

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 20, 2018

TO Honorable Members of the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee

SUBJECT **Overview of Air Quality Monitoring**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will give an overview of air quality monitoring at the Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee meeting on Monday, September 24, 2018. For more than 25 years, the City of Dallas has operated under contract with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) as part of Texas ambient air monitoring network. TCEQ and EPA review and approve this regulatory state-wide network annually to ensure it meets all federal and state regulatory criteria, and the public is given opportunity to comment on any perceived gaps. Based on data collected by this regulatory network, Dallas' air is in nonattainment with federal standards for ozone. Based on the data collected by the network, Dallas is attainment with federal standards for other air pollutants including particulate matter (PM).

Over the past several years, low-cost air sensors have become available to the public. These low-cost air sensors present new opportunities for uses beyond regulatory monitoring but are not yet able to provide direct measurements of real-time health impacts. The Resilient Dallas plan, adopted by City Council on August 8, 2018, includes application of new air sensing technology to help solve equity and air quality concerns and City staff are committed to assess and utilize this new technology and its potential application to help mitigate Dallas' air quality challenges and fill data gaps.

Frances Verhalen, P.E., Chief of Air Monitoring Section, EPA Region 6, will provide additional information and answer questions regarding the Texas ambient air monitoring network and potential applications for new air sensing technology.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joey Zapata".

Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney (I)
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge

Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Directors and Assistant Directors