMD does not 34 always issue NOVs 32 immediately, and sometimes 30 years after permit deviations 28 due to changes in 26 regulations or other 26 reasons. 24 22 20 18 16 violation types 14 12 10 10 non-emissions 8 59% 41% emissions 6 2 2 2 Ω FCC Fuel Gas SRU Flare Flaring H2 Furnace Late/Missed Process Electrostatic Excursions Drums Reporting Sewer Operation Precipitator





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S	Cogen NOx	Vessels & Drums
		Inspection

## community warning system

**Contra Costa County maintains a Community Warning System (CWS) to keep area residents** informed during various community incidents that have the potential to impact residents.

### LEVEL O

Offsite impacts not expected and not expected to cause public concern.

### NOTIFICATION No notification sent to public.

ACTION No community action required.

### LEVEL 1

Odor or audible impact; flaring lasting longer than 20 minutes; or other non-flaring visual impact.

Awareness message sent to people who have opted in by texting CCHEALTH to 21423.

No community action required.

### LEVEL 2

Has or expected to go offsite; may impact health of sensitive populations.

Public health advisory sent to landlines in affected areas. To opt-in your cellphone sign-up at cwsalerts.com.

The county will provide guidance on action to take.

### LEVEL 3

Has or expected to go offsite; may impact health of general public.

Public protective actions issued to landlines in affected areas. CWS sirens activated. To opt-in your cellphone sign-up at cwsalerts.com. The county will provide guidance on action to take.

## **Communications Updates**

### www.richmond.chevron.com

- Newsletters in English and Spanish
- Information about flaring in English and Spanish
- Air Monitoring Resources
- Community Action Plan
- Community Meetings
- Careers and Regional Occupational Program

### www.facebook.com/chevronrichmond



Chevron Richmond Feb 1 · 🚱

Dear Neighbors, Chevron Richmond is experiencing intermittent visible flaring as part of the planned start-up of a process unit. A Community Warning System (CWS) Level 1 has been issued to keep our community informed. Our workforce is working quickly to minimize and stop the flaring. There is no emergency response or community action required due to this notification.

The safety of our workforce, our communities and the environment are our highest priorities. Real-time air quality data can be viewed at www.richmondairmonitoring.org

Comment

richmondairmonitoring.org Chevron Richmond - Home

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## **BREAK – WHAT WE'RE LISTENING FOR**

What matters most to you right now?

### Real-Time Alerts & Air Monitoring

- Are you getting the info you need when you need it?
- What's working? What's not?
- How can we make alerts clearer and more accessible?

### C Education and Dialogue

- What questions do you still have about flaring?
- What kind of training, visual tools, or support would help your block feel informed?
- What does environmental justice mean to you in this context?
- **CAP** Priorities What Comes Next?
  - What would help you better understand safety and environmental performance at the refinery?
  - What would real community engagement look like?
  - What would help young people stay informed and lead?



## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

- This is your time. A timer will be running, with approx. 2 minutes per speaker.
- Tell your story. Ask questions. Raise the priorities your neighborhood carries.
- Our job is to listen and document what needs to happen next.

## **STAY INVOLVED – STAY INFORMED**

Want updates on the CAP process? Scan below to subscribe to Chevron's newsletter. You'll receive general company updates as well as Richmond-specific news about the Community Action Plan and local engagement opportunities.





## **CALL TO ACTION**

- What we heard tonight will shape CAP actions going forward
- Let's keep the pressure up and the conversation active
- Stay involved:
  - Join your neighborhood council
  - Sign up for the Community Warning System
  - Learn more: <u>https://richmond.chevron.com/rule6-5</u>
  - Spanish and ASL interpretation always available by request this space is yours.