



Director's Report for September 2025

Meeting Date: October 9, 2025
Department: Director's Office
lrapa-or.gov

Agenda Item No.12
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I. EXECUTIVE HIGHLIGHTS

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

September showcased LRAPA's commitment to protecting public health through responsive air quality management and meaningful community engagement. Air quality remained predominantly "Good" across Lane County, though the month brought multiple wildfire smoke intrusions requiring three separate air quality advisories affecting different regions of the county.

A milestone was reached on September 24th when LRAPA issued the e-commerce facility Indirect Source Construction Permit (ISCP) after careful consideration of over 300 public comments and numerous emails. The approval includes significant new requirements developed in response to community feedback, securing commitments for electric vehicles and future fleet electrification that will provide lasting air quality benefits for Lane County. To ensure transparency, staff developed comprehensive supplemental materials including a presentation video explaining the decision, which were posted online and sent directly to all who contacted LRAPA about the permit.

Wildfire smoke management remained a priority throughout September, with advisories issued for Eastern Lane County (September 2-7) and Western Lane County with intermittent impacts to Eugene/Springfield (September 29-30) due to the Moon Complex Fire and ongoing Emigrant Fire. These smoke events led LRAPA to delay the outdoor burning season opening from October 1st to October 15th. The Agency participated in multiple Oregon Wildfire Response Protocol meetings to coordinate regional response efforts.

Community partnerships were strengthened through recognition at the Long Tom Watershed's annual dinner on September 25th, where LRAPA was honored alongside Willamalane and the City of Eugene as dedicated leaders of the Rivers to Ridges ecological burning partnership. Staff also participated in the Eugene Chamber Policy Forum on wildfire management and prepared for Jerry's Fire Safety Saturday in early October.

Organizationally, the Agency made strategic adjustments to finance department staffing, hiring a temporary payroll specialist to support restructuring from a three-person to a two-person department while maintaining operational capacity. Interviews were scheduled for the Environmental Engineer/Specialist position to bring staffing to approximately 89% capacity. Progress on LINFO database enhancements faced temporary delays due to LCOG's developer vacancy, but LRAPA secured GitHub access and identified a promising freelance developer candidate with valuable institutional knowledge from prior LRAPA employment.

On October 1st, the federal government entered a shutdown due to a lapse in appropriations. While LRAPA's Section 103 and 105 grant payments are frozen during the shutdown, the agency maintains adequate reserves to continue operations without immediate disruption. The financial impacts are not expected to affect LRAPA's current fiscal year, though the agency is closely monitoring the situation and developing contingency plans for extended scenarios.

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 September 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).*

September 2025

Site	Date	Max AQI	Pollutant
Eug/Spfld	4-Sep-25	74	PM
Oak	4-Sep-25	153	PM
CottGrv	28-Sep-25	90	PM

AQI	Eug/Spfld	Oak	CottGrv	AQI Range	PM2.5 Range, ug/m3	Ozone Range, ppb
Good	18	21	21	0-50	0-9	0-54
Moderate	12	7	9	51-100	9.1-35.4	55-70
USG	0	1	0	101-150	35.5-55.4	71-85
Unhealthy	0	1	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 (September 2025)

Attachment No. 2: PM2.5 index charts for Lane County (September 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 is noted in "(#)"

September 1 - September 30, 2025		Category	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Smoke complaints: 26		Dust	17	26	12	7	8	10
13 - Outdoor Burning (9)		Ag Burning / Spraying	2	7	2	3	3	22
2 - Recreational Fire (2)		General Air Quality	4	8	1	25	32	28
8 - Home Wood Heating (5)		Home Wood Heating	74	57	67	52	39	44
3 - Wildfire (3)		Industry	100	336	198	97	75	97
Industry: 7		Outdoor Burning	423	243	292	254	253	187
5 - International Paper (3)		Slash Burning	12	10	6	12	9	1
1 - Wildish Land Co.		Asbestos	15	9	22	10	12	19
1 - St. Vinnies Mattress Recycling		Miscellaneous	44	31	80	62	91	68
Asbestos: None		Unknown	74	71	45	65	79	123
Miscellaneous: 15		Total:	765	798	725	587	601	599
12 - Unknown Odor (9)		*Notes: LRAPA received 48 complaints in September, down 58% from 114 in July-August. Unknown odor complaints dropped from 55 to 12. Smoke-related complaints were the largest category with 26 complaints, primarily from outdoor burning and home wood heating.						
2 - Generator Odor (1)								
1 - Rotten Egg Odor								
Total: 48								

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, 2025-2026 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
N/A	-	-	-	-
N/A	-	-	-	-

Home Wood Heating, 2025-2026 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	0	0
Oakridge	0	0

The home wood heating season, which had been closed during the summer months, officially reopened on October 1st. No curtailment days were needed in September as air quality conditions remained favorable throughout the month and the season was not yet open.

Outdoor Burning Letter Permits, 2025-2026 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
20B25-06-01	June 30, 2025	River to Ridges Partnership	85 units in Lane County	Ecological Burning	1456 acres

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
08-22-2025	08-25-2025	Southern Willamette Valley	Ozone
09-02-2025	09-07-2025	Eastern Lane County	PM2.5/Wildfire
09-29-2025	09-30-2025	W. Lane County & Intermittent Eug/Spring	PM2.5/Wildfire

Oregon Wildfire Response Protocol for Severe Smoke Episodes Meetings		
Date	Topic	Advisory Issued
07-11-2025	Prep for Coordination Calls	n/a
07-16-2025	Review Active Wildfires	No
08-22-2025	Ozone & Flat Fire	Yes
08-25-2025	Flat Fire, Emigrant Fire, & OR Fires	No
08-27-2025	Emigrant Fire, Flat Fire, & OR Fires	No
09-02-2025	Emigrant Fire & OR Fires	Yes
09-04-2025	Emigrant Fire & OR Fires	Yes
09-05-2025	Emigrant Fire & OR Fires	Yes
09-29-2025	Moon Complex Fire & Emigrant Fire	Yes

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 th worst air quality in US.
6/02/2025	KMTR	News Staff	End backyard burning June 7 th due to fire concerns
6/03/2025	Lookout Eugene-Springfield	Ashli Blow	Burn Ban to begin early in Lane County
6/17/2025	KXCR- Radio	Larry Bloomfield	30-minute live interview for Florence public radio that featured LRAPA to discuss Homewood heating, asbestos, and prepping for wildfire
6/20/2025	KMTR	Gold Meadows	50-acre agricultural fire in Junction City on Wednesday 6/18 and impacts on Eugene area causing poor air quality. LINK
6/30/25	KEZI	News Staff	Supplemental Environmental Project Re-launch LINK
6/30/25	KVAL	News Staff	Supplemental Environmental Project Re-Launch LINK
6/30/25	KMTR	Gold Meadows	Supplemental Environmental Project Re-Launch LINK
7/1/25	KCST 106.9 FM, KCFM 1250 AM,	George Henry	Supplemental Environmental Project Re-Launch LINK

Media Log			
Date	Media	Person	Topic
	104.1 FM & 103.1 FM		
7/2/25	KLCC	Karen Richards	Supplemental Environmental Project Re-Launch LINK
7/5/25	KLCC	Karen Richards	Air quality awareness during wildfire season LINK
7/8/25	Eugene Weekly	Christian Wihtol	E-Commerce shipping facility ISCP permit with LRAPA & possible Amazon site LINK
7/11/25	Register Guard	Alan Torres	E-Commerce shipping facility ISCP permit with LRAPA & possible Amazon site LINK
7/16/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Michael Zhang	E-commerce shipping facility ISCP w/ LRAPA LINK
7/16/25	KEZI	Israel La Rue	E-commerce shipping facility ISCP w/ LRAPA LINK
7/16/25	OR Dept. of Early Learning and Care	News Webpage	Outdoor AQ Guide from LCPH tool for use LINK
7/18/25	KLCC	News Brief	E-Commerce shipping facility ISCP w/ LRAPA LINK
8/4/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Michael Zhang	E-Commerce warehouse public comments on ISCP LINK
8/4/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Grace Chinowsky	Odors over the weekend smelling like dog feces LINK
8/5/25	KEZI	Israel La Rue	Odors of dog feces in Eug/Spring LINK
8/5/25	KMTR	Tiffany Lewis	Odors of dog feces in Eug/Spring LINK
8/5/2025	KPIC	Tiffany Lewis	Odors of dog feces in Eug/Spring LINK
8/19/25	KMTR	News Staff	Public Comments Open for Metro Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) LINK
8/22/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Grace Chinowsky	Foul Smell ends w/o clear culprit LINK
8/22/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Ashli Blow	Heat wave Smog in Eugene Springfield LINK
8/22/25	KMTR	News Staff	Heat wave Smog in Eug/Spring LINK
8/22/25	KVAL	News Staff	Heat wave Smog in Eug/Spring LINK
8/22/25	KLCC	Gabriella Sgro	Heat wave Smog in Eug/Spring LINK
9/2/25	KEZI	News Staff	Emigrant Fire Smoke Advisory E. Lane County LINK
9/2/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Michael Zhang	Emigrant Fire Smoke Advisory E. Lane County LINK
9/3/25	Register Guard	Hannarose McGuinness	Emigrant Fire Smoke Advisory E. Lane County LINK
9/3/25	Lookout Eugene Springfield	Ashli Blow	Emigrant Fire Smoke Advisory E. Lane County LINK
9/11/25	Eugene Weekly	Christian Wihtol	Residents object to purported Amazon facility. ISCP comments to LRAPA LINK
9/15/25	KLCC	Rebecca Hansen-White	Short Mtn. Landfill first in Oregon to utilize drones for GHG inspection LINK
9/19/25	KLCC	Karen Richards	Hazy Air in Eug/Spring Area LINK
9/25/25	Eugene Weekly	Christian Wihtol	LRAPA evaluates purported Amazon parcel-delivery center LINK
9/25/25	Register Guard	Alan Torres	e-commerce facility scores key permit LINK
9/26/25	KVAL	Khenedi Wright	Tips for smoke during prescribed fire season LINK
9/26/25	Lookout Eug. Spring	Michael Zhang	Permit Approved for E-Commerce Facility LINK
9/29/25	KLCC	News Staff	Air Quality Advisory for W. Lane County and Intermittent Eug/Spring LINK
9/29/25	KVAL	News Staff	Wildfire Smoke Air Advisory and Delay Outdoor Burn Season to 10/15 LINK
9/29/25	KMTR	News Staff	Wildfire Smoke Advisory and Delay Outdoor Burn till 10/15 LINK

Springfield Rotary Club (Wednesdays, Elk's Club)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, represents LRAPA as a member of the Springfield Rotary Club. This is a very active Club with over 85 members. The Club meets every Wednesday during lunch. At every meeting there is an opportunity to share important LRAPA news with the membership, in addition to building relationships with community leaders and other stakeholders across our community.

E-Commerce Facility ISCP Decision Supplemental Materials (Sept. 24th, Online)

After receiving over 300 public comments and numerous emails about the e-commerce Indirect Source Construction Permit (ISCP) application, LRAPA approved the permit Sept. 24 with new requirements based on community feedback. Staff developed a presentation explaining the decision and posted it to YouTube. The video, final permit documents, and response to comments are available on [LRAPA's website](#). All who contacted LRAPA about the ISCP received an email with the decision and links to these materials to ensure they were the first to be notified about the decision.

LRAPA Recognized at Long Tom Watershed Annual Dinner (Sept. 25th, Bennett Vineyards)

Matt Sorensen, Public Affairs Manager, represented LRAPA at the Long Tom Watershed's annual dinner and board installation meeting. LTW recognized LRAPA, Willamalane and the City of Eugene as dedicated leaders of the Rivers to Ridges ecological burning partnership and celebrated the partnership with over 60 guests.

Eugene Chamber Policy Forum Breakfast: The Oregon Approach to Wildfire (Oct. 2nd, Eugene Country Club)

Matt Sorensen attended the Eugene Chamber's forum breakfast that convened three leading experts to explore why each year we see more frequent, more destructive events, including megafires, that devastate communities, damage our landscapes, strain public resources, and cloud our skies with hazardous smoke. But why are we seeing this increase in severity? What role do climate conditions, land management practices, and state and federal policies play in driving or curbing these outcomes?

Jerry's Fire Safety Saturday (Oct. 4th, Springfield Jerry's)

Travis Knudsen and Matt Sorensen hosted LRAPA's booth at the Springfield Jerry's parking lot along with 20 other community agencies to engage hundreds of community members and share information on how wildfires affect air quality and offered tips for residents to protect themselves during wildfire season. Additional information on asbestos regulations was shared as well. In exchange for signing up for the LRAPA email list participants were entered into a drawing for a HEPA air purifier.

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	0	4	4
Renewals	1	15	16
Modifications	2	4	6
Constructions	-	1	1
Terminated Permits	-	-	-

Stationary Sources Permits Issued, Year-to-Date

- Title V Operating Permits: 2
- Air Contaminant Discharge Permits: 17

Permits on public notice from September 1 to September 30, 2025		
Source Name	Reason for Public Notice	Type of Permit
202537, Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission – Eugene/Springfield Water Pollution Control Facility	Renewal.	Standard Air Contaminant Discharge Permit (Standard ACDP) on public notice August 18 – September 22, 2025.
204740, Lane County Public Works - Waste Management Division: Short Mountain Landfill	Significant Modification to allow alternative surface emissions monitoring for methane using drones.	Title V Operating Permit Significant Modification on public notice September 9 – October 14, 2025.

Permit Backlog as of September 30, 2025			
Permit Type	Permits by Type	Permits Extended Administratively	Percentage of Total (%)
Title V	15	0	0%
Standard	24	5	21%
Simple	26	1	4%
Total	64	6	8%

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	339

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.

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

Attachment No. 3: September 2025, Enforcement Actions Detail Report.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Notices of Non-compliance and Warnings	15	21	24	19	9	16
Notices of Violation with Civil Penalties	26	17	24	15	5	12

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	2.0
Finance	3.0	1.0
Technical services	2.0	0.0
Total	19.0	3.0
<i>Agency at 84% of staffing capacity</i>		

LRAPA currently maintains 19.0 FTE across four departments. We presently have 16.0 FTE filled, representing 84% of our authorized staffing capacity.

In September, the agency made a strategic adjustment to our finance department staffing approach. Rather than filling the Finance Specialist position as a permanent role, we hired a Payroll Specialist through a temporary contract arrangement for approximately six months at 12 hours per week. This contracted specialist will support our transition to restructure finance operations from a three-person to a two-person department, with responsibilities distributed between existing staff. This approach provides specialized expertise during the transition period while creating flexibility to redirect the FTE allocation to support other essential areas of the agency.

LRAPA continues active recruitment for an Environmental Engineer/Specialist position (1/2/3 level), with interviews scheduled for October 3rd.

The temporary finance arrangement, combined with filling the Environmental Engineer/Specialist position, will bring the agency to approximately 89% operational capacity while maintaining strategic flexibility in the staffing model. LRAPA continues to prioritize thoughtful workforce planning and staff development strategies to maintain our skilled team which is essential for protecting air quality in Lane County.

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

Staff Professional Development, Year-to-Date			
Training	Participation	Completion Date	Provider
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
PERS Summer Webinar: Understanding your statement, voluntary contributions and Q&A	1	June	Employer Service Center (ESC)
Caselle: Payroll-Supplemental & Termination checks	1	June	Caselle
Caselle: New Online Payment Portal Management	3	June	Caselle
Ask Us Anything Air Quality	5	June	Department of Environmental Quality
WESTAR Effective Permit Writing course	2	July	WESTAR
EPA Annual Regional State & Local Air Dispersion Modeling Conference	1	July	Environmental Protection Agency
Oregon Annual Asbestos Retreat	2	August	Department of Environmental Quality
WESTAR TOXIC 231	1	September	WESTAR
EPA International Emissions Inventory Conference	2	September	Environmental Protection Agency

Staff Professional Development, Year-to-Date			
Training	Participation	Completion Date	Provider
OSBEELS Symposium	1	September	Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying
The Good, the Bad, and the [Redacted]: Navigating Oregon's Public Record's Law	1	September	Oregon Public Records Board & Lewis & Clark Law School

EPA International Emissions Inventory Conference (September 15th-18th, Virtual)

Staff attended the virtual 2025 Emissions Inventory Conference, EPA's biannual conference focusing on scientific, technical, logistical, and policy aspects of emissions inventories and their development and use. The conference provided a unique forum for emissions inventory training, the exchange of ideas and information on the development and uses of emission inventory data; new insights and directions to air quality management; and communication of emissions inventory information.

The Good, the Bad, and the [Redacted]: Navigating Oregon's Public Record's Law (September 18th, Virtual)

Staff attended the virtual webinar "The Good, the Bad, and the Redacted: Navigating Oregon's Public Records Law" hosted by Oregon Public Broadcasting on September 18, 2025. The one-hour panel discussion featured award-winning journalist Emily Cureton Cook, Multnomah County Judge Benjamin Souede, and former Oregon Public Records Advocate Ginger McCall.

The training covered best practices for obtaining records under Oregon Public Records Law and examined current trends in redactions and exemptions asserted by public bodies. This professional development opportunity enhanced staff understanding of public records compliance requirements and transparency obligations essential for LRAPA's operations as a public agency.

WESTAR Auto, Metal Parts & Products course (September 24th, Virtual)

Staff completed specialized training on regulatory oversight of metal parts and products operations, focusing on paints and coatings used in manufacturing and refurbishment processes. The course covered coating formulation, volatile content limits, transfer efficiency, application equipment, and laboratory analysis techniques for both liquid and powder coatings. Training emphasized practical skills for conducting regulatory reviews, including inspection procedures, emission control technologies, identification of hazardous materials in coatings, and proper sampling and analysis methods. This training enhances staff capacity to effectively regulate coating operations within Lane County's air quality jurisdiction.

OSBEELS Symposium (September 25th-26th, virtual)

Staff attended the virtual OSBEELS (Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying) Confluence Symposium on September 25-26, 2025. This professional development event featured presentations on current engineering and surveying topics including professional ethics for engineers and surveyors, TriMet's Better Red transit project improvements, major infrastructure projects such as the Dog River Pipeline replacement and I-5 bridge reconstruction, and emerging technologies like AI applications in engineering and construction.

The symposium also addressed critical contemporary issues including wildfire-resilient infrastructure design and modernization of the National Spatial Reference System (NSRS). This comprehensive continuing education opportunity enhanced staff knowledge of current industry practices, regulatory requirements, and technological advances relevant to LRAPA's environmental engineering and compliance work.

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 successfully transitioned to our central database system (LINFO) version 3.0 in summer 2025, which enhances our permit tracking, complaint management, and reporting capabilities. The system has been fully operational, and staff are actively using it while documenting bugs and identifying needed user-interface and functionality improvements. Progress on system enhancements has been paused since June 2025 due to the retirement of LCOG's internal developer who maintained LINFO under contract with LCOG. LCOG has not yet filled this critical position.

To address this gap, LRAPA is pursuing alternative solutions, including engaging freelance developers to continue system improvements. Throughout September, LRAPA worked with LCOG to obtain GitHub access to LINFO's code for both LRAPA staff and potential freelance developers. We have identified a promising candidate who is a former LRAPA employee and understands our operational needs, providing valuable institutional knowledge for future development work.

- **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs):** Development of SOPs across all departments continues to progress well, with multiple procedures already completed and implemented. In September, the agency rolled out the foundational "SOP for SOPs" document, which establishes a standardized framework for how procedures are created, revised, referenced, and maintained throughout the organization. This meta-level documentation provides essential guidance for consistent procedure development and management, supporting both operational consistency and succession planning across the agency. Staff are currently reviewing and providing feedback on this framework, which the agency is using to refine the workflow documentation process. This work includes creating a comprehensive system for tracking controlled documents and controlled policies, which encompass all SOPs agency-wide.

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 August 2025 financial update (Agenda item number 7).

FY26 Line Items to Note: These line items are above 91% of the budgeted spending to date. (Target spending to date is 17% as if August 2025).

- **General Fund** – The Personnel Services line item is currently at 94% of the targeted spending for August. It is expected that this line item will remain under budget for the year.
- **Special Revenue Fund (Title V)** – nothing to note.
- **Grant Fund** – nothing to note.

FY25 Summary of Expenditures: 17% of the year has elapsed as of 8/31/25, and spending is 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: **11%**
- **Special Revenue Fund** Total Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **11%**
- **Grant Fund Total** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **5%**
- **All Funds Consolidated** Actual Expenditures as a % of Budgeted Annual Expenditures: **9%**

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	July 2025

Fiscal Year: 2025-2026	Status	Completion Date
Budget	Adopted	May 2025
Prior Year Audit - FY25	Scheduled (delayed due to staff transition within the LRAPA finance team)	Expected December 2025

VI. BOARD CALENDAR

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

2025	2026
January - Preview upcoming appointments on board and committees. - Oakridge Air update - Remodel update January; Work Session - Discussion of Partner Dues - Discussion of Board Goals - Discussion of Board Meeting Schedule February - Supplemental Budget for FY'25 - Appoint new Budget Committee members, and appoint Budget Officer - Elect the Board Chair and Vice-Chair - Board Goals Review - Federal Grant Status Update - Remodel Update March - Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26 - Authorization for Public Comment on SB 5520 - Board Goals Approval - Federal Grant Status Update - Remodel Final Update April - Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26; Approve Budget - Annual By Rule Fee Schedule - Public Comment SB 5520; Report May - Public Hearing of FY'26 Approved Budget, Board Adoption - Oakridge Air Update - Federal Grants Status Update - LRAPA Open House June - Audit Presentation from Isler CPA—FY24 - Outdoor Burning Season Review - Federal Grants Status Update - The Permit Life Cycle: Application to Compliance July - Rulemaking Review - Federal Grants Status Update - Executive Director's Performance Evaluation Process - PERS UAL Discussion, Review & Investment Strategy - Ozone Review - Audit Report - FY'24 Audit, Corrective Action Plan August - No Meeting September - Review Local Partner Dues Calculation for FY'27 - Resolution 25-04; Board Designated LGIP Account - Permitting & Federal Standards Rulemaking October - Approve Local Dues Calculation for FY'27. - Smoke Management Season Update/Review - Osprey Hollow Air Quality Complaints November - Audit Update, FY'25 - Home Wood Heating Season Update - Executive Session: Director Performance Evaluation December - No Meeting	January - Preview upcoming appointments on board and committees. - Oakridge Air update - Review budget forecast for FY'2026-2029 February - Supplemental Budget for FY'26 - FY'25 Audit Report & Presentation - Appoint new Budget Committee members, and appoint Budget Officer - Elect the Board Chair and Vice-Chair March - Budget Committee Meeting for FY'26 April - Budget Committee Meeting for FY'27; Approve Budget - Executive Director's Performance Evaluation Process May - Public Hearing of FY'27 Approved Budget, Board Adoption - Executive Session: Director Performance Evaluation - Oakridge Air Update June - Outdoor Burning Season Review July - Rulemaking Review - Review PERS UAL Liability & Investment Strategy August - No Meeting September - Review Legislative Short Session. - Review Local Partner Dues Calculation for FY'28. - Wildfire Smoke Management Season Update - Annual Review of Board Designated LGIP Account October - Approve Local Dues Calculation for FY'28. - Smoke Management Season Update/Review November - Audit Update, FY'27 - Home Wood Heating Season Update December - No Meeting

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 supported 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
- % data completeness for monitoring network (target: >95%) - Timeliness of data reporting to the public and EPA (target: 100% on schedule)	- % of monitors calibrated on schedule (target: 100%) - % uptime for real-time data systems (target: 98%) - Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%)

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
- Number of industry outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year) - Number of community outreach initiatives completed annually (target: 1 per year) - Number of partner outreach engagements completed annually (target: 5 per year)	- Diversity of inter-agency meetings attended (target: prioritize local, then state, then federal engagements) - Number of monitoring site quality assurance audits completed vs. EPA committed (target: 100%) - Communication frequency with key stakeholders (target: Quarterly communication) - Number of council presentations delivered (target: 1 per jurisdiction annually)

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
- Employee satisfaction/engagement scores (target: 85% satisfaction) - Staff retention rate (target: >85% annually) - % completion of internal systems modernization (target: 100% of planned upgrades, e.g. LINFO)	- Number of staff professional development training completed (Target: 2 per staff per year) - Number of staff utilizing advancing technologies in workflows (target: > 50%)

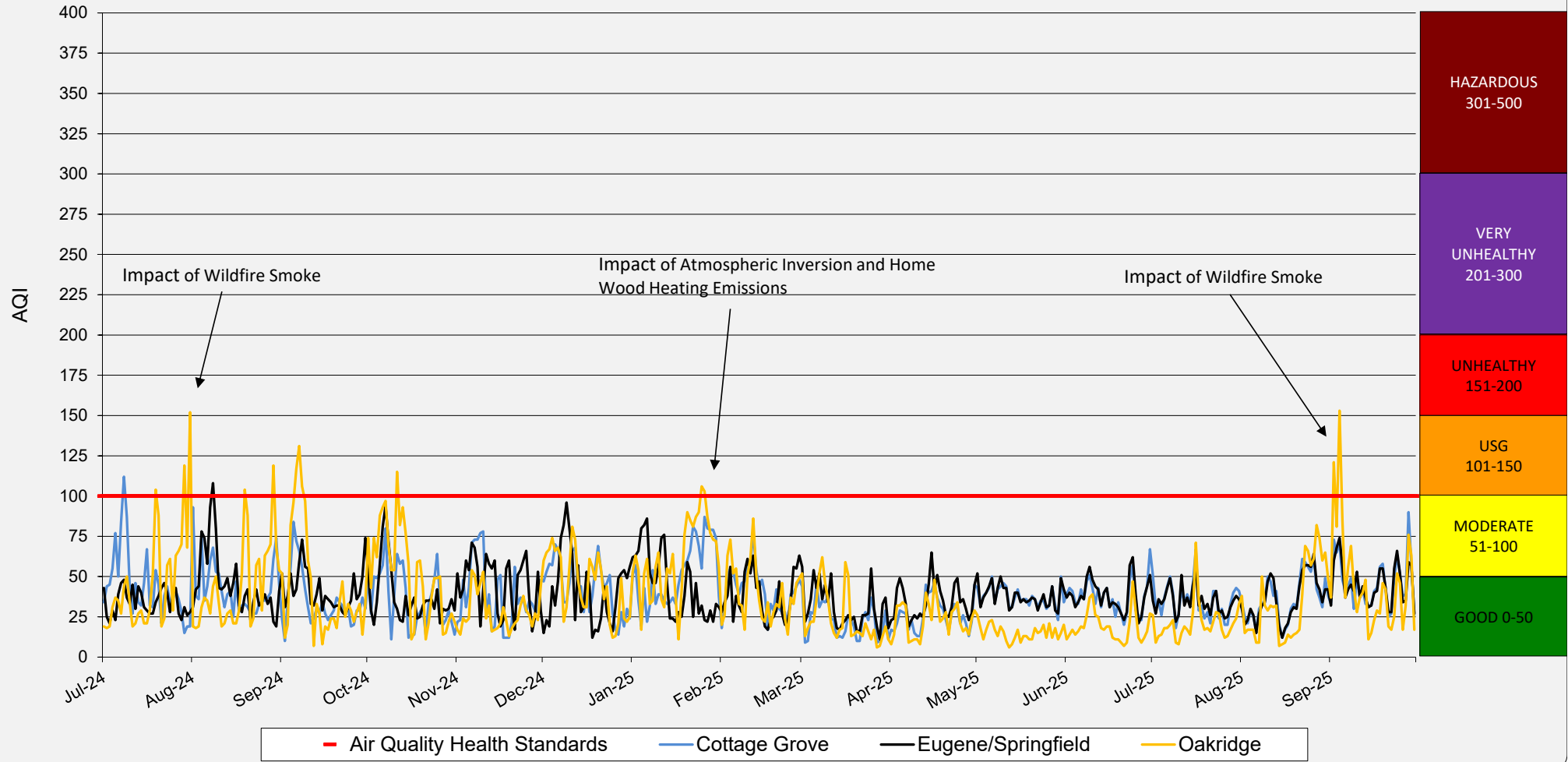
GOAL 7: Financial Sustainability and Transparency

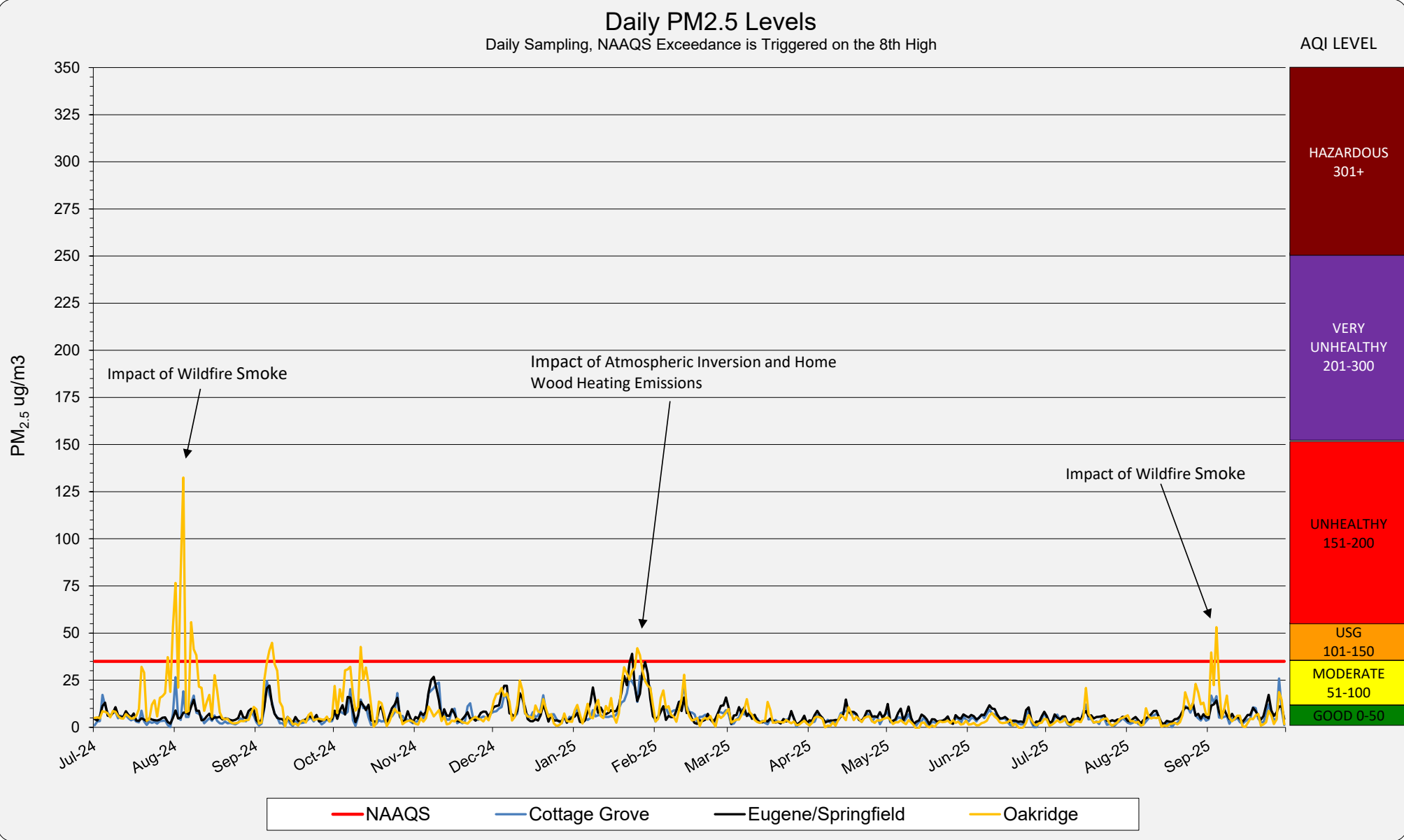
Ensure LRAPA's long-term financial stability and improve fiscal transparency through diversified funding sources, robust financial management practices, and clear communication of financial decisions to stakeholders.

Lag Indicators	Lead Indicators
- Reserve fund supporting annual operating budget (target: 4 months) - Budget variance (target: within 10% of planned)	- Number of financial reports provided to Board & public (target: monthly to Board) - Audit completed before state deadline (target: Dec. 31)

Daily Air Quality Index Chart

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





NEW/OPEN ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS DETAIL REPORT
9/1/2025 -- 9/30/2025
Report of open actions initiated since last report

NEW ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS:

None.

PENDING (Enforcement actions issued prior to 7/1/2025 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; payments are on schedule as of 9/30/2025.
 - D. Resolution: PENDING
 - E. Source Type: ASBESTOS
 - F. Initiated By: INSPECTION
2. REMEDIOS ROMERO (COTTAGE GROVE)
 - A. Violation: Respondent conducted the burning of prohibited materials, including painted wood, metal, tin cans, plastic bags, food waste, plastics fiberglass roofing and general household garbage in a burn barrel.
 - B. Initial Action Taken: NON #3930 issued 08/06/2025
 - C. Subsequent Action: NCP #2025-3930 (\$1,019) issued 08/06/2025; no response, default order and judgment (DOJ) in process
 - D. Resolution: PENDING
 - E. Source Type: OUTDOOR BURNING
 - F. Initiated By: COMPLAINT

CLOSED ENFORCEMENT CASES Enforcement Actions issued prior to 3/1/2025 and closed in the current reporting period):

1. 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 #2024-3940 (\$9,000) issued 1/30/2025; request for reduction and Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) approved and reduced to \$7,200 – paid 9/29/2025 and the money will be forwarded to the current Oakridge approved SEP in the amount of \$5,760.
 - D. Resolution: CASE CLOSED 09/29/2025
 - E. Source Type: PAPER & PULP MILL
 - F. Initiated By: SELF REPORTING