



NEWS

For Immediate Release
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Air District Applauds Governor's Effort to Reduce Bay Area Traffic Congestion

A traffic collision occurring near Oakland in Alameda County on westbound Interstate 80 during the early morning hours on Sunday, April 29, 2007, resulted in intense fire, heat and destruction of portions of Interstate 80, Interstate 880, Interstate 580 and nearby roadways. In response to the incident, Governor Schwarzenegger issued an emergency declaration to begin immediate repair and replacement of the interchange and to provide free transit services in the Bay Area for Monday, April 30th for the entire region.

"Unnecessary idling through traffic congestion is a major contributor to air pollution in the Bay Area," said Jack Broadbent, Executive Officer of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District). "The District has previously worked with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to provide free rides on high ozone days and we applaud the governor's use of the effective free-transit mechanism to reduce traffic and air pollution."

The Air District is currently investigating this case to determine if there was any impact to ambient air quality as a result of the incident. Given the elongated response time due to the time of the fire, duration of the incident, and the temperature of the burn, the Air District believes that the impact to air quality from the fire may have been minimized.

To find out about public transportation throughout the Bay Area call 511 or visit 511.org.

To view a copy of the Governor's declaration visit <http://gov.ca.gov/index.php?/press-release/6057/> .

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