

**Valero Community Advisory Panel (CAP)  
Draft Summary Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 8, 2022  
Valero East 610 Industrial Way, Benicia (in person and via ZOOM)**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was conducted in person at Valero East and on ZOOM and Steve McClure called to order at 4:32 p.m. The following attended:

CAP Members

Steve McClure	Benicia Chamber of Commerce
Mayor Steve Young	Benicia City Council
Diane Ferrucci	Benicia Unified School District
Marilyn Bardet	Good Neighbor Steering Committee
Rod Sherry (Zoom)	President Industrial Park Association
Neil Wilson (Zoom)	Community at Large
Amira Barger (Zoom)	Community at Large

Valero CAP Representatives

Josh Tulino	VP and General Manager
Paul Adler	Director of Community Relations & Government Affairs
Kim Ronan	Director of Health, Safety, Environment and Regulatory Affairs

Valero and City of Benicia employees

Erik Upson (Zoom)	Benicia City Manager
Josh Chadwick (Zoom)	Benicia Fire Chief
Robert Newman (Zoom)	Climate Action Council
Melissa Manke Fimbres	Director-Technical Services
Mike Sumter	Human Resources Manager
Frank Hartig	Manager Plant Security
Pam Fischer	Executive Administrative Assistant
Chris Wilburn	Regional Refinery Controller

**Welcome**

- CAP members in attendance introduced themselves and Paul Adler recapped who was attending via Zoom.
- [Agenda](#) was approved.
- Approved summary meeting minutes from the [December 14th, 2021 CAP meeting](#)

**Refinery Update**

- Josh Tulino, VP and General Manager
  - Shared the [Root Cause Analysis](#) of the FCCU Startup Release document and provided further clarification on the cause. Discussed the action taken with canvassing the neighborhood and the impact to the neighborhood affected by release; automobiles, solar panels, etc.
  - Josh & Kim Ronan provided clarification and insight into the BAAQMD-VLO-SOA that was published in the media in January 2022. Kim Ronan provided an explanation of the timing of the incident that began in 2018; what action Valero has been taking since discovery of the incident; and the fact that current levels have reduced 98% from when originally discovered. In addition, she clarified that our sample results never measured concentrations that exceeded the reference exposure level for public health.

Kim also explained that our benzene fence-line monitoring data, which started in 2018, consistently measured benzene concentrations well below the EPA's action level.

- Kim Ronan, Director Health, Safety, Environment and Regulatory Affairs
  - No updates in addition to information shared during Refinery update.
- Paul Adler, Community Relations & Govt Affairs Director
  - Summarized content and purpose of the [2021 Annual CAP Report](#).
  - Provided link for the [VLO Investor Relations](#) Presentation-Overview of where the company is at. Both documents available on the [CAP website](#).

### **CAP Meeting Discussion Update**

- Steve referenced the email that he sent to each CAP member inquiring about meetings topics, and structure changes. Feedback received included adding 2 additional meetings per year; There will be a total of 6 CAP meeting in 2022 and 2 of the meetings will be open to the public. It was decided the CAP will also host an adhoc CAP meeting, if a significant incident occurs. The community meetings will be held in June and December. By-laws will need to be adjusted and will be agendized at the April meeting.
- The CAP is also looking at increasing their outreach and improving their presence on social media
- Additional discussion occurred around having the public being invited to all meetings and the concern that the community did not have appropriate time to ask questions during the December meeting. The lack of sufficient public comment period time was acknowledged at the December meeting.
- Steve reminded members that the CAP was designed to be a discussion/information exchange meeting between Valero and a group of community leaders (CAP board); the CAP Board members would be the conduit between Valero and the community. In addition, the CAP website would provide information and be a resource for the community. With the community being involved in all meetings, there could be a lack of control. By increasing the number of public invited CAP meetings to 2/year that change in format should present more opportunities for the community to ask questions.

### **CAP Member Updates**

- Steve McClure, Benicia Chamber of Commerce
  - Chamber had a rough couple of years. Support from community and business with the board helped a lot; much of this was driven by Chris Ferrucci. During the January Board Meeting, the Board presented a plaque and named the conference room to recognize Chris Ferrucci. Building is under exterior restoration—roof, painting and HVAC work.
- Diane Ferrucci, Benicia Unified School Board
  - The Superintendent turned in resignation effective June. Hiring process has begun to fill the position and hope to have it filled by June.
- Mayor Steve Young, City of Benicia
  - City Council meeting will be held March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Rod Sherry, Benicia Industrial Park Association
  - Industrial Association continues to hold meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month.
- Marilyn Bardet
  - Arsenal Historic District Project -124 condo units on Jefferson Ridge. Housing would not be safe here due to pipelines, steep hills, pollution, and unknown impact of Petcoke particulates. Hoping Valero and Amport come forward to support public safety and health. Marilyn did try to find recent protocols cited in the General Plan and was not

able to find anything more recent than Exxon documents dated 1986. Residential should not be close to pipeline. Traffic is not safe there either.

- Air Monitoring station from the [Benicia Community Air Monitoring Program](#) (BCAMP) is being launched this month. On 2/15/22, it will be announced at City Council and then there will be a webinar on 2/24/22 from 7 pm to 8 pm to introduce people to ambient air monitoring. It is going to be located on the last property on Bayshore Rd. Sophistic equipment being maintained by Argo Scientific will provide verifiable raw data that is gathered in 5- minute intervals. Marilyn is very proud of it.

- Neil Wilson

- At Valero's request- spent 20 hours talking to claimants from the 12/11/21 incident to get community comments/reaction. There were positive as well as concerning things that came from the conversations:
  - Positive things
    - Clean up for cars is going fantastic
    - Community is glad to see Valero taking responsibility
    - Appreciated Steve Young publicizing on social media
    - Complimented Chief Chadwick and his team as informative and helpful
  - Concerning
    - Multiple pieces of information and communication that none of the 20 knew about:
      - December community meeting
      - Valero's 24-hour customer service line
      - Did not know to stay inside when alarms went off (some went out to smell the air, walk the dogs, or resumed yard work)
      - Did not know they needed to sign up for non-emergency notifications as well as emergency notifications.
    - Says they received more information from clean-up crew than anyone else
    - Still some concern with impact to vegetation

Josh mentioned that with Neil's input, Valero is doing some brainstorming on what could be done to better inform the community about communication tools; perhaps a mailer could be sent out with the information and sources for updates. Steve Young asked about how the refinery siren is used and how far it reaches out to the community. Marilyn mentioned that it is very difficult to find the pages for the notifications on the City website but Paul Adler helped find it for her..

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.