

Executive Summary

Signed into law in 2017, the California State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) requiring the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and local air districts to produce Community Emissions Reduction Plans (CERPs). These plans aim to reduce exposure to emissions in communities overburdened by air pollution. Through the Community Health Protection Program, the Bay Area Air District (Air District) is responsible for implementing AB 617 by collaborating with community members and organizations, local agencies, and key stakeholders to develop strategies and actions for reducing harmful air pollutants and improving community health outcomes.

In September of 2022, the Marie Harrison Community Foundation and the Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates submitted a comprehensive community self-nomination request to the Air District, calling for the greater Bayview Hunters Point area and Southeast San Francisco (BVHP/SESF) to be selected for beginning the CERP development process in 2023. This request included a defined community boundary consisting of 17 census tracts in BVHP/SESF, extending along and east of the US-101 freeway, into Potrero Hill to the north, Excelsior to the west, and Visitacion Valley to the southwest.

The self-nomination included an assessment of cumulative environmental and health impacts using CalEnviroScreen 4.0 socioeconomic indicators and air quality modeling based on the Air District's regional 2018 emissions inventory. It also described key community concerns, including instances of conflicting land uses and zoning practices that allow polluting industries near residences, schools, and community gathering spaces. Community-identified pollution sources in BVHP/SESF include the Naval Shipyard, auto body repair shops, wastewater treatment facilities, recycling plants, material handling operations, and medium- to heavy-industrial and manufacturing facilities. The area also includes truck routes and major transportation corridors such as US-101 and Interstate 280 freeways.

In November of 2022, the Air District Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve the self-nomination and recommended BVHP/SESF to CARB for the AB 617 Community Air Protection Program. In the 2023 Fifth Annual Community Air Protection Program Recommendations Staff Report, CARB supported the nomination of BVHP/SESF and recommended its selection for the development and implementation of a CERP. In February 2023, CARB approved the selection of BVHP/SESF for CERP development.

Through a three-party partnership, the Air District, the Marie Harrison Community Foundation, and the Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates (up to December 2025) worked together as Co-Leads to begin developing the BVHP/SESF CERP Process. The Co-Leads led the recruitment and selection of Community Steering Committee (CSC) members and held an orientation in August 2023 to align on roles and responsibilities in guiding the development of a CERP to address air quality and environmental justice issues in BVHP/SESF. The CSC is a diverse group of individuals consisting of up to 25 members who live, work, or own businesses in the community. Members include leaders of community-based organizations, both multigenerational and newer residents, youth, seniors, and individuals from local businesses. Together, they represent the social diversity and character of the community.

During the early stages of the CERP process, the CSC participated in a community mapping activity to identify sources of air pollution and areas of concern within BVHP/SESF. This activity helped develop a list of community-identified air quality issues and informed the final community boundary. The community map for the activity included the locations of permitted sources,

monitoring sites or air sensors, Naval Shipyard parcel boundaries, highways, and major thoroughfares. Based on the information provided on the map, CSC members were asked to place stickers on sources of air pollution that are a concern, sources of air pollution not identified on the map, areas known by the community to have poor air quality, and locations where the members most sensitive to air pollution in the community live, work, and spend time outdoors. In August of 2024, the CSC voted to expand the community boundary further north up to 16th Street, increasing the total number of census tracts from 17 to 25.

To ensure the inclusion of community perspective in the air quality analysis for the CERP, the CSC created a Sources, Emissions, and Data Gaps (SEDG) subcommittee to evaluate key findings related to emissions sources in BVHP/SESF. The air quality issues identified through a nuanced review of emissions data conducted by the SEDG subcommittee, along with input from the CSC on challenges affecting daily life in BVHP/SESF, were used to establish the six CERP focus areas.

Focus areas are the overarching categories of the BVHP/SESF community's pollution concerns that organized CERP strategy development (Chapter 8: Focus Areas, Strategies, and Actions). These include:

Permitting and Enforcement: BVHP/SESF community members are exposed to air pollution from a range of commercial and industrial sources. These stationary sources can contribute to poor health outcomes if not properly regulated. This focus area aims to reduce harmful emissions through stronger permitting, compliance, and enforcement actions.

Traffic and Transportation: BVHP/SESF is heavily impacted by vehicle traffic through the neighborhood and, problematically, on residential streets. The Production, Distribution, Repair (PDR) land use designation also gives rise to truck-attracting businesses that increase truck traffic on local roads. Many of these roadways are located near sensitive areas such as schools, parks, and residential neighborhoods. This focus area works to reduce emissions from transportation sources and improve road safety conditions for community members, as well as consider ways to create more connected and vibrant economic corridors that connect BVHP/SESF and the rest of the city.

Particulate Matter (PM), Dust, and Construction Impacts: BVHP/SESF community members are disproportionately exposed to PM and fugitive dust due to nearby industrial activities and ongoing construction. These exposures contribute to respiratory and cardiovascular health issues and can limit the ability to safely spend time outdoors. This focus area looks for opportunities to reduce exposure to local particulate matter and fugitive dust sources in BVHP/SESF.

Monitoring and Data: Existing data does not fully capture air pollution conditions in BVHP/SESF. Pollution levels can vary across the community depending on nearby sources and weather conditions. This focus area aims to expand monitoring and improve data to better understand local air quality and inform actions such as rule development, permitting, enforcement, and incentives.

Community Health Impacts: BVHP/SESF residents experience health disparities, including asthma and respiratory illness, in part due to exposure to environmental toxins and cumulative pollutant emissions from local polluting activities. Members of the community have expressed concerns about having limited access to healthcare resources, as well as goods and services and nature-based amenities. This focus area centers on reducing exposure to air pollution, improving air quality indoors, and improving overall community health.

Production, Distribution and Repair (PDR) and Land Use: BVHP/SESF community members have raised concerns about the concentration of PDR land uses and how they interface with residential neighborhoods. In some areas, there is limited separation between industrial and residential uses. This focus area explores opportunities to correct problematic land use patterns that underlie air pollution and air pollution exposures and to improve health protections through changes in land use policy and more environmentally informed and just decision-making.

The focus areas have served as an organizing framework for developing strategies and actions that can reduce air pollution, air pollution exposures, and health impacts in BVHP/SESF. Each focus area includes problem statements that reflect community-identified concerns and describe the challenges associated with poor air quality conditions.

To support the identification and understanding of air quality challenges, the CERP includes a comprehensive technical assessment of pollution sources and their associated emissions (Chapter 5: Air Quality Overview). This chapter includes an analysis of Criteria Air Pollutants (CAPs) and Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs) from approximately 216 permitted sources within the CERP community boundary area and BVHP/SESF zip codes. Also included is an overview of enforcement findings (Chapter 6: Compliance Enforcement Overview and Findings), which provides important context and history of compliance and enforcement in the BVHP/SESF area. This includes detailed information on enforcement programs and activities led by CARB to achieve compliance with all adopted regulations. An overview of Air Permitting describes the permitting process and provides information on opportunities for community involvement during permit review (Chapter 7: Air Permitting Overview). This chapter provides data on the number of permitted facilities in BVHP/SESF by facility type, the total number of permit applications, and information on non-permitted facilities. These assessments help connect technical findings to the concerns identified by the community, supporting the development of strategies and actions.

All strategies and actions were developed through an iterative process which involved co-creation with CSC members, the CSC's Planning and Strategies (P&S) subcommittee, and representatives from relevant agencies/academic partners that served as a Technical Advisory Group (TAG), including the Port of San Francisco, the San Francisco Planning Department (SF Planning), the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFPDH), the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), and University of California San Francisco (UCSF). Representatives from other relevant agencies also participated as implementing leads.

Through the implementation of strategies and actions, the CERP aims to accomplish six (6) overarching goals in BVHP/SESF, which include accelerating emission reductions for fine particulate matter and Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs), advancing health equity, incentivizing projects, holding polluters accountable, better understanding local air pollution, and fostering transparency (see Chapter 3: Vision, Principles, and Goals, for full text). The Air District will continue to work with the Co-Lead and CSC during CERP implementation and will lead interagency collaboration to ensure partner agencies make progress towards the CERP's goals. Each year, the Air District will engage with the Co-Lead, the CSC, and partner agencies to prepare a report on CERP implementation. These annual reports will evaluate progress made and provide an opportunity for the community to reassess priorities. At the five-year implementation milestone, the Air District will draw from these progress reports to reflect on key accomplishments and determine whether the goals of the CERP have been achieved and where further action is required.

Translations of the Executive Summary are available at the [Air District website](#)¹ in Spanish, Traditional Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Tongan, and Samoan. Translations of the Public Review draft CERP are available in Spanish and Traditional Chinese. To request translation of the Executive Summary or the Public Review Draft CERP in additional languages, please send an email to planning@baaqmd.gov. For any other language access questions, please get in touch with the Air District Non-Discrimination Coordinator at non-discriminationcoordinator@baaqmd.gov.

¹ Bay Area Air District, Bayview Hunters Point / Southeast San Francisco Community Emissions Reduction Plan. 2026. <https://www.baaqmd.gov/en/community-health/community-health-protection-program/bayview-hunters-point-community-emissions-reduction-plan>