



2024 Annual Report

The Benicia Refinery Community Advisory Panel (CAP) met six times in 2024 and received updates and presentations from refinery management about different aspects and incidents related to the refinery. Minutes and presentation material of each meeting are published on the [CAP website](#).

February 13, 2024

The CAP received an update about refinery operations, health, safety, environmental (HSE), and community affairs issues from refinery personnel. Vice President and General Manager Josh Tulino and Valero's HSE Director, Kim Ronan gave an update about the entities that provide regulatory oversight at the refinery. Benicia city councilmembers Kari Birdseye and Terry Scott shared a presentation with a status report on the [Benicia City Council ISO Presentation](#) followed by discussion from Valero & the community.

April 15, 2024

The CAP held an internal meeting to review the current bylaws, the [2023 Annual Report](#) and content contained in the city's proposed [Benicia Industrial Health and Safety Ordinance](#) (BIHSO). The CAP received an update about refinery operations, HSE issues, and a community affairs report from refinery personnel. The CAP elected Dennis Lowry to be the CAP Chair for 2024 and reviewed other CAP related 'house-keeping' items. Benicia Fire Chief Josh Chadwick reviewed the City of Benicia's [Hazardous Materials Incident Notification Policy](#). A Level 3 incident requires that a 72-hour Follow-up Notification Report is submitted to the City and once the refinery's investigation is complete a 30-Day report is required. Kim Ronan discussed the contents of the [30-Day Report](#) that was published due to odors that were detected off site from product that was released onto the roof of a refinery tank.

June 25, 2024

The refinery introduced Lauren Bird who replaced Josh Tulino as the Vice President/General Manager of the Valero Benicia Refinery and Melissa Manke Fimbres introduced herself as Kim Ronan's replacement as the new HSE Director. CAP members introduced themselves and shared their position, history, and tenure in Benicia. The Bylaw subcommittee presented their suggested revisions provided in this link: [CAP Bylaw Revision](#). All CAP meetings will be open to the public and the revisions to the Bylaws were approved pending the approval of the removal process if a representative is intentionally refraining from open dialogue.

August 27, 2024

The CAP received an update about refinery operations, HSE issues and a community affairs report from refinery personnel. Melissa shared a project update for the [Phase 4 Pathway of the Fenceline Monitoring Project](#). Discussion from CAP members focused on the draft BIHSO, the rule development process and the BIHSO's proposed timeline.

October 8, 2024

The CAP received an update about refinery operations, HSE issues and community affairs report from refinery personnel. The CAP received a presentation about Valero's [Refinery Water Sources and Volume. \(aka: Refinery Water 101\)](#) and participated in a driving tour of Valero's fresh water tank facilities.

December 10, 2024

The CAP received an update about refinery operations, HSE issues and community affairs report from refinery personnel. The CAP received a presentation about Valero's [Waste Water Treatment Plant. \(aka: Refinery Water 102\)](#) and participated in a driving tour of Valero's waste water treatment plant facilities. Per the revised bylaws, the CAP held the election for the CAP chairperson that will last 2 years - Dennis Lowry was reelected as CAP Chairman.

Membership Attendance

- Patrick Cawley - Benicia Chamber of Commerce – (5) meetings: April, June, August & December
- Kari Birdseye, City of Benicia – (4) meetings: February, August & October
- Gethsemane Moss, Benicia Unified School District – (6) meetings: February, April, June, August, October & December
- Marilyn Bardet, GNS Committee – (4) meetings – February, June, October, December
- Rod Sherry, Benicia Industrial Park Association – (5) meetings: February, April, June, October & December
- Dennis Lowry, Community at Large – (6) meetings – February, April, June, August, October & December
- Cara Bateman, Community at Large – (6) meetings: February, April, June, August, October & December
- Teri Crosby, Community at Large – (5) meetings: February, April, August, October & December