

September 18, 2019

Robert McCoy
Mayor

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 836 (WICKS) WILDFIRE SMOKE CLEAN AIR CENTERS FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS INCENTIVE PROGRAM- REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Thousand Oaks urges your **signature** on AB 836 (Wicks), which would establish the Wildfire Smoke Clean Air Centers for Vulnerable Populations Incentive Pilot Program. This grant program seeks to create a network of clean air centers by providing funding to public facilities for smoke-protective filtration systems.

The program will prioritize applications where the project is located in a documented high smoke exposure areas to mitigate the adverse public health impacts that result from wildfires and other smoke events. Examples of eligible facilities include schools, community centers, and libraries.

The City of Thousand Oaks is in Ventura, County. In December 2017, Ventura County experienced the Thomas Fire, one of the largest wildfires in state history, which affected the Cities of Santa Paula and Ventura. Smoke from these wildfires drifted to the City affecting air quality. Had opportunities to establish Wildfire Smoke Clean Air Centers existed, the City would be able to direct residents with respiratory concerns or similar health issues to these centers.

By creating a network of clean air centers in public places, California's residents will be better equipped to mitigate the adverse health impacts of smoke events. As we have seen in recent years, the need for a statewide system of places the public can go to get relief from wildfire smoke is critical. The City of Thousand Oaks applauds Assembly Member Wicks for her leadership on this issue.

For these reasons, the City of Thousand Oaks urges your signature on AB 836.

Sincerely,


Robert McCoy
Mayor

cc: David Mullinax- Regional Public Affairs Manager, dmullinax@cacities.org
League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org
Joe A. Gonsalves and Son

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