



## City Council Agenda Item

**City Council Meeting Date:** February 3, 2026

**TO:** Dean Albro, City Manager

**FROM:** Mario Guerrero, Jr., Community Development Director  
m\_guerrero@ci.lompoc.ca.us

**SUBJECT:** Approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District to Implement the 2025 Clean Air Fund Program for Lompoc and Designate the Dick DeWees Community and Senior Center as a Clean Air Facility

---

### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the City Council approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (SBCAPCD) implementing the 2025 Clean Air Fund Program for Lompoc designating the Dick DeWees Community and Senior Center (DeWees Center) a Clean Air Facility, and authorize the City Manager to execute the MOA and any other related documents necessary to implement the program.

### **Background:**

Santa Barbara County experiences periodic air quality impacts due to wildfires, prescribed burns, and other regional air pollution events that can result in unhealthy conditions for sensitive populations. During these events, access to clean indoor air is a critical public health need, particularly for seniors, children, and individuals with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions.

SBCAPCD has developed a countywide Clean Air Center Program to identify and support facilities that can serve as clean air spaces during air quality advisories. These facilities provide filtered indoor air and a safe environment for community members to reduce exposure to harmful particulate matter during smoke or pollution episodes.

SBCAPCD proposes to partner with the City through the MOA designating the DeWees Center as a clean air facility during business hours when air quality conditions warrant. The DeWees Center is well suited for this purpose due to its accessibility, existing community use, and ability to accommodate residents seeking relief from poor air quality.

The MOA outlines the roles and responsibilities of SPCAPCD and the City, including operational coordination, public notification, and any available support for air filtration equipment or outreach materials. This partnership will enhance the City's emergency

preparedness and public health response by providing a designated clean air space for the Lompoc community during air quality emergencies.

### **Discussion:**

#### **City of Lompoc Responsibilities**

Under the MOA, the City will be responsible for hiring a qualified HVAC contractor to install eight Level 13 Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV-13) rated air filters and to perform quarterly routine preventive maintenance on the DeWees Center's ten HVAC systems over a five-year period. These measures are intended to ensure effective air filtration and continued system performance.

The City will invoice SBCAPCD for reimbursement of costs incurred for air filter replacements and HVAC preventative maintenance, not to exceed \$40,000 over the five-year term of the MOA. All invoices submitted will include documentation verifying payments made by the City to its HVAC contractor.

In addition, the City will commit to using the DeWees Center as a Clean Air Center during normal business hours when air quality reaches "Unhealthy" levels, as defined by the Air Quality Index, due to wildfire smoke events. The City will provide clean, filtered indoor air to residents of the Lompoc community during these periods.

The City is also required to coordinate with SBCAPCD on joint outreach and informational efforts to promote the successful implementation of the Clean Air Center Program and to increase public awareness.

#### **SBCAPCD Responsibilities**

SBCAPCD will process reimbursement invoices submitted by the City for eligible air filter replacements and HVAC preventative maintenance, not to exceed a total of \$40,000, provided that the invoices include documentation of payments made by the City to its HVAC contractor. SBCAPCD will process these invoices within sixty (60) days of receipt.

SBCAPCD will commit Clean Air Funds to the project for the duration of the MOA, with total reimbursements not to exceed \$40,000. SBCAPCD will also coordinate with the City on outreach and informational efforts highlighting the successful implementation of the program.

Overall, approval of the MOA formalizes a collaborative partnership that enhances the City's ability to protect public health during air quality emergencies while leveraging external funding to offset operational costs.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

The MOA is not expected to result in a negative fiscal impact to the City. The SBCAPCD will reimburse the City for eligible HVAC filter replacement and preventative maintenance

costs, not to exceed \$40,000 over a five-year period. Environmentally, the agreement supports improved indoor air quality and public health protection during wildfire smoke events by reducing community exposure to harmful air pollutants.

**Conclusion:**

Approval of the MOA between the City and the SBAPCD will allow the DeWees Center to serve as a Clean Air Center during regular business hours and during periods of unhealthy air quality caused by wildfire smoke events. The MOA clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of each party, provides for reimbursement of eligible HVAC-related costs, and enhances the City's emergency preparedness and public health response.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Mario Guerrero Jr., Community Development Director

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

---

Dean Albro, City Manager

Attachment: Memorandum of Agreement Regarding 2025 Clean Air Fund Program for Lompoc