



Photo Credit: Filiz Mehmed

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Local Government Climate Newsletter

January 2024

If you are a local government working on a climate-related plan or project, we'd love to chat about how we can help support you. Contact us at climate@baaqmd.gov.

- [Bay Area Priority Climate Action Plan Measures Available Now](#)
- [Air District & Community Partners Release Draft Plan to Improve Air Quality in Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo](#)
- [Air District Awarded \\$15 Million in Federal Funding to Enhance Bay Area Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure](#)
- [Example Local Government Climate Action Plans that Address Materials Management & Waste](#)
- [San Francisco Estuary Institute Released 'Ecology for Health' Urban Design Guide & Toolkit](#)
- [Peninsula Clean Energy's \\$68 Million Community Reinvestment Package](#)
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- [California Energy Commission Opportunities](#)
- [Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project \(HVIP\)](#)
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AIR DISTRICT UPDATES

Bay Area Priority Climate Action Plan Measures Available Now

Bay Area Regional Climate Action Planning Initiative

Priority Measure Descriptions for inclusion in the PCAP

- [Residential Building Decarbonization Measure Description](#)
- [Transportation Mobility Hubs Measure Description](#)  (846 K)

The Priority Climate Action Plan measures developed throughout summer, fall and winter 2023 for the [Bay Area Regional Climate Action Planning \(BARCAP\) Initiative](#) have just been posted. The BARCAP effort, led by the Air District with close collaboration with an Advisory Work Group and other stakeholders, is developing a regional priority climate action plan to identify specific, implementation-ready climate pollution reduction measures in two high-priority sectors – residential buildings and transportation - that provide significant greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions and benefit frontline communities. This planning effort is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (U.S. EPA) [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program](#) (CPRG). The full Priority Climate Action Plan, or PCAP, comprised of the GHG reduction measures, supporting analyses, and a GHG inventory, will be submitted to U.S. EPA by March 1, 2024 (and posted online later that day). Once submitted, eligible applicants can apply for funding to implement measures in the PCAP. Funding applications are due to the U.S. EPA by April 1, 2024. The EPA released the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for the implementation grants in September 2023. The CPRG grant also funds development of a longer-term Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP), which will be the next focus of the BARCAP beginning in late spring 2024.

Air District & Community Partners Release Draft Plan to Improve Air Quality in Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo



The Air District recently released to the public the draft Path to Clean Air Community Emissions Reduction Plan for Richmond-North Richmond-San

Pablo, created in partnership with a community-led steering committee that represents local community members, public agencies, and other stakeholders. The draft plan identifies critical air quality and public health concerns and offers actionable solutions to address them; it was open for public review and comment until Jan 19 and a virtual public workshop was held on Jan. 11, 2024. The draft plan covers the cities of Richmond and San Pablo and several unincorporated areas in Contra Costa County that are impacted by emission sources including fuel refining, ships, marine terminals, industrial manufacturing facilities, railways, vehicle and freight traffic. According to CalEnviroScreen 4.0, several communities in the Path to Clean Air area rank in the 90th percentile of pollution burden, some of the highest in California. A 2018 Contra Costa Health Services study shows that asthma rates in the county are higher on average than in the rest of the state and are especially high for children and Black residents. The Path to Clean Air Plan was developed as a requirement of AB 617, a state law which recognizes that these inequities require additional focus and resources to reduce exposure levels in certain communities. Learn more [here](#).

Air District Awarded \$15 Million in Federal Funding to Enhance Bay Area Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure



The Air District has been awarded \$15 million in federal grant funding to spur the creation of a more robust, accessible, and equitable electric vehicle charging network across the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Area. The funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration's Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program will be used to support the buildout of the Bay Area's public charging network, helping foster deployment of public electric vehicle charging infrastructure in publicly accessible locations throughout the region, such as local businesses, retail centers, municipal and local community sites, intermodal transportation facilities, parking facilities, workplaces, commercial districts, public parks, and other sites in Bay Area communities. This federal award will be administered through the Air District's [Charge! Program](#), which incentivizes the purchase and installation of new charging stations at qualifying facilities. The Air District will emphasize equity considerations in distributing the grants, to ameliorate existing disparities in the transportation system and to promote a convenient, reliable, and affordable charging experience for all users.

NEWS & RESOURCES

Example Local Government Climate Action Plans that Address Materials Management & Waste

Show 50 entries

Clear All

Show All

Search:

Plan	State/Tribe	Date	Topics Covered
1.5° A Path to Reducing our Carbon Footprint, 2019 Climate Action Plan, Beaverton, OR (pdf) (pdf) (6.4 MB)	Oregon	2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental Justice and Equity - Materials Management and Waste• Organics and Wasted Food, Food Waste Reduction, Composting
2022 Chicago Climate Action Plan (pdf) (310 MB)	Illinois	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circular Economy or Zero Waste• Waste Prevention• Recycling• Built Environment Deconstruction and Reducing Construction and Demolition Materials, Design for Disassembly and Reuse, C and D Diversion

U.S. EPA recently developed a searchable list of [Example Local Government Climate Action Plans that Address Materials Management and Waste](#). The table is not comprehensive but can be filtered, sorted, and searched by a wide range of states and topics covered.

San Francisco Estuary Institute Released 'Ecology for Health' Urban Design Guide & Toolkit



San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) recently released “[Ecology for Health](#)”, an urban design guide geared towards supporting designers and planners that compiles the best available science on how designing cities for biodiversity improves the physical and mental health of its people. The guide is structured around three scales: urban planning, site design, and detailed design. SFEI has also incorporated the key design guidance strategies from Ecology for Health into its [Making Nature’s City Toolkit website](#). This updated online platform offers examples and data capturing SFEI’s Urban Biodiversity Framework, and Ecology for Health’s design guidance at the urban planning, site design, and detailed design scales.

Peninsula Clean Energy's \$68 Million Community Reinvestment Package



PENINSULA CLEAN ENERGY

The board of directors for the Community Choice Aggregator Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) recently approved returning \$68 million to the community through a reinvestment plan. The plan includes a \$300 income-qualified bill credit, financing for residential energy battery storage, loans for local government and school electrification, and funding for energy storage at public buildings and other efforts to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions. Learn more about the details of the reinvestment package [here](#).

FEDERAL FUNDING

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Opportunities

BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

- EPA expects to award at least \$500 million in funding for its [2023 Clean School Bus Rebates](#) program. Applications are due by **4 PM ET on January 31, 2024**.

Inflation Reduction Act Opportunities

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s [Green and Resilient Retrofit Program](#) (GRRP) provides owners of HUD-assisted multifamily housing with capital resources to reduce carbon emissions, make utility efficiency improvements, incorporate renewable energy sources, and make properties more resilient against the effects of climate change. Three paths of funding are available to meet the needs of properties at all stages of redevelopment. The next wave of application deadlines for Leading Edge, Comprehensive, and Elements cohorts are **January 31, February 28, and March 28**, respectively.
- EPA's [Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program](#) is now accepting applications on a rolling basis for \$2 billion in funding to support community-driven projects that build capacity for communities to tackle environmental and climate justice challenges, strengthen their climate resilience, and advance clean energy. Eligible applicants include a partnership between at least two community-based organizations (CBOs) or a partnership between a CBO and one or any combination of the following: a Federally-Recognized Tribe; a local government; or an institution of higher education.
- California will receive \$21.9 million to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector through the Methane Emissions Reductions Program. Follow program updates [here](#).

EPA's Rural Environmental Public Health Needs Prize Competition



The goal of the EPA's Rural Environmental Public Health Needs Prize Competition is for local governments to identify innovative and effective ways to holistically engage rural communities around environmental health issues and to identify any associated barriers to better protecting human health. Up to ten selected winners will each receive \$25,000 (totaling \$250,000). Five individual Challenge winners will be given a one-year National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) membership. The submission deadline is **January 31**. Learn more [here](#).

OTHER FUNDING

California Energy Commission Opportunities



CALIFORNIA
ENERGY
COMMISSION

- **Bulk Grid Asset Enhancements for Grid Reliability:** The California Energy Commission (CEC)'s Distributed Electricity Backup Assets (DEBA) Program provides up to \$150 million in grant funds for the purchase and installation of efficiency upgrades and capacity additions to existing bulk grid power generators in California that will serve as emergency supply for the state's electrical grid during extreme events. The application deadline is **February 20**. Learn more [here](#).
 - **Grid Supportive Transportation Electrification:** The CEC's Electric Program Investment Charge Program has a solicitation open to fund technology demonstration and deployment projects that support the approved Electric Program Investment Charge 2021–2025 (EPIC 4) Investment Plan's strategic objective to increase the value proposition of distributed energy resources to customers and the grid. Submissions are due **March 29**. Learn more [here](#).
 - **Charging Infrastructure for Government Fleets:** The CEC's Clean Transportation Program announces the availability of up to \$30 million in grant funds for projects that will provide electric vehicle charging infrastructure for light-duty government fleets. The questions deadline is January 26 at 5pm PST, and the submission deadline is **April 5**, 11:59pm PST. Learn more [here](#).
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Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP)

Incentives for Clean Trucks and Buses



Point-of-sale discounts to power California communities and drive commercial technology transformation

School Buses

\$70K

INCENTIVE RANGE

\$198K

Vehicle Catalog

The California Air Resources Board is providing point-of-sale vouchers for hybrid and zero-emission trucks and buses. Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, with \$197 million available. Funding remains open for all vehicle types. See <https://californiahvip.org> for more details.

Clean Transit and Shuttle Bus Funding

California
VW Mitigation
Trust

Interested in funding for clean buses?

The VW Mitigation Trust is offering \$130 million (up to \$400,000 per vehicle), administered by the San Joaquin Valley Air District, to replace older, high-polluting transit, school, and shuttle buses with new battery-electric or fuel-cell

buses to improve public health of riders and residents. Funding for school buses is closed but remains open for shuttle and transit buses. Entities in California that operate primarily within the state are eligible. Applications are currently being accepted on a first-come, first-served basis; [apply here](#).



[Newsletter Feedback Form](#)

Have a question or comment?
Contact one of our Climate Protection staff.

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