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## Director's Report for May 2025

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**Meeting Date: June 12, 2025**  
**Department: Director's Office**  
[www.lrapa.org](http://www.lrapa.org)

**Agenda Item No. 13**  
**Staff Contact: Travis Knudsen**  
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### I. EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS

*Key accomplishments, challenges, and priorities from the past month.*

May 2025 demonstrated strong operational performance with wonderful air quality throughout Lane County, where all day but one day registered as "Good" AQI across monitoring sites. LRAPA received 58 total complaints, with smoke-related concerns (46) accounting for 79% of all complaints. Our enforcement program managed 9 active cases, maintaining compliance oversight across industrial, asbestos, and residential sectors.

The agency achieved several milestones in May. First is the setting in motion our plan to transition to LINFO version 3.0 e, our central database system, in early June, which will enhance our permit tracking and reporting capabilities. Additionally, we filled an Environmental Coordinator II position following a competitive recruitment that attracted over 20 qualified candidates, bringing our staffing to 95% capacity.

Community engagement remains a prideful component of LRAPA's work. May included multiple educational initiatives. Staff presented air quality lessons to 64 fifth-grade students at Two Rivers Dos Rios Elementary, participated in the We Are Bethel Celebration engaging over 150 community members, and represented LRAPA at Oakridge's Wildfire & Disaster Preparedness Event. These outreach efforts, combined with the Smoke Ready Week social media campaign (June 9-13), strengthened public awareness about air quality protection and wildfire smoke preparedness.

Permitting operations continued to exceed targets with only a 5% permit backlog rate, well below our 20% threshold. The agency issued 8 outdoor burning letter permits and maintained strong asbestos program oversight with 44 inspections completed year-to-date. Financial performance remains solid with General Fund expenditures at 78% of budget through 83% of the fiscal year. Including the recognition of potential future financial support adjustments, and strategizing approaches to navigate any changes.

Looking ahead to June, we face important transitions including the early start of fire season (June 7th), requiring enhanced coordination with fire agencies and adjusted outdoor burning regulations. As we prepare for increased wildfire activity, LRAPA remains well-positioned to protect public health through strong partnerships, operational excellence, and proactive community engagement.

## II. PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH & SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

*Aligns with Customer/Stakeholder Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goals 1, 2, and 5 which focus on public health protection, community engagement, and stakeholder relationships.*

### II.A. Air Quality Status & Trends for May 2025

*These metrics support **Goal 1 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** and **Goal 4 (Regional Air Monitoring and Analysis)**, tracking our performance against targets for "Good" and "Moderate" AQI days, data completeness, and timely reporting).*

May 2025

Site	Date	Max AQI	Pollutant
Eug/Spfld	1-May-25	52	PM
Oak	1-May-25	26	PM
CottGrv	6-May-25	50	O3

AQI	Eug/Spfld	Oak	CottGrv	AQI Range	PM2.5 Range, ug/m3	Ozone Range, ppb
Good	30	31	31	0-50	0-9	0-54
Moderate	1	0	0	51-100	9.1-35.4	55-70
USG	0	0	0	101-150	35.5-55.4	71-85
Unhealthy	0	0	0	151-200	55.5-125.4	86-105
Very Unhealthy	0	0	0	201-300	125.5-225.4	106-200
Hazardous	0	0	0	301+	225.5+	201+

**Attachment No. 1:** Air Quality Index (AQI) charts for Lane County (May 2025)

**Attachment No. 2:** PM2.5 index charts for Lane County (May 2025)

## II.B. Community Response & Complaint Resolution

This section supports **Goal 1 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for complaint response to demonstrates our commitment to addressing community concerns promptly and effectively.

The number of unique complainants Industry complaints are noted in “(#)”.

May 1, 2025, to May 31, 2025		Category	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
<b>Smoke complaints: 46</b>		<b>Dust</b>	17	26	12	7	8	1
41 - Outdoor Burning (37)		<b>Ag Burning / Spraying</b>	2	7	2	3	3	0
3 - Home Wood Heating (3)		<b>General Air Quality</b>	4	8	1	25	32	18
1 – Recreational Fire		<b>Home Wood Heating</b>	74	57	67	52	39	34
1 – Slash Fire		<b>Industry</b>	100	336	198	97	75	40
<b>Industry: 5</b>		<b>Outdoor Burning</b>	423	243	292	254	253	131
3 – International Paper (3)		<b>Slash Burning</b>	12	10	6	12	9	1
1 – Clover Custom Cabinets		<b>Asbestos</b>	15	9	22	10	12	13
1 – Swanson Group Mfg. LLC		<b>Miscellaneous</b>	44	31	80	62	91	43
<b>Asbestos: 3</b>		<b>Unknown</b>	74	71	45	65	79	44
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>798</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>325</b>
<b>Miscellaneous: 4</b>		*Notes: LRAPA received more complaints in May compared to April: Smoke complaints increased from 28 to 46, while miscellaneous complaints decreased from 9 to 4.						
1 – Cologne/Perfume Odor								
1 – Burning Plastic Odor								
1 – Rotten Cabbage Odor								
1 – General Air Quality								
<b>Total: 58</b>								

## II.C. Smoke Management & Wildfire Resilience

This section aligns with **Goal 2 (Enhanced Wildfire Smoke Preparedness)**, tracking our smoke monitoring, advisory issuance, and coordination with state agencies, as well as smoke management activities for outdoor burning and home wood heating.

### Outdoor Burning, 2024-2025 Season

LRAPA regulates outdoor burning in Lane County to protect air quality and public health. Under Title 47, LRAPA has authority to regulate open burning practices, including determining when burns can occur. LRAPA aims to allow burning whenever possible while preventing air quality deterioration. Outdoor burning is only curtailed when monitoring or forecasts show potential for unhealthy air quality impacts.

Periods of Curtailment				
Start	End	Areas	Curtailment	Reason
November 1, 2024	March 1, 2025	Eugene/Springfield UGB; Oakridge	Full Prohibition	By Rule, Title 47-015(2)
November 28, 2024	December 6, 2024	Coastal Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation
November 28, 2024	December 6, 2024	Rural Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation
January 8, 2025	January 8, 2025	Coastal Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation
January 8, 2025	January 9, 2025	Rural Lane County	Full Prohibition	Air Stagnation

### Home Wood Heating, 2024-2025 Season

LRAPA regulates home wood heating under Title 16 to reduce PM2.5 emissions during periods of poor air quality. An advisory system (Yellow/Red Days) indicates when curtailment is needed. Yellow Day advisory request voluntary curtailment of wood burning except for those who depend on it as their primary heat source. Red Day advisories prohibit visible smoke from chimneys, with exemptions for economic hardship. Like outdoor burning, LRAPA only issues wood burning curtailment when air quality monitoring or forecasts indicate potential health impacts.

Periods of Curtailment		
Areas	Yellow Days	Red Days
Eugene/Springfield	15	1
Oakridge	9	2

For April 2025, no additional advisories were issued beyond those previously reported as air quality conditions remained favorable throughout the month.

### Outdoor Burning Letter Permits, 2024-2025 Season

*LRAPA has authority to issue outdoor burning letter permits under Title 47. These permits allow specified burning that would otherwise be prohibited. This program also supports ecological benefits of prescribed fire while protecting public health through strict oversight and timing. LRAPA coordinates closely with land managers to ensure burns are conducted with minimal air quality impacts.*

Permit No.	Issue Date	Permittee	Location	Material	Volume
20B24-11-01	November 7, 2024	Mohawk High School - Jeff Little	308300 Wendling Road, Marcola	Miscellaneous debris	10 cubic yards
20B24-11-02	November 15, 2024	Thompson Timber Co	Territorial Road, Junction City	One time burn of forest slash debris	707 cubic yards
20B25-02-01	February 3, 2025	Creswell Church of the Nazarene	805 S Front Street, Creswell	Miscellaneous debris	42 cubic yards
20B25-02-02	February 20, 2025	McKenzie River Trust, c/o Brent Ross	Willamette Confluence burn Unit, Goshen	Land Clearing debris	50 cubic yards
20B25-02-03	March 10, 2025	Leisure Excavating – Gary Rose	Greengate Road - T19 R12 514, Dune City	Lane Clearing debris	130 cubic yards
20B25-04-01	April 28, 2025	Emerald Coalition	18707 Pataha Rd., Walton	Ceremonial Bonfire – clean dry wood debris	4 cubic yards
20B25-04-02	April 30, 2025	Schuyler Brown	Hwy 58 & Brabham Rd., Pleasant Hill	Ice storm cleanup of tree limbs and branches	10 cubic yards
20B25-05-01	May 8, 2025	Patrick Cartwright for Malk LLC	Cottage Grove Industrial Park, Cottage Grove	Lane Clearing debris	10 cubic yards

### Wildfire Smoke Intrusions & Air Quality Advisories

*LRAPA participates in Oregon's Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes, a coordinated system that connects federal, state, and local agencies during significant smoke events. LRAPA's role includes issuing local air quality advisories, coordinating public health messaging, and representing Lane County's interests in state-level response planning.*

Air Quality Advisories Issued			
Start Date	End Date	Areas Affected	Primary Pollutant
07-08-2024	07-09-2024	Southern Willamette Valley	Ozone
07-26-2024	08-12-2024	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5
09-09-2024	09-11-2024	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5
01-27-2025	01-29-2025	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5/Woodstoves

Oregon Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes Meetings		
Date	Topic	Advisory Issued
07-19-2024	Coffee Pot & Ore Wildfires	Yes
07-22-2024	Coffee Pot & Ore Wildfires	Yes
07-26-2024	Coffee Pot & SW Oregon Wildfires	Yes
07-31-2024	Middle Fork Complex	Yes
08-02-2024	Middle Fork Complex	Yes
08-07-2024	Middle Fork Complex	Yes
08-09-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	Yes
08-12-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-14-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-16-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-19-2024	Battle Mountain Complex	No
08-30-2024	Willamette Complex South	No
09-04-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	No
09-06-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	Yes
09-09-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	Yes
09-11-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	Yes
09-13-2024	SE Oregon Wildfires	No
01-07-2025	Agency Smoke Coordination Review	n/a
01-08-2025	Agency Smoke Coordination Review	n/a

## II.D. Community Outreach, Education, & Building Partnerships

*This section supports **Goal 5 (Partnerships and Interagency Coordination)** metrics for partner engagement and stakeholder communication, strengthening relationships with stakeholders and enhancing public understanding of air quality issues.*

Media Log			
Date	Media	Person	Topic
1/23/2025	KLCC	Rachael McDonald	Air stagnation and wood burning advisories
1/23/2025	KEZI	Ryan Bonham	Air stagnation and cleaner woodstove burning
1/28/2025	KEZI	Ryan Bonham	Air Quality Advisory E. Lane County and Red Advisory for Oakridge, Yellow EUG/Spring
2/28/2025	KEZI	Robert Desaulniers	Spring Outdoor Burning Season Opens and Tips on Safe Burning
2/28/2025	KMTR	News Staff	Spring Outdoor Burning Season Opens and Tips on Safe Burning
4/03/2025	Washington Post	Joshua Partlow and Amudalat Ajasa	EPA cutting more than \$1 Billion in EJ grant funds and impact on Lane County and other areas
4/24/2025	Lookout Eugene-Springfield	Ashli Blow	American Lung Association rates Eug./Spring 4 <sup>th</sup> worst air quality in US.
6/02/2025	KMTR	News Staff	End backyard burning June 7 <sup>th</sup> due to fire concerns
6/03/2025	Lookout Eugene-Springfield	Ashli Blow	Burn Ban to begin early in Lane County

### **J.H. Baxter Communication Meeting** (May 15<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)

Matt Sorensen represents LRAPA at this monthly meeting between EPA and DEQ to discuss ongoing cleanup efforts at J.H. Baxter and discuss how the collective group will communicate progress etc. to the community. EPA

is approaching the end of their initial scope of work for the time critical removal action project. Visit [https://response.epa.gov/site/site\\_profile.aspx?site\\_id=15559](https://response.epa.gov/site/site_profile.aspx?site_id=15559) for details and pictures on the project.

***Eugene Parks Foundation- Preparing for Wildfire w/ Bart Johnson, Ph.D.*** (May 20<sup>th</sup>, Shedd Institute)

Matt Sorensen hosted an information booth for guests focusing on the air quality index (AQI) and resources available to the community through LRAPA. This event was to raise awareness on how best to prepare and understand the growing wildfire challenge in the northwest pacific. There were over 70 people in attendance and LRAPA had a promotional slide about the agency featured at the conclusion of Dr. Johnson's presentation. Other organizations in attendance included EWEB, Lane County Fire District, Lane County Public Health, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, South Willamette Prescribed burn Assoc, Eugene Springfield Fire, OSU Extension, Rivers to Ridges, and more.

***Wildfire Pre-Season Coordination*** (May 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)

Matt Sorensen joined this wildfire season communication preparation meeting hosted by the Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality. Also in attendance were multiple agencies that coordinate efforts during wildfire season: the EPA, National Weather Service, NOAA, Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Oregon Health Authority, and Lane County Public Health. The goal was to refine and prepare communication systems for the upcoming wildfire season and ensure we are organized and prepared for dealing with dynamic events and issuing air quality advisories. Topics included meeting protocol, timing of calls, and overall flow for responding to wildfires.

***Two Rivers Dos Rios (TRDR) 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Air Quality Class Presentations*** (May 30<sup>th</sup>, TRDR Elementary Springfield)

Matt Sorensen was invited to present to all 5th grade students at Two Rivers Dos Rios Elementary School as part of their science education coursework. The one-hour presentation was delivered twice to a total of 64 students from two different 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes.

The students had already learned about climate change, greenhouse gases, and the atmosphere, providing a foundation for understanding air quality concepts. Matt's presentation built upon their knowledge by focusing on the interaction of human-made sources like car exhaust, industry, and woodstoves on air quality, in addition to natural sources like wildfires. The presentation emphasized the significant impact weather conditions have on air quality, including inversions during winter months and transporting wildfire smoke during the summer. To enhance the lesson, Matt brought a mini-BAM (Beta Attenuation Monitor) and Purple Air monitor, allowing students to see air quality technology up close.

***We are Bethel Celebration*** (May 31<sup>st</sup>, Petersen Barn Eugene)



Matt Sorensen, Amanda Atkins, and Travis Knudsen helped represent LRAPA at the booth. The 'We are Bethel Celebration' is an annual family event featuring over 65 booths and includes fun activities, food trucks, and live performances from 12pm to 4pm. LRAPA's booth was located near DEQ and EPA's booths. LRAPA focused on helping guests understand air quality, the value



of home air purifiers during wildfire, identifying asbestos in their home, and signing up for LRAPA's newsletter. The spinning prize wheel was very useful in encouraging people to stop by the booth. LRAPA staff engaged with over 70 adults and 80 children throughout the day.

At the end of the event, the Active Bethel Community, led by Lin Woodrich, recognized the team of contractors performing the removal of hazardous materials at J.H. Baxter in conjunction with the EPA. They received cake and juice along with a thank you card and many heartfelt thank you's from community members.

***Rivers to Ridges (R2R) Ecological Burn Group*** (June 4<sup>th</sup>, LRAPA Office)

Matt Sorensen help host the Rivers to Ridges ecological burn group led by Bryce Izlar from Willamalane and Sara Worl with the Long Tom Watershed Council to continue their preparation for the 2025 prescribed burn permit to LRAPA under the River to Ridges (R2R) banner. This meeting was hosted at LRAPA's boardroom as part of our community outreach efforts thanks to the recent remodel. They have submitted their application to LRAPA and permit processing will begin once payment is made.

***End of Outdoor Burning Season June 6<sup>th</sup> & Fire Season Begins June 7<sup>th</sup>*** (June, Lane County)

Matt Sorensen received a phone call from Lane County Fire Board Chair Chief Steven Wallace on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and was informed that Oregon Department of Forestry and the Fire Board have decided to declare fire season starting Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> due to numerous backyard fires requiring fire suppression and the upcoming heat and lack of precipitation. LRAPA issued a press release and sent an email to notify Lane County residents about the end date.

***Smoke Ready Week June 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>*** (Social Media Campaign)

LRAPA helped raise awareness amongst Lane County residents about the importance of being prepared for wildfire season and avoiding the negative impacts from smoke by participating in community awareness campaign, Smoke Ready Week which numerous northwest air and health agencies participate in. For each day of the week, our campaign had a focus. Topics included the contents of wildfire smoke, the impact of smoke on your health, the importance of having a clean indoor air space, and what can be done to prevent smoke. The assets created by Rhizome were very helpful in making the campaign look professional and included gif animations.

***NW Air Quality Communicators (NWAQC) Meeting*** (June 11<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)

Northwest Air Quality Communicators (NWAQC) is a cooperative group of regional air quality agencies that share and leverage their marketing and communication tools and messaging to improve communication and best practices in the air quality public communications field across the pacific northwest. Regular participation in this group helps LRAPA stay connected with regional partners and enhance its public outreach efforts. This meeting was focused on the marketing materials prepared by Rhizome Collaborative, a marketing company hired by NWAQC, to help prepare Smoke Ready Week (June 9-10, 2025) materials.

***Oakridge's Wildfire & Disaster Preparedness Event*** (June 11<sup>th</sup>, City of Oakridge Horton Park)

Matt Sorensen represented LRAPA at the fifth annual Wildfire and Disaster Preparedness Expo in Oakridge. The event is organized by Oakridge Air, its goal is to help community members be better prepared for wildfire, smoke impacts, and prepared for natural disasters. There were activities for kids, numerous booths, and a film called Fire Lines highlighting how to minimize wildfire impacts was shown at the WAC. LRAPA messaging focused on raising awareness on using AQI to plan your day and urging use of indoor air purifiers as well as signing up for our newsletter.

### III. MAINTAINING REGULATORY EXCELLENCE

*Aligns with Internal Process Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goals 3 and 4—ensuring compliance with air quality standards through effective monitoring, permitting, and enforcement.*

#### III.A. Stationary Source Permitting Progress & Efficiency

*This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for permit issuance timeliness, permit backlog rate, and area NAAQS compliance.*

##### Permitted Sources

- Currently 15 sources hold a Title V operating permit in Lane County.
- Currently approximately 275 sources hold an ACDP.

Permits in Queue			
Category of Permit Activity	Title V	ACDP	Total In Queue
New	1	2	3
Renewals	1	15	16
Modifications	2	7	9
Constructions	-	-	-
Terminated Permits	-	-	-

##### Stationary Sources Permits Issued, Year-to-Date

- Title V Operating Permits: 2
- Air Contaminant Discharge Permits: 14

Permits on public notice from May 1 to May 31, 2025		
Source Name	Reason for Public Notice	Type of Permit
Emerald Forest Products, Plant #1	Renewal of Standard ACDP and Toxic Air Contaminant Permit Addendum (CAO)	Standard ACDP renewal. Off public notice 5/23/25. Issued 5/30/25.
Emerald People's Utility District - Short Mountain Generation Facility	Initial Title V Operating Permit	Title V Operating Permit. Off public notice 6/24/25.

Permit Backlog as of May 31, 2025			
Permit Type	Permits by Type	Permits Extended Administratively	Percentage of Total (%)
Title V	15	0	0%
Standard	24	3	13%
Simple	27	1	4%
Total	66	4	5%

#### III.B. Asbestos Program Oversight

*This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** initiatives related to operating the asbestos program, including inspections and rule updates. LRAPA protects public health from asbestos hazards through effective oversight and education.*

LRAPA administers the asbestos program in Lane County under Title 43. This program regulates the handling, removal, and disposal of asbestos-containing materials to prevent public exposure to this hazardous substance. LRAPA reviews asbestos survey reports, processes abatement notifications,



conducts inspections, and enforces compliance with asbestos regulations to protect workers and the public.

Asbestos Notices		Year-to-Date↓				
Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total Asbestos Abatement Notices	439	408	465	466	436	168
School Asbestos Abatement Notices (NESHAP)	25	20	16	17	21	3
Number of Asbestos Abatements Inspected (AHERA)	93	104	115	91	109	44

### III.C. Enforcement

*This section supports **Goal 3 (Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education)** metrics for enforcement action resolution and evaluations completed. The enforcement program ensures that regulations are followed, and violations are addressed.*

LRAPA's compliance program ensures that air quality regulations are followed by stationary sources, asbestos contractors, and the general public. This section provides an overview of enforcement actions taken during the reporting period, including notices of non-compliance, civil penalties, and case resolutions.

April 1, 2025 to April 30, 2025					
Category of Violation	New	Follow-Up Action	Pending	Closed	Total
Asbestos	2	-	1	-	3
Industrial	1	2	1	-	4
Outdoor Burning	2	-	-	-	2
Fugitive Dust	-	-	-	-	-
Home Wood Heating	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	2	2	-	9

**Attachment No. 3:** April 2025, Enforcement Actions Detail Report.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Notices of Non-compliance and Warnings	15	21	24	19	9	12
Notices of Violation with Civil Penalties	26	17	24	15	5	11

## IV. STRENGTHENING ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

*Aligns with Learning & Growth Perspective of the Balanced Scorecard framework and LRAPA's current goal 6—developing staff capabilities and improving operational systems.*

### IV.A. Staff Development & Agency Growth

*This section supports Goal 6 (Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency) metrics focused on staff retention, professional development, and employee satisfaction, essential for achieving operational excellence.*

LRAPA maintains a skilled workforce to carry out our mission of protecting air quality in Lane County. This section provides an overview of our current staffing levels, vacancies, and professional development activities. Our commitment to staff development ensures we have the expertise needed to address complex air quality challenges effectively.

Department	FTE	Vacancies
Administration	5.0	0.0
Operations	9.0	1.0
Finance	3.0	0.0
Technical services	2.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<i>Agency at 95% of staffing capacity</i>		

Following a highly competitive recruitment process that attracted over 20 qualified candidates, LRAPA has successfully filled our Environmental Coordinator II position. Their first day will be June 30<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to introducing her at the next Board meeting.

Staff Professional Development, Year-to-Date			
Training	Participation	Completion Date	Provider
Budget Law Training	2	February	Oregon Department of Revenue
Avoiding Communication Pitfalls	1	February	Express
Basic Inspector Training	3	March	WESTAR
Accounts Receivable: Common Routines	1	March	Caselle
Fred Pryor Customer Service Training	1	April	Pryor Learning
Intro to Environmental Enforcement training	2	April	Western States Project
Essential Skills Workshop	1	April	Springfield Chamber: Work ready
Community Connect Portal	1	April	Caselle
Workplace Safety: Active Violence Incident	17	May	City of Springfield, Police
New Source Review Process Steps	5	May	Department of Environmental Quality
Incinerators	3	May	WESTAR
Industrial Boilers	5	May	WESTAR

Electrostatic Precipitators	3	May	WESTAR
Ask Us Anything Air Quality	5	May	Department of Environmental Quality
Balancing Payroll Transmittals	1	May	Caselle
Complying with Grants	2	May	Environmental Protection Agency
ASAP Grant Payment Portal training	1	May	US Treasury
Payment Requests in ASAP	1	May	US Treasury

#### **New Source Review Process Steps (May 1<sup>st</sup>, Virtual)**

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) training covers a range of various topics related to air quality, permitting, inspections and rulemaking.

#### **Balancing Payroll Transmittals (May 13<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)**

This training covered the steps needed to ensure payroll deductions match the intended merchant vendor payments and what to do if items are out of balance. This knowledge is essential for the payroll process to ensure correct financial transactions.

#### **Ask Us Anything Air Quality (May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)**

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) training covers a range of various topics related to air quality, permitting, inspections and rulemaking.

#### **Incinerators (May 20<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)**

Staff attended this specialized training covering incinerator operations, emissions control requirements, and regulatory compliance protocols. The course provided technical knowledge essential for permit review and inspection activities related to waste combustion facilities.

#### **Complying with Grants (May 21<sup>st</sup>, Virtual)**

This training covered the steps required by the Environmental Protection Agency to make sure recipients are aware and comply with all rules and regulations related to their grant and funding types. This knowledge is essential to make sure staff follow proper procedures at all stages of the grant process.

#### **Industrial Boilers (May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Virtual)**

The training covered industrial boiler systems, combustion processes, and emission control strategies. Staff developed enhanced technical competency for permitting and compliance oversight of industrial heating and steam generation equipment.

#### **Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) Grant Payment Portal Training (May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Virtual)**

This training covered a new “payment justification” required field set forth by a recent presidential executive order for ASAP payment requests. The training walked through the new requirement and the steps for payment requesters to follow ASAP.gov going forward.

#### **Electrostatic Precipitators (May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Virtual)**

This training session examined electrostatic precipitator technology, performance optimization, and maintenance requirements. The training strengthened staff capabilities in evaluating particulate matter control systems across various industrial applications.

#### **Payment Requests in ASAP training (May 29<sup>th</sup>, Virtual)**

This training was an overview of ASAP and the payment request process including the new payment justification requirement. The training walked through the ASAP.gov payment request steps and setup.

### **IV.B. Operational Improvements & Innovation**

*This section supports Goal 6 (Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency) metrics for technology adoption and systems modernization, enhancing our efficiency and effectiveness in serving Lane County.*

LRAPA is working to improve our systems and processes to enhance efficiency and effectiveness. These improvements support our ability to fulfill our mission and provide better service to the public. Current initiatives focus on technology upgrades, document management, and standardized procedures.

Current activities underway:

- **LINFO Database Upgrade:** LRAPA transitioned to our central database system (LINFO) version 3.0 on June 11, 2025. This upgrade enhances our permit tracking, complaint management, and reporting capabilities. Core reports are now functional in the new system. We are entering the stabilization phase, during which staff will identify and resolve any remaining bugs through daily use. While the system underwent pre-launch testing, we anticipate adjustments may be needed as we fully integrate the new version into our operations.
- **Meeting Technology:** Refinement of hybrid meeting capabilities in the boardroom to improve accessibility for board meetings, staff training, and stakeholder engagement continues. Despite adjustments to both physical equipment placement and Zoom settings, audio challenges persist. We have identified the issue as likely software-related within the Zoom platform. As a solution, we will pilot Microsoft Teams for the June board meeting. If Teams provides reliable audio quality without the current issues, we will consider transitioning to this platform for all future hybrid meetings to ensure consistent, high-quality communication for all participants.
- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):** Development and review of SOPs is ongoing for key agency functions. These procedures ensure consistency in operations, facilitate staff cross-training, and support succession planning.

The work on development of SOPs is continuing across the organization. Several policies have been published while others are undergoing internal review and will be rolled out in July.

## V. ENSURING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

*Aligns with Financial Stewardship Perspective of goal 7—managing financial resources effectively and transparently.*

### V.A. Budget Performance & Stability

*This section supports **Goal 7 (Financial Sustainability and Transparency)** metrics for budget variance and maintaining adequate reserves (4 months of operating budget), ensuring LRAPA can fulfill its mission consistently.*

**Please refer to the April 2025 financial update (Agenda item number 7).**

**Line Items to Watch Closely:** These line items are above 90% of the expected budgeted spending to date. For example, if 75% of the year has elapsed, anything above 68% will be listed.

- **General Fund Capital Outlay** expenditures currently total 84% of budgeted spending and is aligned with expectations as we have completed our remodel project. This has also caused our General Fund total expenditures to 78% of the budgeted spending. We remain on track to be below budget for the General Fund by the end of the fiscal year.
- **Special Fund (Title V) Materials & Services** expenditures have reached 82% of budgeted spending, however only minimal additional expenses are expected for FY'25.
- **Grant Fund Capital Outlay and Transfers to General Fund** line items were not delineated in the FY24 Adopted Budget, therefore it appears that these line items are “over budget” on the financials, however, both line items are well within the expected amounts. The expenditures for the Grant Fund are currently at 36% of budgeted spending, therefore the error on these two line items within the Adopted Budget is of little to no consequence budgetarily speaking.

**Summary of Expenditures to Date:** Although **83%** of the year has elapsed **as of 4/30/25**, spending is currently below that threshold in each of the LRAPA funds. These are the categories we must consider when asking the question “Were we below or over budget for the year?”:

- **General Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **78%**
- **Special Revenue Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **67%**
- **Grant Fund Total** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **36%**
- **All Funds Consolidated** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **62%**

### V.B. Financial Transparency & Reporting

*This section supports **Goal 7 (Financial Sustainability and Transparency)** metrics for financial reports provided to the Board (target: monthly) and timely audit completion (target: before December 31). Transparency in financial matters builds trust with our stakeholders and ensures accountability.*

Fiscal Year: 2024-2025	Status	Completion Date
Budget	Adopted	June 2024
Prior Year Audit - FY24	Completed	June 2025

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026	Status	Completion Date
Budget	Adopted	May 2025
Prior Year Audit - FY25	To be scheduled	Expected December 2025

## VI. BOARD CALENDAR

*A tentative review of upcoming initiatives, events, and board business.*

2025	2026
<b>January</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preview upcoming appointments on board and committees.</li> <li>Oakridge Air update</li> <li>Remodel update</li> </ul> <b>January; Work Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion of Partner Dues</li> <li>Discussion of Board Goals</li> <li>Discussion of Board Meeting Schedule</li> </ul> <b>February</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplemental Budget for FY'25</li> <li>Appoint new Budget Committee members, and appoint Budget Officer</li> <li>Elect the Board Chair and Vice-Chair</li> <li>Board Goals Review</li> <li>Federal Grant Status Update</li> <li>Remodel Update</li> </ul> <b>March</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26</li> <li>Authorization for Public Comment on SB 5520</li> <li>Board Goals Approval</li> <li>Federal Grant Status Update</li> <li>Remodel Final Update</li> </ul> <b>April</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26; Approve Budget</li> <li>Annual By Rule Fee Schedule</li> <li>Public Comment SB 5520; Report</li> </ul> <b>May</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Hearing of FY'26 Approved Budget; Board Adoption</li> <li>Oakridge Air Update</li> <li>Federal Grants Status Update</li> <li>LRAPA Open House</li> </ul> <b>June</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit Presentation from Isler CPA – FY24</li> <li>Outdoor Burning Season Review</li> <li>Federal Grants Status Update</li> <li>The Permit Life Cycle: Application to Compliance</li> </ul> <b>July</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rulemaking Review</li> <li>Federal Grants Status Update</li> <li>Executive Director's Performance Evaluation Process</li> <li>PERS UAL Discussion, Review &amp; Investment Strategy</li> <li>Ozone Review</li> </ul> <b>August</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PERS UAL Workgroup</li> </ul> <b>September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Legislative Session and state general fund decisions.</li> <li>Review Local Partner Dues Calculation for FY'27.</li> <li>Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update</li> </ul> <b>October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve Local Dues Calculation for FY'27.</li> <li>Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update/Review</li> <li>Outdoor Burning Season Update</li> </ul> <b>November</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit Update, FY'25</li> <li>Home Wood Heating Season Update</li> <li>Executive Session: Director Performance Evaluation</li> </ul> <b>December</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>January</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preview upcoming appointments on board and committees.</li> <li>Oakridge Air update</li> <li>Review budget forecast for FY'2026-2029</li> </ul> <b>February</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supplemental Budget for FY'26</li> <li>FY'25 Audit Report &amp; Presentation</li> <li>Appoint new Budget Committee members, and appoint Budget Officer</li> <li>Elect the Board Chair and Vice-Chair</li> </ul> <b>March</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26</li> </ul> <b>April</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget Committee Meeting for FY'27; Approve Budget</li> <li>Executive Director's Performance Evaluation Process</li> </ul> <b>May</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Hearing of FY'27 Approved Budget; Board Adoption</li> <li>Executive Session: Director Performance Evaluation</li> <li>Oakridge Air Update</li> </ul> <b>June</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outdoor Burning Season Review</li> </ul> <b>July</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rulemaking Review</li> <li>Review PERS UAL Liability &amp; Investment Strategy</li> </ul> <b>August</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Meeting</li> </ul> <b>September</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review Legislative Short Session.</li> <li>Review Local Partner Dues Calculation for FY'28.</li> <li>Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update</li> </ul> <b>October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve Local Dues Calculation for FY'28.</li> <li>Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update/Review</li> <li>Outdoor Burning Season Update</li> </ul> <b>November</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit Update, FY'27</li> <li>Home Wood Heating Season Update</li> </ul> <b>December</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Meeting</li> </ul>



## VII. LRAPA STRATEGIC GOALS REFERENCE SHEET

*These ongoing and sustained goals are designed to ensure comprehensive performance management across four key perspectives. This reference sheet provides an overview of each strategic goal and its associated performance metrics.*

**MISSION:** To protect public health, quality of life and the environment as a leader and advocate for the continuous improvement of air quality in Lane County.

**VISION:** Community partners working together to ensure clean air for everyone.

### GOAL 1: Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education

Protect public health through air quality initiatives and foster community engagement via educational programs, prompt response to public concerns, and efforts to ensure equitable protection from air pollution for all communities.

#### Lag Indicators

- % of days in "Good" or "Moderate" AQI categories by monitoring location (target: 95% annually)
- Number of days with PM2.5 or PM10 exceeding NAAQS 24-hour standards (target: 0)
- % of complaints responded to (target: 95%)

#### Lead Indicators

- Number of educational events/programs conducted quarterly (target: 2 per quarter)
- Number of wood heating advisories issued (target: prior to 150 AQI in metro)
- Email listserv growth (target: >3% increase annually)

### GOAL 2: Enhanced Wildfire Smoke Preparedness

Address the increasing threat of wildfire smoke intrusions to public health in Lane County through public education, collaboration with local jurisdictions, and enhanced monitoring and communication during wildfire events. In addition to seeking funding avenues which directly support this new and growing smoke management service need.

#### Lag Indicators

- Response time to publish smoke advisories during events (target: before 1pm on days needed)

#### Lead Indicators

- Maintain LRAPA supporter commercial air sensors in Lane County (target: approximately 75)
- State smoke advisory engagement (target: 100% participation)

### GOAL 3: Public Health Protection and Air Quality Education

Ensure compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and other health-based benchmarks, manage air quality permits for regulated sources, and implement best practices in emissions control, balancing economic development with environmental protection through rigorous permitting processes.

#### Lag Indicators

- % of area in compliance with NAAQS standards (target: 100%)
- % of permits issued within target timeframes (target: 90%)
- Permit backlog rate (target: <20%)

#### Lead Indicators

- Number of annual Full Compliance Evaluations completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)
- % of enforcement actions resolved within 6 months (target: 80%)

#### GOAL 4: Regional Air Monitoring and Analysis

Collect, analyze, and report comprehensive air quality data across Lane County to inform policy decisions, alert the public, and track long-term air quality trends.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- % data completeness for monitoring network (target: &gt;95%)</li><li>- Timeliness of data reporting to the public and EPA (target: 100% on schedule)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- % of monitors calibrated on schedule (target: 100%)</li><li>- % uptime for real-time data systems (target: 98%)</li><li>- Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)</li></ul>

#### GOAL 5: Partnerships and Interagency Coordination

Build and maintain strong relationships with various stakeholders, including industry, local jurisdictions, and community groups, to foster collaboration, improve communication, and ensure that LRAPA's work is responsive to community needs and concerns.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of industry outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year)</li><li>- Number of community outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year)</li><li>- Number of partner outreach engagements completed annually (target: 5 per year)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Diversity of inter-agency meetings attended (target: prioritize local, then state, then federal engagements)</li><li>- Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)</li><li>- Communication frequency with key stakeholders (target: Quarterly communication)</li><li>- Number of council presentations delivered (target: 1 per jurisdiction annually)</li></ul>

#### GOAL 6: Organizational Excellence and Operational Efficiency

Strengthen LRAPA's internal systems, workflows, and operational capacity through technology integration, process improvement, and staff development to enhance organizational effectiveness and service delivery.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Employee satisfaction/engagement scores (target: 85% satisfaction)</li><li>- Staff retention rate (target: &gt;85% annually)</li><li>- % completion of internal systems modernization (target: 100% of planned upgrades, e.g. LINFO)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of staff professional development training completed (Target: 2 per staff per year)</li><li>- Number of staff utilizing advancing technologies in workflows (target: &gt; 50%)</li></ul>

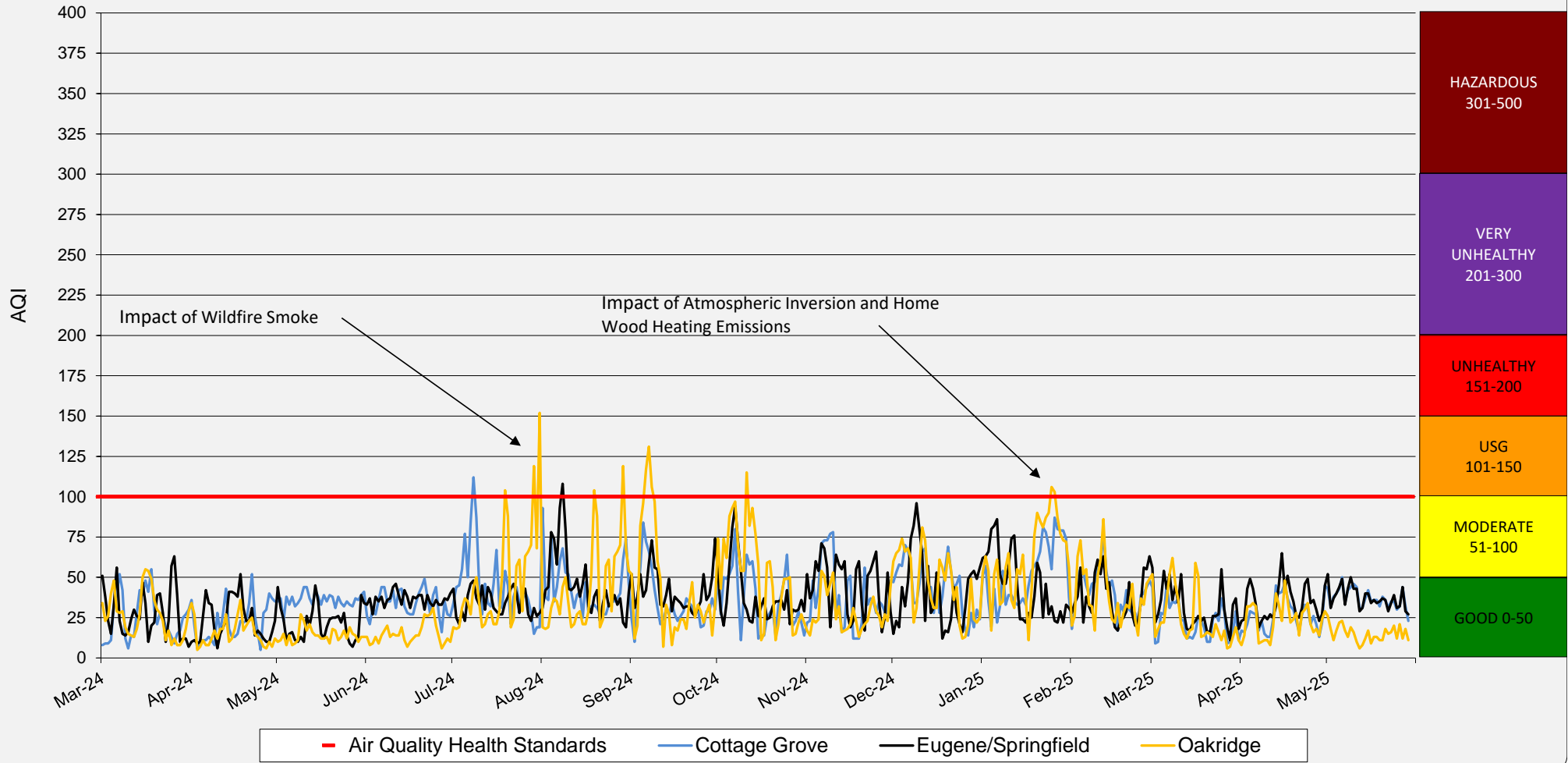
#### GOAL 7: Financial Sustainability and Transparency

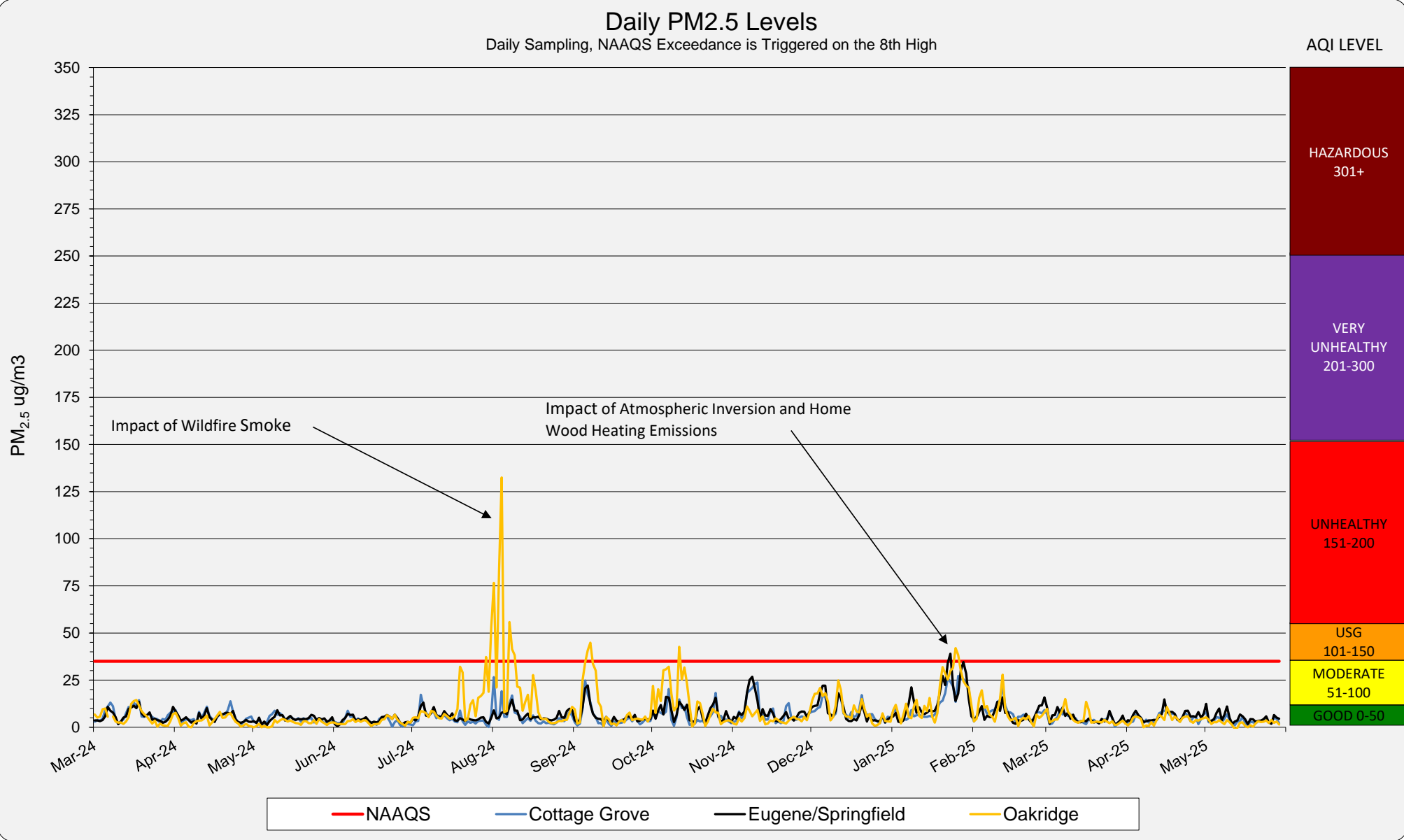
Ensure LRAPA's long-term financial stability and improve fiscal transparency through diversified funding sources, robust financial management practices, and clear communication of financial decisions to stakeholders.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Reserve fund supporting annual operating budget (target: 4 months)</li><li>- Budget variance (target: within 10% of planned)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Number of financial reports provided to Board &amp; public (target: monthly to Board)</li><li>- Audit completed before state deadline (target: Dec. 31)</li></ul>

## Daily Air Quality Index Chart

This 15-month chart demonstrates the seasonality of the pollutants.





**NEW/OPEN ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS DETAIL REPORT**  
**5/1/2025 -- 5/31/2025**  
**Report of open actions initiated since last report**

**NEW ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS:**

1. ATEZ, INC. (EUGENE)
  - A. Violation: Conducted and completed a friable asbestos abatement project at Cascade Manor without performing air clearance prior to leaving the site.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3923 issued 05/02/2025
  - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2025-3923 (\$4,865) issued 05/02/2025: request for hearing or reduction, reduction settlement under review
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: ASBESTOS
  - F. Initiated By: INSPECTION
2. VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL DBA VAE LLC (LANE COUNTY)
  - A. Violation: Failure to notify LRAPA of date and startup at least 14 days prior to the relocation of a stationary source in accordance with condition 12.6 of Permit No. AQGP-013 General ACDP #208670.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3927 issued 05/02/2025
  - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2025-3927 (\$3,200) issued 05/02/2025: request for reduction under review
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: PORTABLE ACI
  - F. Initiated By: REPORT REVIEW
3. HARMON, SHARON (EUGENE)
  - A. Violation: Outdoor burning in a burn barrel.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3929 issued 05/22/2025

- C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2005-3929 (\$550) issued 05/22/2025:
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: OUTDOOR BURNING
  - F. Initiated By: COMPLAINT
4. SIMMONS, STEVE (SPRINGFIELD)
- A. Violation: Respondent allowed, initiated or maintained the outdoor burning of prohibited materials including furniture (couches), insulation, metal, wires, household garbage plastic, etc., at the site on multiple days and the Mohawk Valley Fire Department was dispatched to extinguish the illegal outdoor burning.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3931 issued 05/28/2025
  - C. Subsequent Action: PENDING
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: OUTDOOR BURNING
  - F. Initiated By: FIRE DEPARTMENT REFERRAL
5. EMPIRE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT (EUGENE)
- A. Violation: Respondent allowed open accumulation of friable asbestos containing materials in a rental property.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3932 issued 05/28/2025
  - C. Subsequent Action: PENDING
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: ASBESTOS
  - F. Initiated By: COMPLAINT



**ACTIONS PERFORMED (NON issued prior to 04/01/2025 with current action in reporting period):**

1. A & K DEVELOPMENT CO, PAC METAL FAB (JUNCTION CITY)
  - A. Violation: Failed to notify LRAPA prior to the construction of a new stationary source in accordance with LRAPA Rules and Regulations Section 34-010(1)(a); operating an air contaminant source which is listed in Section 37-8010 Table 1 without first obtaining and ACDP from LRAPA in accordance with LRAPA 37-0020(3).
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3903 issued 05/30/2024
  - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3903 (\$6,800) issued 05/22/2025:
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: METAL FABRICATION AND PAINTINGGG
  - F. Initiated By: INSPECTIONS
2. AURORA INNOVATIONS / HYDROFARM (EUGENE)
  - A. Violation: Failure to submit 2023 semi-annual report required by Condition #28 in the ACDP #200053. The 2023 semi-annual report was due February 15, 2024; failure to submit their 2023 ATEI report by July 1, 2024.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3910 issued 7/31/2024
  - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3910 (\$2,500) issued 04/23/2025: request for reduction under review
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: FERTELIZER MANUFACTURING
  - F. Initiated By: INSPECTIONS

**PENDING (Enforcement actions issued prior to 4/1/2025 with no reporting action in the current reporting period):**

1. DUST 2 DIAMONDS, LLC (SPRINGFIELD)
  - A. Violation: Performed an asbestos abatement project without possessing a license to perform asbestos abatement; openly accumulated friable asbestos-containing materials.
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3908 issued 9/6/2024

- C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3908 (\$8,400) issued 9/6/2024; request for reduction approved and reduced to \$4,800 with a payment plan of \$100 beginning May 1, 2025, on schedule with payment plan.
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: ASBESTOS
  - F. Initiated By: INSPECTION
2. INTERNATIONAL PAPER (SPRINGFIELD)
- A. Violation: Between January 23, 2024, and June 30, 2024, International Paper Company failed to implement monitoring required by Title V Operating Permit #208850, issued January 23, 2024. It is alleged that the additional monitoring requirements were not implemented when the permit was issued with the required monitoring was not performed for the first (6) six months of 2024 (1/23/2024 - 6/30/2024).
  - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3920 issued 1/30/2025
  - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2024-3920 (\$9,000) issued 1/30/2025; request for reduction and Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) under review
  - D. Resolution: PENDING
  - E. Source Type: PAPER & PULP MILL
  - F. Initiated By: SELF REPORTING

**CLOSED ENFORCEMENT CASES Enforcement Actions issued prior to 3/1/2025 and closed in the current reporting period): None.**