



Community Advisory Panel (CAP) Meeting
Valero East – 610 Industrial Way, Benicia, CA
Tuesday, August 27, 2024 - 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was conducted in person at Valero East. Dennis Lowry called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. The following attended:

CAP Members

Dennis Lowry	CAP Chairman & Community at Large Member
Patrick Cawley	Benicia Chamber of Commerce
Kari Birdseye	City of Benicia, Councilwoman
Dr. Gethsemane Moss	Benicia Unified School District, Board Member
Cara Bateman	Community at Large Member
Teri Crosby	Community at Large Member

Valero CAP Representatives

Lauren Bird	VP and General Manager
Melissa Manke Fimbres	Health, Safety, Environmental & Regulatory Affairs Director
Paul Adler	Director

City and County Representatives

Josh Chadwick	Benicia Fire Chief
Tom Campbell	City of Benicia, Council member
Colby LaPlace	Solano County
Josh Steele	Solano County

Valero employees

Frank Hartig	Valero, Manager Plant Security
Pam Fischer	Valero, Executive Administrative Assistant

Members of the Public

Robert Nickeson

Welcome

- Tonight's meeting [agenda](#) was approved.
- Minutes from the 6/25/24 meeting were approved. Kari Birdseye abstained from the approval since she did not attend the meeting. [The June 25, 2024 minutes are posted on the CAP website.](#)

Refinery Update

- Lauren Bird, Vice President & General Manager
Operations had been very stable until last week when the FCC unit outage occurred on Wednesday, 8/21/24 at 8:45 am. Lauren is very proud of how the team managed the outage & acknowledged the flaring related to equipment shutting down.
We are keeping the California Energy Commission informed out of the outage and the the outage is being investigated through our internal inspection process.
- Melissa Manke-Fimbres, Health, Safety, Environmental & Regulatory Affairs Director
Melissa shared a [Project Update for the Phase 4 Pathway of the Fenceline Monitoring Project](#).
- Paul Adler, Community Relations & Government Affairs Director
Paul announced that the refinery's United Way Employee Giving Campaign has begun and we are preparing for our annual Sporting Clays Invitational in which the Benicia Community Action Council and Rebuilding Together Solano County will share the proceeds from the fundraiser. He also shared that our Public Relations website Beniciarefinery.com promotes projects that our Valero Volunteer Committee (VVC) attended this past summer.

CAP Member Updates

- Patrick Cawley – Benicia Chamber of Commerce – The Chamber Board of Directors has expressed concerns about the draft ISO and the impacts to non-refinery businesses in the community.
- Kari Birdseye – City of Benicia, Councilwoman – The first draft of the BISHO has been published and the comments that were received are being reviewed and analyzed. Feedback from the comments will be considered in creating a second draft and there will be an opportunity for stakeholders to provide more feedback/comments.
- Dr. Gethsemane Moss– Benicia Unified School Board, Board Member – Dr. Moss expressed concerns about impacts that the draft ISO would have on the community.
- Cara Bateman – Community at Large Member – Cara felt that community members did not understand the ISO process and the ability to make comments. She felt that some stakeholders missed the opportunity to comment because they didn't reply before the draft BISHO deadline.
- Teri Crosby – Community at Large Member – She has not received much feedback regarding ISO.
- Dennis Lowry – CAP Chairman & Community at Large Member – Dennis commented that he is concerned about time, energy and funds wasted on the draft ISO. He also had provided parking lot signage at Valero East for directions to the meeting. Dennis also inquired about future topics for the next CAP meeting and if an update about Valero's water needs/supply could occur.

Public Member Comments

- Robert Nickeson asked if the draft BISHO had differences between it and the 2018 Cooperation Agreement & were Valero's extensive comments being considered. Benicia Fire Chief Josh Chadwick engaged in the conversation and explained in more detail that there will be a second draft of the BISHO and the community will be able to make additional comments. Chief Chadwick stated that the draft BISHO will continue to be a work in progress for some time.

Meeting ended at 4:45 pm.

2024 CAP Calendar

- Tuesday, October 8th, 2024; 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm @ Valero East
- Tuesday, December 10th, 2024; 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm @ Valero East