

# AB 617 Community: El Centro-Heber- Calexico Corridor

## *MITIGATION PROJECTS & FUTURE GOALS*

Salton Sea Authority, March 25, 2021



**ICAPCD**  
**IMPERIAL COUNTY**  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

# Community Corridor Overview

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- ICAPCD, in partnership with Comité Civico del Valle (CCV), was successful in getting our nominated community of El Centro-Heber-Calexico (Corridor) selected by CARB as a first year AB 617 Community (one of only ten first year communities).
- The primary goal is to implement the Corridor's Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP), which was adopted by the Corridor's Community Steering Committee in September 2019, and the Corridor's Community Emissions Reduction Program (CERP), which was formally adopted by CARB in Jan. 2020.



# Recent AB617 Projects

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- **Air Filtration Systems** – Enhanced Air Filtrations systems have been installed at eight (8) schools in the Corridor to date, with the goal of having an additional 10 to 12 schools with these systems by fall 2021. These systems improve indoor air quality for students and reduce their air pollution exposure.
- **Parking Lot Paving Projects** – A parking lot paving project was carried out in 2019, as an early action AB 617 Project, at Calexico High School to reduce particulate matter (fugitive dust) emissions. The specific Project Plan for this strategy was recently approved by CARB, allowing ICAPCD to utilize AB 617 funding for additional paving projects in the Corridor.
- **School Bus Replacement** – ICAPCD completed a school bus replacement project at Calexico Unified School District in Sept. 2020, funding the replacement of an old diesel bus with an electric bus (and a charging station). ICAPCD will be funding additional zero-emission school bus projects this year with AB 617 funding.





# Upcoming AB 617 Projects

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- **Urban Greening Projects** – Main benefit of these project is greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions, and secondarily exposure reductions to particulate matter (PM) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx). These projects may include planting trees or vegetative barriers in the Corridor to reduce emissions.
- **Enhanced School Flag Program** – School Flag Programs (SFPs) are localized notification systems that provide daily updates of the air quality status, generally involving the hoisting of color-coded flags that reflect each day's AQI. SFPs reduce exposure to criteria air pollutants by informing the public of days where ambient concentrations reach unhealthy or potentially hazardous levels.
- Funds dedicated to establish SFPs at schools which do not have one, or modernize existing programs at schools (i.e. install electronic marquee for notifications, in lieu of flags).

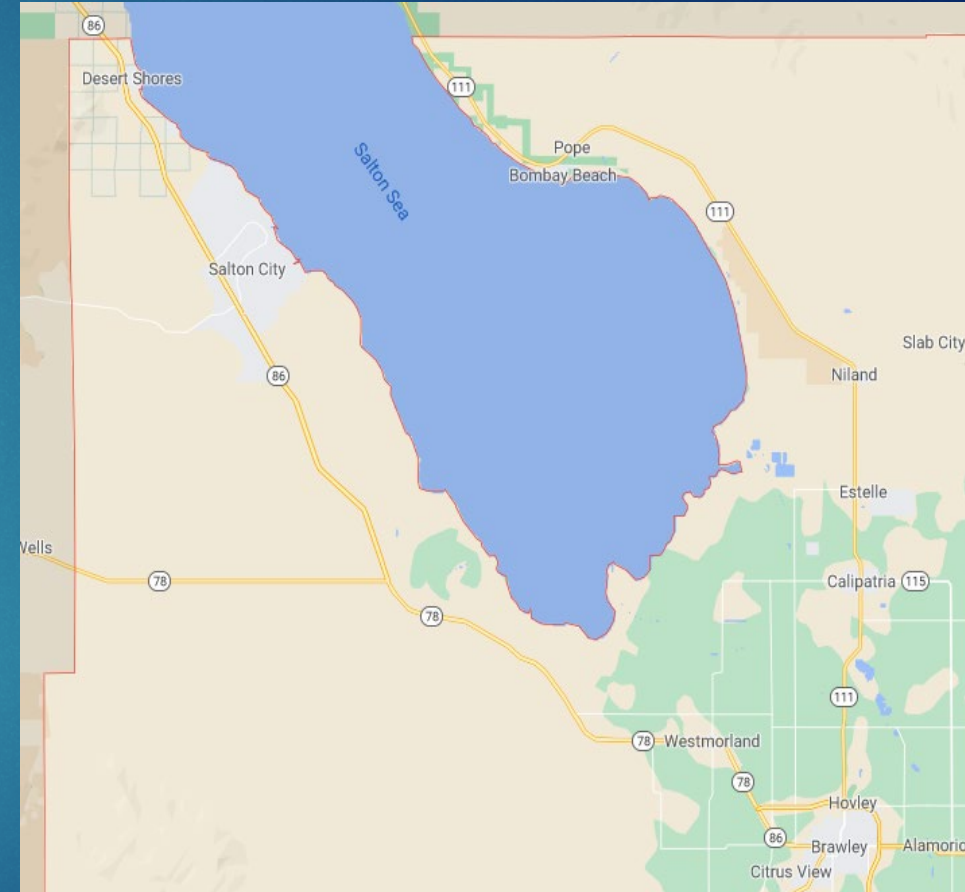




# North End Imperial County Nomination

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- ▶ In fall of 2019 and 2020, ICAPCD and CCV submitted joint nomination to CARB for consideration and approval of North End Imperial County communities into the AB 617-CAPP Program.
- ▶ These North End Communities include: City of Brawley, City of Calipatria, City of Westmorland, and unincorporated communities of Niland, Desert Shores, Salton Sea Beach, Salton City, Bombay Beach, and Seeley.
- ▶ If selected, work would commence on establishing its own CAMP and CERP for these highly exposed air pollution communities.
- ▶ Projects such as indoor air filtration, urban greening, paving, the establishment of new low-cost community air quality monitors, and other innovative strategies can be developed and implemented that are specifically tailored to this region.





# Online & Staff Resources

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Imperial County AB 617 Website for Corridor:  
[www.icab617community.org/](http://www.icab617community.org/)

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