

Community Air Monitoring Program

The goal of the community monitoring program is to establish air monitoring stations in areas where major stationary sources may contribute to impacts in local communities. Data from these newly established monitoring locations would be used to compare air quality in potentially impacted communities with air quality measurements at other Air District sites. While it is important to recognize that sampling results from ambient air monitoring stations cannot usually be attributed to air pollutants from specific sources, monitoring in areas with large stationary sources will allow residents to determine if air quality in their neighborhoods is significantly different than other Bay Area locations.

The first communities to have monitoring stations established will be those with refineries and other significant sources in their vicinity. Additional communities with major stationary sources will follow over the next few years of this initiative. The Air District will continue operation of these stations for a minimum of three years in order to ensure representative data is collected in each monitoring location, but may determine that monitoring resources are better utilized in other communities or applications dependent on results and trends.