



**Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Meeting - Valero East – 610 Industrial Way, Benicia, CA  
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 - 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dennis Lowry called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. The CAP members in attendance introduced themselves to the audience with a few comments. The following participants attended:

**CAP Members**

Dennis Lowry	CAP Chairman & Community at Large Member
Chris Ferrucci	Benicia Chamber of Commerce
Kari Birdseye	City of Benicia Council Member
Marilyn Bardet	Good Neighbor Steering Committee
Teri Crosby	Community at Large Member
Cara Bateman	Community at Large Member

**Valero CAP Representatives & Employees**

Josh Tulino	VP and General Manager
Kim Ronan	HSE Director
Frank Hartig	Valero, Manager Plant Security
Pam Fischer	Valero, Executive Administrative Assistant

**City Employees**

Chief Josh Chadwick	Benicia Fire Department
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There were 14 additional attendees: David Lindsay, Colby LaPlace, Bob Nickson, Steven Schill, Tim Woodson, Kathy Kerridge, David Batchelor, Steve Young, John Chadwick, Elizabeth Patterson, Steve Golub, Tom Campbell, Neil Wilson

**Welcome**

- Tonight's [Agenda](#) was approved.
- The 10/08/23 meeting [Minutes](#) were approved with unanimous approval.

**CAP Member Updates**

- Marilyn Bardet – She is proud to say that BCAMP is the first independently operated air monitoring system. They had an opportunity to use the site to test technology . They invited vendors, scholars, refinery representatives, community members, the Air District and local politicians. The test showed that the fence line monitoring system has the capability to read low detection levels of Hydrogen Sulfide gas. They are now determining how BCAMP can serve the public interest and others with this testing.
- Cara Bateman – She wanted to express concern with a letter to the editor in the Benicia Herald on November 10<sup>th</sup> that mentioned that most have never heard of the CAP. Her ask is that all CAP members communicate to friends and community members that the CAP is here and available as a resource. They do have “a seat” at the meeting by working through the CAP Members. In addition, the Air District had issued disapproval letters for the plans for all refineries. Letters sent were basically form letters. 4 of the 5 refineries seem to have the same problem with the exception of MRC.

- Councilwoman Kari Birdseye – The city is holding a budget workshop on Monday, 12/18 and needs community help with ideas. On Tuesday, 12/19, they will be voting on the second-step of the two-step process of the possibility of an Industrial Safety Ordinance or something that fits Benicia to better protect the community.
- Teri Crosby – Currently, she has nothing to add.
- Chris Ferruci - He asks that all buy raffle drawing tickets for the Chamber’s Holiday Fundraiser. This will be his last CAP meeting as he will be leaving the Chamber Board after 7 years. Patrick Cawley from Benicia Refinery will be his replacement on the CAP. He also addressed the letter from the editor mentioned by Cara Bateman. He refutes the comment that Valero controls the CAP.
- Dennis Lowry – He was fortunate to attend the Benefit for Children Event where Valero donated \$550,000 to organizations in the community. He enjoyed the video presentation that shared what each organization does and how funds will be used. He was also invited to the BCAMP presentation. He did observe that the demo did detect the hydrogen sulfide inert gas in the controlled environment.

### **Refinery Update**

- Josh Tulino, VP & General Manager  
Josh shared more about the Benefit for Children Awards event. Agencies in Benicia, Contra Costa and Solano County were represented.
- Kim Ronan, HSE Director
  - Health, Safety & Environmental update  
The presentation was broken down into the following three topics. The presentation can be viewed at the following link: [CAP Presentation 12.12.23.](#)
  - Air Monitoring Overview
  - Fenceline Open Path Update
  - Hydrogen Vent Emissions Update

### **Question & Answer Session with the Audience**

Refinery personnel addressed questions and provided answers from audience members at the end of each section of the presentation.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

### **2024 CAP Calendar**

- Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm @ Valero East
- Tuesday, April, 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm @ Valero East
- Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm ‘Community Information Night’ @ Valero East
- Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm @ Valero East
- Tuesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm @ Valero East
- Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024; 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm ‘Community Information Night’ @ Valero East