

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 1, 2019 CONTACT: Simrun Dhoot - 415.749.4900

## Air District's *Clean Cars for All* grant program helps Bay Area residents buy cleanest cars

Low-income residents may be eligible for up to \$9,500 for clean air vehicle

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air District is inviting Bay Area residents to apply for the Clean Cars for All grant program which provides up to \$9,500 for low-income members of communities disproportionally affected by air pollution to retire older vehicles and replace them with a hybrid, plug-in hybrid or electric vehicle, or get a Clipper Card for public transit.

The Air District launched this new program as part of a broad effort to make sure that clean air vehicles are affordable options for residents across the Bay Area. Equitable access to clean air vehicles also ensures that all Bay Area residents benefit from lower fuel and maintenance costs as well as the improved driving experience.

"Clean Cars for All helps even the playing field for low-income residents when choosing between traditional gas and clean air vehicles," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Getting more clean air vehicles on Bay Area roads will improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to ensure healthy air for all Bay Area residents to breathe."

Residents may choose one of the following clean air transportation options to replace their scrapped vehicle:

- **Electric Vehicles** operate solely on their electric motor. Electric vehicle batteries recharge by plugging into an outlet or charging station.
- **Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles** combine an electric motor with a gasoline engine. Plug-In Hybrid batteries are recharged by the gasoline-powered motor during braking and by plugging into an outlet or charging station.
- **Hybrid Electric Vehicles** combine an electric motor with a gasoline engine. These vehicles cannot be "plugged-in" to be "recharged." The gasoline-powered motor also acts as a generator to recharge batteries on hybrids.
- Clipper Card can be used for public transportation on all major Bay Area transit systems.

Applicants must live in a designated, eligible community in the Bay Area and their household income must fall under a specified limit based on their household size. Furthermore, the vehicle to be scrapped must be model year 1996 or earlier. Bay Area residents may check the program website or complete an application to verify their eligibility for the program.

The average clean vehicle costs \$22,000 and the Clean Cars for All incentive ranges from \$2,500 to \$9,500. The amount of money received from the *Clean Cars for All* program is based on the household size, income and the choice of replacement vehicle. The average loan financing for purchasing a replacement vehicle is \$14,500. Additionally, up to \$2,000 in funding is available for home charging equipment and installation for purchasing a plug-in hybrid or electric vehicle.

For more information about how to apply or to find out more about *Clean Cars for All*, visit <u>www.baaqmd.gov/cleancarsforall</u>.



*Clean Cars for All* is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality and the global climate in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, and <u>YouTube</u>.

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