

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Air District offers more than \$50 million in grants to reduce air pollution from heavy duty diesel engines

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is accepting applications for grant funding for projects that reduce toxic air emissions and ozone-forming pollutants from older, polluting diesel engines.

Eligible equipment includes medium and heavy-duty trucks and buses, mobile construction and industrial equipment, marine vessels, locomotives and school buses.

"This year the Air District is facilitating an unprecedented amount of investment in projects to reduce air pollution in impacted communities throughout the nine Bay Area counties," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "These funds will enable us to further reduce the air pollution burden in communities who need our help most."

Funding is available for projects that:

- Replace older diesel equipment with newer, cleaner equipment
- Replace older diesel engines with newer, cleaner engines or convert to zero-emissions power system
- Install electric charging or fueling infrastructure in support of new zero- or near-zero emissions equipment

Authorized by California state law AB 617, the Air District is working with local community residents through the Community Health Protection Program to employ proven and innovative strategies to improve community health by reducing exposure to air pollutants in neighborhoods most impacted by air pollution. The Air District will prioritize applications for projects that reduce emissions in the communities of West Oakland, Richmond – San Pablo, East Oakland, - San Leandro, Eastern San Francisco, Pittsburg - Bay Point, San Jose, Tri-Valley area and Vallejo.

More than \$50 million in grant funding from the Community Health Protection Grant Program and the Carl Moyer Program will help improve air quality in the region.

Air District staff are available to answer questions about the application process and grant requirements. For more information about the grant program or to start an application online, visit the Air District website at <u>www.baaqmd.gov/AB617grants</u> or call 415 749-4994.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality 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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