EPA, Congressional Black Caucus Visit Oakland on Joint Environmental Justice Tour

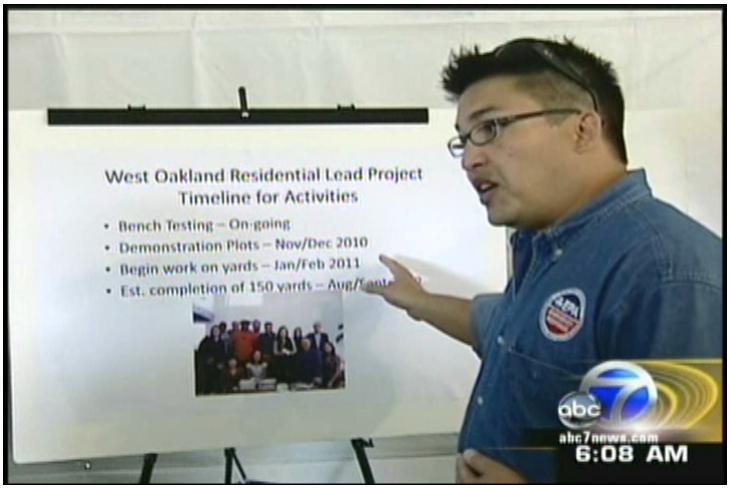
Electronic Media Kit on-line at:
http://www.epa.gov/region9/mediacenter/EJtour/index.html

Flickr Photo's from Jared Blumenfeld's photostream on-line at:
http://www.flickr.com/photos/epar9jeb/5090367917/in/set-72157625184757336/

KGO ABC 7 TV: EPA Tours Toxic Sites in Oakland

(TV Clip included in attached email) Aired Saturday during evening and Sunday morning newscasts.

http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=resources/lifestyle_community/green&id=7728828



insideBayArea | The Oakland Tribune

Oakland Tribune: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland

OAKLAND -- The head of the Environmental Protection Agency spent Saturday in Oakland, visiting seven sites including the notorious AMCO SuperFund site in West Oakland -- considered one of the most toxic in the nation -- and learning about a residential lead cleanup program set to begin in surrounding neighborhoods.

"This SuperFund site is in a community of people who care enough about the environment and about other communities that they don't want contaminated soil excavated and just taken to another SuperFund site in another community of color," said EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson during a news conference at Oakland's federal building after the daylong tour.

"Instead, they're looking for innovative ways to clean up the soil," Jackson said. "And at the end of the day, environmental protection is community protection."

The fourth stop in a nationwide tour to highlight heavily polluted areas in underserved communities was led by U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Oakland, in conjunction with the Congressional Black Caucus. The tour has visited polluted areas in Mississippi, Kansas and South Carolina, Lee said.

Saturday's tour -- with officials riding around town on a hydrogen fuel-cell, zero-emissions AC Transit bus -- was the first on the West Coast, and Jackson's second visit to the Bay Area since her appointment by President Barack Obama in 2009.

"In my congressional district, we have some of the most difficult environmental challenges in the country," Lee said. "But we also have great examples of communities coming together to survive and thrive, developing creative solutions to address these challenges."

The tour made seven stops, including a roundtable discussion at the Oakland Trucker Information Center at the Port of Oakland, and was followed by a town-hall meeting with local environmental activists and residents from the affected areas. In addition to highlighting ongoing environmental challenges, the tour also featured success stories.

Jackson said she was encouraged to learn about local programs dedicated to overcoming some of the problems in their communities, such as the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project, which advocates on environmental justice issues, and Mandela Foods, an urban food cooperative fighting to combat the lack of supermarkets and fresh produce available in inner cities.

"We still have problems," said Oakland City Councilmember Nancy Nadel, who also went on the tour. "But we're really excited that the EPA has taken such a strong interest in our community, and has heard us."

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson stands in front of an AC Transit hydrogen fuel cell bus during her visit in Oakland, Calif., on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010. Jackson along with Congresswoman Barbara Lee and members of the Congressional Black Caucus representing Los Angeles, Compton, Long Beach, Carson, Oakland, and many of California's ethnically diverse congressional districts participated in an Environmental Justice Tour in Oakland. (Ray Chavez/Staff)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, left, Congresswoman Barbara Lee and District 9 Senator Loni Hancock take part in a roundtable discussion at the Oakland Trucker Information Center as part of an Environmental Justice Tour in Oakland, Calif., on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010. (Ray Chavez/Staff)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, left, Congresswoman Barbara Lee and District 9 Senator Loni Hancock take part in a roundtable discussion at the Oakland Trucker Information Center as part of an Environmental Justice Tour in Oakland, Calif., on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010. (Ray Chavez/Staff)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 Jared Blumenfeld, left, Congresswoman Barbara Lee and EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson walk out of the Oakland Trucker Information Center after a roundtable discussion as part of an Environmental Justice Tour in Oakland, Calif., on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010. (Ray Chavez/Staff)

Mandela Marketplace program coordinator Quinton Sankofa, left, and U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Lee exchange a smile as U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, center left, and District 9 Senator Loni Hancock, right, tour the market as part of an Environmental Justice Tour in Oakland, Calif., on Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010. (Ray Chavez/Staff)

Online at:
http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_16358175

The Following Bay Area News Group and other publications have picked up the Oakland Tribune story:

Contra Costa Times: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland
http://www.contracostatimes.com/news/ci_16358175?source=rss&nclick_check=1

Tri-Valley Herald: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland
http://www.insidebayarea.com/trivalleyherald/localnews/ci_16358175

Alameda Times-Star: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland
http://www.insidebayarea.com/timesstar/localnews/ci_16358175

San Jose Mercury News: EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland
http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_16358175

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland
http://content.usatoday.com/topics/article/People/Politicians,+Government+Officials,+Strategists/Executive/Lisa+Jackson/0a8OgeG9hkcIb/1?loc=interstitialskip

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland
http://dailyme.com/story/2010101700000897/epa-administrator-lisa-jackson-tours-polluted.html

Associated Press: EPA awards grants to 4 SF Bay area projects

OAKLAND, Calif.—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced $100,000 in grants for environmental education and habitat restoration in three low-income communities in the San Francisco Bay area on Saturday.

EPA administrator Lisa Jackson highlighted the environmental justice grants during a town hall meeting in Oakland. Jackson and members of the Congressional Black Caucus spent the day visiting several spots in the city, including a Superfund site and an urban food cooperative.

The $100,000 is being split evenly between four projects that aim to educate low-income communities in Richmond and Oakland about climate change, restore a wildlife habitat in Richmond and develop a program to engage Latinos in San Rafael's Canal district in discussions about environmental issues.

"Too often it's the poor and minority communities who have little voice in environmental decisions, but live in the shadow of the worst pollution," Jackson said in a statement.

The Oakland stop was part of a nationwide tour by EPA officials to assess environmental issues in underserved communities—a priority of Jackson's.

They have also visited South Carolina, Missouri, Mississippi and Georgia.

In Oakland, Jackson visited the AMCO Superfund site, where contaminants including chlorinated solvents have been found in the soil. The EPA is monitoring air at the site for toxic pollution, according to spokeswoman Mary Simms.

Jackson also visited the Mandela Marketplace, a food cooperative that aims to increase fresh, healthy food options in low-income city neighborhoods.

http://www.insidebayarea.com/ci_16357293?IADID=Search-www.insidebayarea.com-www.insidebayarea.com

The following news outlets picked up the AP article:

North County Times
http://www.nctimes.com/news/state-and-regional/article_3ebeabed-6441-5948-af1d-049989051129.html

Napa Valley Register
http://napavalleyregister.com/news/state-and-regional/california/article_f510de2b-aa34-5cd3-967a-cc74e23a06fc.html

Santa Maria Times
http://www.santamariatimes.com/news/state-and-regional/article_db590670-3b6d-53bc-ab63-829cfa0c05cd.html

Lompoc Record
http://www.lompocrecord.com/news/state-and-regional/article_351c809b-7a13-58c9-8147-9a7fd1e05cc9.html

Oakland Tribune
http://www.insidebayarea.com/oaklandtribune/localnews/ci_16358016

Santa Cruz Sentinel
http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/nationalbreaking/ci_16358015

Tri Valley Herald
http://www.insidebayarea.com/news/ci_16358016

Contra Costa Times
http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_16358015

San Jose Mercury News
http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_16358015

KTVU San Francisco
http://www.ktvu.com/news/25415658/detail.html

Press-Enterprise
http://www.pe.com/ap_news/California/CA_Environment_Grants_531978C.shtml

San Francisco Examiner
http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/ap/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay-area-projects-105108634.html

Modesto Bee
http://www.modbee.com/2010/10/16/1386314/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay.html

Washington Examiner
http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/local/ap/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay-area-projects-105108634.html

Daily Comet
http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20101016/APN/1010161476?Title=EPA-awards-grants-to-4-SF-Bay-area-projects

Ventura County Star
http://www.vcstar.com/news/2010/oct/16/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay-area-projects/

KSWT-TV
http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=13336190

KTVN
http://www.ktvn.com/Global/story.asp?S=13336190

Marin Independent-Journal
http://www.marinij.com/tablehome/ci_16357293

Sacramento Bee
http://www.sacbee.com/2010/10/16/3109341/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay.html

CBS 13
http://cbs13.com/wireapnewsca/EPA.awards.grants.2.1965895.html

San Diego Union Tribune
http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/oct/16/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay-area-projects/

NECN TV
http://news.google.com/news/story?pz=1&cf=all&ned=us&hl=en&q=epa+lisa+jackson+oakland&ncl=dSQ0C8IEoBbPPZMJY--UgwGlJkDQM&cf=all&scoring=d&start=30

Times-Standard
http://www.times-standard.com/statenews/ci_16357293

KMPH Fox 26
http://www.kmph.com/Global/story.asp?S=13336190

KION TV
http://www.kionrightnow.com/Global/story.asp?S=13336190

Fresno Bee
http://www.fresnobee.com/2010/10/16/2120576/epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay.html

Monterey County Herald
http://www.montereyherald.com/state/ci_16357293

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland

http://organizedwisdom.com/epa-administrator-lisa-jackson-tours-polluted-sites-in-oakland-san-jose-mercury-news/3053821/nxi/med

EPA ADMINISTRATOR LISA JACKSON TOURS POLLUTED SITES IN OAKLAND

http://www.feedthegrid.net/related/140578/epa-administrator-lisa-jackson-tours-polluted-sites-in-oakland/

My Blue Planet

Environmental News and Videos

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland http://www.my-blue-planet.info/epa-administrator-lisa-jackson-tours-polluted-sites-in-oakland-san-jose-mercury-news/

Los Angeles Times

ENVIRONMENT

EPA's "environmental justice" tour comes to California

Environmental justice, a movement to focus attention on pollution in low-income communities, is a burning cause for Lisa Jackson, the first African American to head the U.S. Environmental Protection agency. Over the last several months, Jackson has toured poor white, black and Latino communities with a message: Eco-issues aren't just for rich folks.

On Saturday, the EPA chief, accompanied by members of the Congressional Black Caucus, took a bus tour of low-income neighborhoods in the San Francisco Bay area, stopping at a Superfund site where the federal government is coordinating toxic chemical cleanup, and an urban food cooperative.

At a town hall meeting in Oakland, attended by scores of community leaders, elected officials and students, she announced $100,000 in grants for programs to educate low-income communities in Richmond and Oakland about climate change, to restore wildlife habitat in Richmond and to engage Latinos in San Rafael's Canal district in environmental issues.

“Too often it's the poor and minority communities who have little voice in environmental decisions, but live in the shadow of the worst pollution,” Jackson said. "I'm happy to see so much being done here in California."

Oakland was the fourth stop in Jackson's nationwide tour. She has also visited South Carolina, Missouri, Mississippi and Georgia. Besides Bay area officials, Jackson was accompanied by representatives from Los Angeles, Compton, Long Beach, and Carson.

The West Oakland Superfund site was a former AMCO chemical distribution facility where the EPA is monitoring the air for toxic pollution. AMCO was added to the Superfund National Priorities list in 2003 because volatile organic compounds, metals and organochlorine pesticides contaminate the groundwater and soil. EPA is moving forward with site remediation, according to spokeswoman Mary Simms.

The residential neighborhood next to the AMCO site is the target of an EPA investigation that revealed high concentrations of lead in soils. Jackson and other tour members were briefed on lead cleanup efforts EPA at an EPA-hosted community meeting in nearby Prescott Park.

The food cooperative where the group stopped is known as Mandela Marketplace, which promotes locally grown food to combat what are known as inner-city "food deserts" -- neighborhoods where fast food predominates and fresh fruit and vegetables are in short supply.

The four grass-roots Bay Area groups awarded $25,000 grants include:

- The Rose Foundation in West Oakland, whose 'New Voices Are Rising' Program is civic engagement project that works with students from low-income, black and Latino communities in Oakland and Richmond, California.
- The Watershed Project, a nonprofit organization which has organized the Richmond Greenway Bioswale and Native Plant Garden (Greenway Garden) project to transform a section of abandoned railroad into a recreation area.
- Urban Habitat, also in Richmond, whose plan is to develop a community Energy and Climate Action Plan that will look at the impact of climate change on the city's low-income communities.
- The Viviendo Verde Ya! Project in Marin, which will work with Promotores Verdes (a grassroots organization) to mentor a network of environmental and health volunteers in San Rafael's Canal district.

-- Margot Roosevelt

Photo: EPA administrator Lisa Jackson. Credit: Mel Evans/AP

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2010/10/environmental-justice-oakland-epa-lisa-jackson.html

Team Coverage From Discovery Sites treehugger DiscoveryNews planet green

EPA, Congressional Black Caucus Visit Oakland on Joint Environmental Justice Tour

http://topics.treehugger.com/article/0czreCN2Kc7Gj

Motor City Times: The EPA & Lisa P. Jackson's Magical Mystery Tour

The EPA and Obama Administration are not shying away from their Environmental Justice agenda.

Via the EPA:

SAN FRANCISCO — On Saturday, October 16th, President Obama's pick to lead the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Administrator Lisa P. Jackson, along with Congresswoman Barbara Lee, will host a press conference and town hall meeting in Oakland following a day-long

environmental justice tour. Members of the Congressional Black Caucus representing Los Angeles, Compton, Long Beach, Carson, Oakland, and many of California's ethnically diverse congressional districts will participate in a historic Environmental Justice Tour in Oakland.

The tour will include a stop at a site recognized by EPA as one of the most toxic in the nation; a town hall meeting with environmental advocates and leaders; and a stop at an urban food cooperative fighting to combat inner-city food deserts. The tour will provide a unique opportunity to discuss key issues, view developing success stories and get a first hand look at ongoing challenges on the path to environmental justice for Californian communities.

Oakland is the 4th stop on the joint EPA-CBC Environmental Justice Tour, with leaders visiting several areas throughout the country to highlight environmental justice challenges faced by Americans in all communities.

While the United States is hemorrhaging jobs, racking up massive amounts of debt and all Obama and his crew are worrying about are Food deserts (created by liberal policies) and Environmental Justice (leveraging environmental laws and regulations to achieve economic redistribution).

*View the balance of the EPA's announcement and agenda (PDF) here.

The San Diego Union-Tribune.

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, Congressional Black Caucus Visit Oakland on National Tour to Highlight Communities Heavily Impacted By Environmental Concerns, Pollution

http://topics.signonsandiego.com/article/0azR4iB2C61eK?q=Los+Angeles

ENVIROLIB

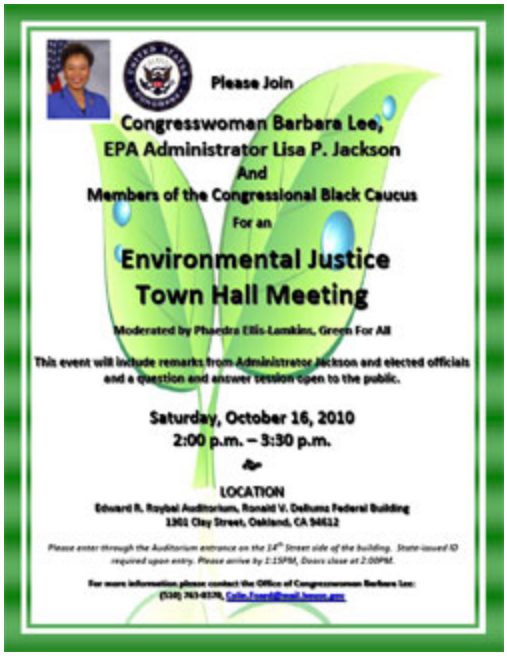
EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland

http://envirolib.org/news/epa-administrator-lisa-jackson-tours-polluted-sites-in-oakland/

Environmental Justice Blog

Barbara Lee & Lisa Jackson Take EJ Tour in Oakland

Congresswoman Barbara Lee and EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson held a press conference today that was followed by a Town Hall, which was followed by an Environmental Justice Tour. The press conference was held at the Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building and the Environmental Justice Town Hall was held at the Federal Building immediately following the press conference.



Please Join

Congresswoman Barbara Lee,
EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson
And
Members of the Congressional Black Caucus
For an

Environmental Justice Town Hall Meeting

Moderated by Phaedra Ellis-Lamkins, Green For All

This event will include remarks from Administrator Jackson and elected officials and a question and answer session open to the public.

Saturday, October 16, 2010
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION
Edward R. Roybal Auditorium, Ronald V. Dellums Federal Building
1301 Clay Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Please enter through the Auditorium entrance on the 14th Street side of the building. State-issued ID required upon entry. Please arrive by 1:15PM, Doors close at 2:00PM.

For more information please contact the Office of Congresswoman Barbara Lee:
(510) 763-0370, Colin.Fuerst@mail.house.gov

Oakland is the 4th stop on the joint EPA-CBC Environmental Justice Tour, with leaders visiting several areas throughout the country to highlight environmental justice challenges faced by Americans in all communities. This tour and town hall are part of a nationwide Environmental Justice Tour series featuring Administrator Jackson and coordinated by the joint efforts of the EPA and the CBC. The EPA and the CBC have previously held similar Environmental Justice Tours and Town Halls in South Carolina, Missouri, Mississippi and Georgia as part of an effort by the Obama Administration to assess environmental issues in underserved communities.

The Oakland stop on the national EPA-CBC Environmental Justice Tour was designed to highlight local efforts to address environmental issues that have impacted underserved communities in the city and to illustrate the extensive collaboration between the EPA, local government agencies, community groups and everyday citizens to confront these issues. The Environmental Justice Tour will be conducted on a very quiet zero-emission, hydrogen fuel cell bus provided by AC Transit. AC Transit has received four to date of 12 next-generation fuel cell buses that were purchased with the support of $14 million in federal funding that Congresswoman Lee helped secure. (EPA, photos courtesy Mercury News)

Posted by E J B at 1:16 PM

http://environmentaljusticeblog.blogspot.com/2010/10/barbara-lee-lisa-jackson-take-ej-tour.html

ALLVOICES LOCAL TO GLOBAL NEWS

EPA awards grants to 4 SF Bay area projects

http://www.allvoices.com/news/7045014-epa-awards-grants-to-4-sf-bay-area-projects

MSG

EPA, Congressional Black Caucus Visit Oakland on Joint Environmental Justice Tour

http://mlb.msg.com/article/0czreCN2Kc7Gj

NEWSROOM AMERICA

EPA, Congressional Black Caucus Visit Oakland on Joint Environmental Justice Tour

http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&cd=17&ved=0CCkQFjAGOAo&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.newsroomamerica.com%2Fstory%2F65733%2Fsuperfund_and_brownfields_news_release_(region_9)%3A_epa%2C_congressional_black_caucus_visit_oakland_on_joint_environmental_justice_tour.html&ei=eRe7TLegC4P2swPRtJiGDw&usg=AFQjCNEYnEqn9VQeuKRQkqSEHXxCAV9Edw

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson tours polluted sites in Oakland

http://topstoriesoakland.com/uncategorized/epa-administrator-lisa-jackson-tours-polluted-sites-in-oakland/

世界日報 World Journal (English Version)

Jackson concerned about the environmental problems the Chinese community

Federal EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson

Federal EPA Administrator Jackson (Lisa Jackson) just concluded visit to China, 16, arrived in Oakland Chinatown shuttles to visit, learn about the environmental problems facing the Chinese community. Jackson praised the community organizations in addition to fighting for the rights of the results for the people outside, in an interview the U.S. and China also stressed the issue of environmental protection in the face of the importance of mutual cooperation.

Jackson's visit by the representatives of the Federal House of Representatives in Oakland, accompanied by Barbara Lee, Asian Pacific American environmental organizations (Asian Pacific Environmental Network), chaired by the beautiful lake next to the MRT station to visit the focus of the case of residential redevelopment. The site was originally built MRT station and the demolition because of the low-income households in immigrant communities. Efforts in a number of community organizations, the new plan will take into account the transportation, environmental protection, residential, commercial and employment.

Asian Health Services (Asian Health Services) Development Officer, said Liao truth, in the case of the reconstruction process, community residents were consulted thousands of bits. They are real life in this region, low income residents do not speak English, often in urban construction is being sacrificed. In collaboration with several community groups, classified a security, employment, housing and environmental quality such as the four most important issue in community residents.

In addition to the construction of Jackson certainly the case for the protection of the environment and other immigrant communities, but also stressed: "environmental conservation in the conservation community is not the norm in Washington, a few will be able to reach the development. All the specifications are intended to help communities people unity and cooperation, work together to solve environmental problems and developed. "

Jackson first trip to China, signed a 30-year environmental cooperation between the two countries have not updated the memorandum to Shanghai to visit the Expo, but the theme of environmental protection in Guangdong Zhongshan University speech by the enthusiastic response from local students, ask questions after the speech enthusiastically.

http://translate.googleusercontent.com/translate_c?hl=en&sl=auto&tl=en&u=http://sf.worldjournal.com/view/full_sf/9945916/article-%25E5%2582%2591%25E5%2585%258B%25E6%25A3%25AE%25E9%2597%259C%25E5%25BF%2583%25E8%258F%25AF%25E8%25A3%2594%25E7%25A4%25BE%25E5%258D%2580%25E7%2592%25B0%25E5%25A2%2583%25E5%2595%258F%25E9%25A1%258C%3Finstance%3Dsf1&rurl=translate.google.com&usg=ALkJrhgZ441-2o8wAE02r_DVKmor99tq-g

Original Version below

世界日報 World Journal

傑克森關心華裔社區環境問題

記者劉庠屋崙報導

October 17, 2010 06:00 AM | 19 觀看次數 | | 0 | |

傑克森對美中兩國合作推動環保的前景深表樂觀。（記者劉庠／攝影）

聯邦環保署行政官傑克森（Lisa Jackson）剛結束中國訪問行程，16日風塵僕僕趕到屋崙華埠進行參訪，了解當地華裔社區面臨的環境問題。傑克森除了讚揚社區組織為民眾爭取權益的成果以外，在受訪時也強調美中兩國在面對環保問題時相互合作的重要。

傑克森此行由代表屋崙的聯邦眾議員芭芭拉·李陪同、亞太裔環境組織（Asian Pacific Environmental Network）主持，以美麗湖捷運站旁的住宅重建案為參觀重點。該地點原本因為蓋捷運站而拆遷低收入移民社區住戶。在多個社區組織的努力下，新的計畫將兼顧交通、環保、住宅、商業和就業。

亞州健康服務（Asian Health Services）發展主任廖求真表示，在推動重建案的過程中，共徵詢上千位社區民眾。他們都是在這個地區實際生活，低收入、不會說英語的居民，在城市建設時常常是被犧牲的一群。在多個社區團體的合作下，歸類出治安、就業、住宅和環境品質等四項社區民眾最重視的議題。

傑克森除了肯定該建案對環境和移民社區的保護以外，也強調：「環境保育其實是在保育社區，不是在華府制定幾條規範就能達成。所有的規範，都是為了要幫助社區民眾團結合作，一起解決環境問題而制定的。」

第一次到中國的傑克森此行簽訂了30年未更新的兩國環保合作備忘錄，到上海參觀世博會，更以環保主題在廣東中山大學發表演說，受到當地學生熱烈的迴響，演講後發問踴躍。

Read more: 世界新聞網-北美華人社區新聞 - 傑克森關心華裔社區環境問題