

# Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council

## HARRIS COUNTY'S NEW COMMUNITY AIR MONITORING PROGRAM

March 25, 2021

Matt Van Vleck, Air Supervisor for Harris County Pollution Control Services (HCPCS), presented an overview of the county's new Community Air Monitoring Program (CAMP) to the Pasadena Citizens' Advisory Council (PCAC) in March 2021. CAMP is designed to "measure pollution levels that affect environmental health and public health across Harris County; identify emission sources that adversely impact local communities; inform the public and elected officials on priorities related to clean air and environmental sustainability; and highlight patterns and trends that may support environmental regulatory activities." The program is being developed in phases, and implementation is still underway.

The program includes both fixed air monitoring stations and mobile monitoring capability to sample the air when there is, for example, an industrial event. One of the new fixed stations is at the Harris County John Phelps Courthouse Annex at Hwy. 225 and Richey in Pasadena.

Van Vleck said the CAMP website dashboard allows users to click on a fixed monitoring station to see the daily and yearly average for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and daily particulate matter (PM) values for very small air pollution particles. Users can also look back in time and see the history for VOCs and PM at each monitoring location. Additionally, users can click on the Houston Regional Monitoring (HRM) Dashboard to see data that is compared to long-term and short-term air monitoring comparison values (AMCV) for 50+ chemicals at five HRM monitors located in east Harris County. Links to the CAMP and HRM dashboards can be found at <https://pcs.harriscountytexas.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

Van Vleck also reminded the group that Harris County Pollution Control Services' new on-line complaint form is active: <https://webapps2.harriscountytexas.gov/PCSComplaintForm/complaint-form>. The complaint form is a convenient way to report air, water, or solid waste pollution.