

Path to Clean Air Community Emissions Reduction Plan

# Year 1 Annual Report

October 01, 2025

Submitted to: California Air Resources Board

Submitted by: Bay Area Air District and the Path to Clean Air Community Steering

Committee



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#### **Executive Summary**

This annual report summarizes progress made during the first year of implementation of the <u>Path to Clean Air (PTCA) Community Emissions Reduction Plan</u> (Plan). Adopted in May 2024, the Plan was developed to reduce air pollution emissions and exposure in the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo AB 617 community. The Bay Area Air District (Air District) and the PTCA Community Steering Committee (CSC) co-developed an Implementation Plan for Year 1, which identified and prioritized actions for implementation between October 2024 and September 2025.

While the main focus of implementation has been Year 1 actions, in preparing this report the Air District collected status updates for all 139 actions in the Plan. This was accomplished by working with action implementers including Air District staff, external agencies, and the CSC. The Year 1 Annual Report summarizes key elements of implementation progress based on those updates. It is accompanied by two appendices: the PTCA Action Tracker (with status information for all actions) and an Emissions Management Report (as called for in the Plan).

As of September 2025, 91 actions are underway (i.e., In Progress' or 'Ongoing'¹), 2 actions are 'Completed', and 46 actions are 'Not Yet Started'. A total of 42 actions changed status from 'Not Yet Started' to 'In Progress' or 'Ongoing'. As part of Year 1 implementation, the Air District estimates that more than 7.3 million dollars in incentives were committed for projects benefiting the PTCA area. Emissions reductions from those projects are expected to total 36 tons of nitrogen oxides ( $NO_x$ ), 3.4 tons of reactive organic gases (ROG), and 2.7 tons of particulate matter (PM), 1.4 tons of which are toxic diesel PM.

This Year 1 Annual Report includes an assessment of accomplishments, as well as discussion of lessons learned. Several key accomplishments are highlighted from implementation:

#### Air District and CSC-led Implementation

- 1. Air District allocated \$1.3 million of upgrades in public elementary schools in Richmond and San Pablo through the School Air Filtration Program
- 2. Air District secured a decisive victory, with Chevron refinery dropping a lawsuit over Rule 6-5 (a groundbreaking health-protective rule) and agreeing to pay record-breaking penalties
- 3. Air District introduced the Targeted Inspection Program Policy to the PTCA CSC
- 4. Air District Board of Directors approved a policy to allocate money to a community benefits fund with an 80% local to 20% regionwide split
- 5. CSC established a Just Transition Standing Committee (JTSC) and a Plan of Action, and JTSC hosted a successful community workshop in July 2025
- 6. CSC identified liaisons to participate in the Air District's Refinery Technical Working Group (RTWG) focused on flaring, including joining RTWG meetings in June 2025 and August of 2025

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ongoing actions are those that are part of work being performed on an ongoing basis. They include actions with recurring reporting commitments. These actions do not necessarily have a clear start and/or end date, rather they are actions that are routinely implemented and/or maintained.

7. CSC designated liaisons to support involvement in Rule 11-18 and together the Air District and CSC outlined objectives and mechanisms for engaging in rule implementation and amendment.

#### Partner Agency-led Implementation

- 8. Contra Costa Health developed a Healthy Checkout ordinance in unincorporated Contra Costa County (including North Richmond), promoting placement of healthy food at point of sale in retail stores
- 9. Contra Costa County committed to pilot Contra Costa Thrives, a Guaranteed Basic Income program that will serve four priority groups

The Air District is submitting this report to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) following presentations to the PTCA CSC and the Air District Board of Directors Community Equity Health and Justice (CEHJ) Committee. The PTCA Action Tracker, attached as Appendix 1, satisfies CERP Annual Reporting requirements as described in the Community Air Protection Program Blueprint 2.0.

#### Introduction

#### Path to Clean Air Overview

Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617), signed in 2017, focuses on improving local air quality and health in disproportionately impacted communities. The program aims to improve community health by reducing exposure to local air pollution sources in the most impacted neighborhoods through the development of Community Emissions Reduction Plans (CERPs). The Path to Clean Air (PTCA) Community Emissions Reduction Plan (Plan) is the CERP developed to reduce air pollution emissions and exposure in the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo<sup>2</sup> area.

The area's residents live, work, and spend time near many air pollution sources, including oil refining operations, other large industrial facilities, freeways, rail yards, a marine port, and many smaller sources. Heavy industrial and goods movement activity has created a disproportionate air pollution burden for the local community, where residents are predominantly Latinx/Hispanic, Asian, and Black/African American, in part due to a history of systemic racial planning and discriminatory zoning practices. Given these environmental burdens, Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo was approved by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for the development of a CERP in September 2020.³ Co-developed by the Community Steering Committee (CSC), Air District, local governments, and other key implementation partners, the Plan was adopted by the Air District Board of Directors on May 1, 2024.

Overall, the Plan includes 139 actions that make up 31 strategies. These strategies address five community concerns—Commercial and Industrial sources, Fuel Refining, Marine and Rail, Public Health, and Mobile sources—as well as four cross-cutting issues—Compliance and Enforcement, Land Use, Properly Resourced CERP, and Urban Greening. PTCA goals aim to develop more stringent air pollution policies that address the impacts of historical racial disparities and advance social healing and restoration; lower the community's disproportionate exposure to air pollution by reducing toxic emissions; empower the community through education and engagement; and hold government accountable for implementing the Plan, protecting public health and the environment, and enforcing regulations more effectively on high-polluting industries.<sup>4</sup>

PTCA documents are available on the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo project webpage <a href="https://www.baagmd.gov/PTCA-CERP">https://www.baagmd.gov/PTCA-CERP</a>.

#### Year 1 Implementation Planning

The Plan commits the Air District and the CSC to co-create an annual implementation plan. In October 2024, the CSC finalized a <u>Year 1 Implementation Plan</u>, which identified and prioritized actions for the first year of implementation (spanning October 2024-September 2025). The implementation plan provided a roadmap for the Air District and CSC, helping action implementers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The PTCA area includes the Cities of Richmond and San Pablo and unincorporated Contra Costa County, including Bay View, East Richmond Heights, Rollingwood, Tara Hills, Montalvin Manor, North Richmond, and El Sobrante.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The PTCA Area also completed a Community Air Monitoring Plan (CAMP) starting in September 2018, which aimed to identify and further understand areas of elevated air pollution exposure in the region.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> PTCA, <u>Chapter 3: Vision, Principles, and Plan-level Goals</u>

get on the same page about priorities, expectations, and next steps, and supporting group alignment. It also served as a valuable input for determining resource needs and budget planning.

At the beginning of Year 1 implementation, the Air District assessed Plan action<sup>5</sup> status. For implementation purposes, actions in the Plan are categorized by the following factors:

- Implementation status
  - o In Progress/Started
  - o Ongoing<sup>6</sup>
  - o Completed
  - Not Yet Started
- Lead Implementer
  - Air District
  - o CSC
  - External Agency/Entity (non-Air District), including CARB, City of Richmond, City of San Pablo, Contra Costa County, Contra Costa Health (CCH), California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), and local transit operators
- CSC Priority for Engagement
  - Prioritized using the Spectrum of Public Participation<sup>7</sup> developed by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) - an international organization dedicated to advancing public participation and community engagement

The Year 1 Implementation Plan identified 55 actions for implementation: 33 actions that were 'In Progress', 16 'Ongoing' actions (being performed on an ongoing basis), and 6 actions that were 'Not Yet Started' but committed to start in Year 1, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Action Status at the beginning of Year 1 Implementation

Status	Number of Actions as of October 2024 (of 55 Actions selected for Implementation in Year 1)
In Progress	33
Ongoing	16
Completed	0
Not Yet Started	6

Additionally, in collaboration with the CSC, the Air District developed an approach to prioritize Year 1 actions. From August 2024 through January 2025, the CSC engaged in several prioritization exercises to determine priority 'In Progress' actions. A few 'Not Yet Started' actions were also selected as priorities for Year 1. For these priority actions, the CSC used the IAP2 Spectrum of Public

<sup>5</sup> For the full text and detail of each action, please reference Appendix A from PTCA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ongoing actions are those that are part of work being performed on an ongoing basis. Ongoing actions include actions with recurring reporting commitments. These actions do not necessarily have a clear start and/or end date, rather they are actions that are routinely implemented and/or maintained. Progress and updates on these actions will be shared with the CSC at regular intervals, at a frequency specified via reporting requirements outlined in each action (e.g., quarterly), and/or through the annual report on progress.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See the <u>Year 1 Implementation Plan</u> (Pages 21 and 26) for more information on the Spectrum of Public Participation

Participation to choose levels of engagement for implementation (Inform, Consult, Involve, Collaborate).

Ultimately, the CSC identified 16 priority actions they wanted to actively engage in. Table 2 displays the CSC's Year 1 priority actions, grouped by community concern thematic area or cross-cutting issue. The action status as of the beginning of Year 1 (October 2024) is also noted.

Table 2: CSC Priority Actions

Community Concern Thematic Area or Cross- Cutting Issue	Priority Actions	Level of Engagement	October 2024 Status
Commercial and Industrial Sources (3 actions)	C&I 1.1 C&I 4.4 C&I 4.5	Consult Inform Consult	In Progress (3)
	FR 2.1 FR 2.2 FR 4.1 FR 5.1	Consult Consult Involve Involve	In Progress (4)
Fuel Refining (10 actions)	FR 3.5 FR 1.1	n/a <sup>8</sup> Collaborate	Ongoing (1)
	FR 1.2 FR 2.6 FR 3.8 FR 3.9	Collaborate Consult Consult Collaborate	Not Yet Started (5)
Health (1 action)	H 2.5	Consult	In Progress (1)
Marine and Rail (1 action)	M&R 4.1	Consult	Not Yet Started (1)
Resource PTCA Plan Implementation (1 action)	R 1.2	Consult	In Progress (1)

#### Year 1 Progress

To assess implementation progress for the 139 Plan actions, the Air District collected status updates from action implementers (e.g., the Air District, Contra Costa County, the City of San Pablo, CARB, and the CSC). Action status details are collected and stored in a spreadsheet referred to as the PTCA Action Tracker.

The remainder of this Annual Report summarizes Year 1 progress, including action status updates, emission and incentives benefits, and key implementation reflections. The report is accompanied by two appendices: 1) the PTCA Action Tracker and 2) an Emissions Management Report called for in the Plan. The PTCA Action Tracker (<u>Appendix 1</u>) includes information to meet annual report requirements in accordance with CARB's Community Air Protection Program Blueprint 2.0.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> FR 3.5 was redesignated as Ongoing, moving into a state of maintenance. Thus, a level of engagement was not specified for the action

#### **Progress Updates**

This section describes the status of Plan actions as of the end of September 2025, after the first year of implementation. A summary of Year 1 progress is as follows:

- Status overview of all 139 actions (as of September 2025):
  - o In Progress: 69
  - o Ongoing: 22
  - o Completed: 2
  - Not Yet Started: 46
- Of the 16 actions identified as CSC priority for engagement in Year 1:
  - o In Progress: 15
  - o Ongoing: 1
  - o Completed: 0
  - o Not Yet Started: 0

Thirty-six (36) actions changed status from 'Not Yet Started' to 'In Progress' in Year 1, more than doubling the total number of 'In Progress' actions. Additionally, six more actions were identified as Ongoing, bringing the total to 22. Overall, two-thirds of the actions (91 of 139) in the Plan are started, ongoing, or completed. This can be seen in Table 3 below, which compares action status from the start of Year 1 implementation (October 2024) to the end (September 2025).

Table 3: Summary of Year 1 Action Status Progress

Status	Number of Actions as of October 2024	Number of Actions as of September 2025
In Progress	33	69
Ongoing	16	22
Completed	o	2
Not Yet Started	90	46

With respect to the CSC's priority actions, all 16 actions are now 'In Progress' or 'Ongoing'. Six actions moved from 'Not Yet Started' to 'In Progress' in Year 1, five of which were a part of the Fuel Refining Community Concern Thematic Area, a top focus in the PTCA. This included implementation of two CSC-led priority actions (FR 1.1 and 1.2), as well as action FR 3.9. More information on these actions can be found in the PTCA Action Tracker and in the Key Accomplishments section of this report.

Table 4 below shows the current status of Year 1 actions by community concern, thematic area or cross-cutting issue. Action counts are provided, and priority actions are indicated using an asterisk (\*).

Table 4: Year 1 Action Count and Status, by Community Concern Thematic Area or Cross-cutting Issue

Community Concern Thematic Area or Cross-Cutting Issue	Status (as of September 2025)	Actions (*indicates priority)
Commercial and Industrial Sources	In Progress (9)	C&I 1.1*, 1.2, 2.1, 2.3, 4.1, 4.4*, 4.5*, 4.6, 5.3
	Ongoing (1)	C&I 2.2
(20 actions)	Not Yet Started (10)	C&I 1.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4
Compliance and Enforcement (3 actions)	In Progress (3)	C&E 1.1, 1.2, 1.3
	In Progress (22)	FR 1.1*, 1.2*, 2.1*, 2.2*, 2.4, 2.6*, 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.6, 3.8*, 3.9*, 3.10, 3.13, 3.14, 3.15, 4.1*, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1*, 5.2, 5.4
Fuel Refining	Ongoing (7)	FR 2.3, 3.11, 3.12, 3.3, 3.5 <sup>*</sup> , 3.7, 4.4
(34 actions)	Completed (1)	FR 2.5
	Not Yet Started (4)	FR 4.5, 5.3, 5.5, 5.6
Health	In Progress (13)	H 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.4, 2.5*, 2.6, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2, 6.2
(22 actions)	Ongoing (2)	H 2.2, H 6.3
	Not Yet Started (7)	H 1.3, 1.4, 2.3, 3.1, 3.2, 5.3, 6.3
Land Use	In Progress (4)	LU 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5
(5 actions)	Ongoing (1)	LU 1.1
	In Progress (8)	M&R 1.3, 2,3, 2.6, 3.3, 4.1*, 4.3, 5.1, 5.3
Marine and Rail	Ongoing (6)	M&R 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.2
(27 actions)	Not Yet Started (13)	M&R 1.2, 1.4, 1.5, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 3.4, 3.5, 4.4, 4.5, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6
Vehicles and Trucks,	In Progress (7)	Mobile 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 4.2, 5.2, 6.3
Streets and Freeways, Logistics and	Ongoing (3)	Mobile 2.4, 5.3, 6.1
Warehouses (Mobile) (20 actions)	Not Yet Started (10)	Mobile 1.1, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 3.2, 4.1, 4.3, 5.1, 6.2, 6.4
Resource PTCA Plan	In Progress (1)	R 1.4
Implementation	Ongoing (2)	R 1.2*, 1.3
(4 actions)	Completed (1)	R 1.1
Urban Greening	In Progress (2)	UG 1.3, 1.4
(4 actions)	Not Yet Started (2)	UG 1.1, 1.2

#### **Emission Benefits and Incentive Funding**

Year 1 implementation has also led to emission benefits and incentives funding invested in the PTCA area. Almost \$7.3 million in incentives were committed during Year 1 implementation: \$1.3

million associated with the School Air Filtration Program and \$6 million associated with emission reduction projects summarized below.

A total of 103 emission-reduction projects were funded in the PTCA area, in alignment and in support of various Plan actions:

- 17 emission-reduction projects switching industrial, cargo-handling, construction, and marine equipment to cleaner alternatives, including 10 that will go electric (M&R 3.3, 4.3, 5.3, and Mobile 5.2)
  - o 2 engine replacements for a commercial fishing vessel
  - 6 cargo handling projects at the Port (5 cargo handling equipment replacements and
     1 supporting charging infrastructure installation)
  - o 9 industrial and construction equipment replacements in Richmond
- 83 emission-reduction projects to permanently remove older light-duty cars and trucks from operation (Mobile 5.3)
  - 58 grants to income-qualified owners to scrap and replace their vehicle with a cleaner vehicle or mobility option
  - o 25 grants solely to retire a vehicle (without replacement)
- 2 grants to residents to replace their wood-burning stoves with electric heat pumps (H 2.5.2)
- An increase in funding towards a previously contracted project to install ocean-going vessel shore power at the Port of Richmond (M&R 2.3)

These projects will reduce 42 tons of pollution<sup>9</sup>. This total includes 35.9 tons of nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>); 3.4 tons of reactive organic gases (ROG); and 2.7 tons of particulate matter (PM, comprised of both PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>), 1.4 tons of which is diesel particulate matter (DPM).

Note that the following factors were used to calculate emission benefits and incentive funding:

- Timeline: May 2024 (Plan adoption) June 2025 (Fiscal Year End (FYE) 2025)
- Geography: PTCA area. For projects with benefits spanning a larger geography than the PTCA, incentives dollars allocated and emission reductions were both adjusted proportionally.
- Emission reductions: Emission reductions for a project are calculated as follows. The emission rate for a newer, cleaner piece of equipment is subtracted from the emission rate for an older, dirtier piece of equipment. This difference is then multiplied by the average number of hours that the equipment operates each year. The overall reduction in emissions is typically expressed in tons of pollution per year. Total reductions are those estimated to be achieved across the lifetime of the project. The length of a project life for a given project (e.g., years) is based on the grant program the project was contracted under.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> For context, a number of adverse health impacts have been associated with exposure to both PM10 and PM 2.5. Fine particulate matter (PM2.5) can travel deep into the lungs and bloodstream, where they cause or contribute short-term health effects like bronchitis and asthma attacks, and long-term effects like heart disease and respiratory conditions like emphysema. Additionally, the portion of PM that is diesel particulate matter is of particular health concern because of its toxicity. Chapter 5 of the Plan describes pollutants and impacts in more detail,

#### Additional Reporting Called for in the Plan

Several parts of the Plan call for certain information to be provided to the CSC on a regular basis and/or reflected in the Annual Report. This section includes that additional reporting: specifically, summaries of compliance, enforcement, and legal activities - in support of Actions C&E 1.3 and FR 3.7 in Chapter 7 - and a summary of the Emissions Management Report called for in Chapter 9.

#### Summaries of Compliance, Enforcement, and Legal Updates

Action C&E 1.3 calls for the Air District to update the CSC regularly with respect to the compliance status of facilities identified as community concerns, and to capture that as part of annual reporting. Action FR 3.7 calls for the Air District to provide quarterly and annual updates to the CSC about penalties assessed against fuel refining sector facilities and other sources in the PTCA.

Throughout Year 1 Implementation, the Air District shared updates on these topics with the CSC. This included a report-out presented by Compliance & Enforcement staff at the March 2025 CSC meeting, an annual report-out presentation by Legal staff at the May 2025 CSC meeting, and a quarterly written report-out by Legal that was shared with the CSC in September 2025. Information from the March and May presentations to the CSC is captured in this section of the Year 1 Annual Report.

Compliance and Enforcement data presented to the CSC in March 2025 illustrates the following categories of data for calendar years 2022-2024<sup>10</sup>:

- Complaints investigated (aggregated for calendar years 2022-2024)
  - Complaint counts and type for odors, woodsmoke, illegal fires, dust, and other (non-specified)
  - o Alleged source of complaint
- Violations (by calendar year for 2022-2024)
  - Highlighting facilities with 3+ Notices of Violation (NOVs) issued<sup>11</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Note: Data shown is provided through 2024, as complaint and NOV data in Figures 1-3 is presented by calendar year. Data for 2025 will thus be reported out as part of the Year 2 Annual Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Note: Multiple violations may be cited on one Notice of Violation. For the purposes of this report, each individual violation is included in the data.

#### PTCA Complaint Type (2022 - 2024)

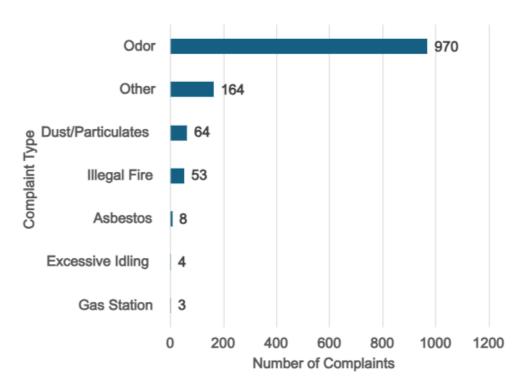


Figure 1: PTCA Complaint Type (2022-2024)

#### PTCA Alleged Source of Complaint (2022-2024)

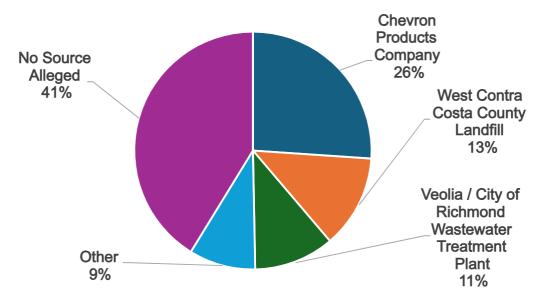


Figure 2: Alleged Source of Complaint (2022-2024)

#### PTCA Facilities with 3+ NOVs within a 3-year period (2022 - 2024)

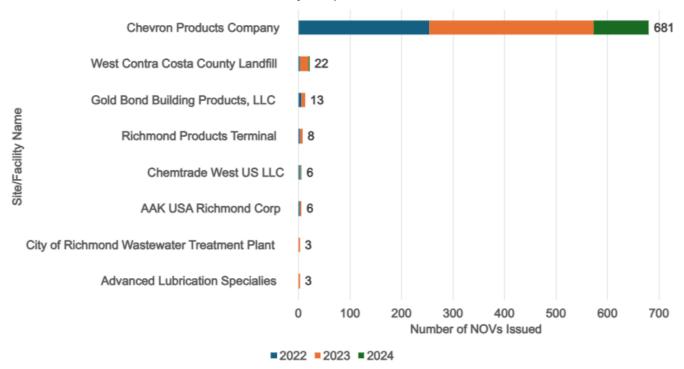


Figure 3: Facilities with 3+ NOVs within a 3-year period (2022 - 2024)

Legal report-outs from Year 1 include an annual presentation covering Significant Enforcement Cases in the PTCA Area (spanning 2024-May 2025) and a written quarterly report covering the following quarter (through August 2025). Information from quarterly reports will be captured in each year's annual presentation. Figure 4 from the Legal Division's May 2025 annual report-out presentation is a map showing the various facilities covered, including Chevron Refinery, AAK USA Richmond, West Contra Costa Sanitary Landfill, Advanced Lubrication Specialties, Kinder Morgan

Richmond Terminal, Veolia Richmond Wastewater Treatment Plan, and Gold Bond Building Products.

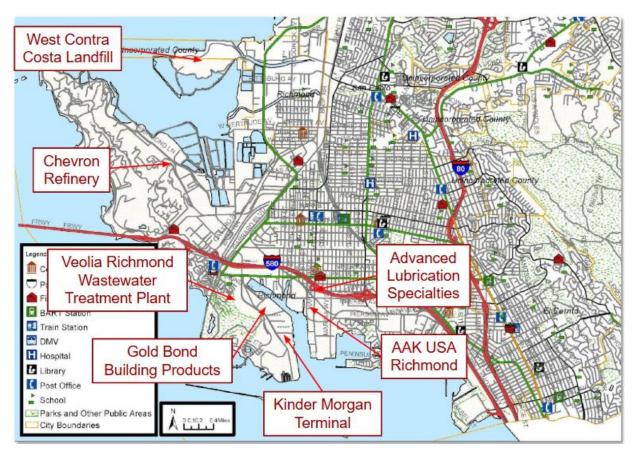


Figure 4: Significant Enforcement Cases in PTCA Area 2024-2025

#### **Summary of Emissions Management Report**

An additional report called for in the Plan (Chapter 9) is an annual Emissions Management Report. The Emissions Management Report is intended to enhance transparency and improve the quality of emissions data for Title V facilities, helping track progress toward emission reduction goals over time. This report builds on information presented in Path to Clean Air Plan Appendix C:

Supplemental Technical Information – Emissions and Modeling (published December 2023), which summarized the 2021 base year emissions inventory for the Chevron Refinery. The current report updates that analysis by comparing 2021 criteria air pollutant emissions data with the most recent inventory from 2023. It also discusses a process to revise the toxic emissions baseline inventory to improve accuracy. A comparison of 2021 and 2023 emissions for other major facilities subject to Title V requirements in the PTCA area is provided as well. These facilities include Chemtrade West, West Contra Costa County Landfill, and Richmond Products Terminal.

See Appendix 2 for the Emissions Management Report.

## Reflections: Key Accomplishments, Lessons Learned. and Opportunities

Reflecting on Year 1 implementation includes assessment of key accomplishments, as well as lessons learned, challenges, and opportunities. The following reflections were informed by the action status collection process, as well as discussions with the CSC.

#### **Key Accomplishments**

The CSC, Air District, and agency implementers identified the following key accomplishments for Year 1. Some key accomplishments are associated with priority actions the CSC actively engaged on throughout Year 1, while others are actions that external implementers moved forward. Together, these accomplishments highlight important progress on Plan actions. Please see <a href="Appendix1">Appendix 1</a>: PTCA Action Tracker for detailed information about the status of each action.

#### Air District and CSC-led Implementation

1. Air District allocated \$1.3 million of upgrades in public elementary schools in Richmond and San Pablo through the School Air Filtration Program

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Public Health and Reducing Exposure
Strategy:	Strategy 4: Promote Resilience Centers
Related Action(s):	Action H 4.2: Ensure resources for high-efficiency air filtration unit distribution and installation programs and support for partnerships to benefit vulnerable populations and places
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>The Air District's School Air Filtration Program secured Board approval to allocate \$4,000,000 of Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives funding to support Home and School Air Filtration Programs. Of the total funds, \$3,000,000 is allocated to school air filtration with about \$1.3 million allocated to elementary schools in Richmond and San Pablo. The Air District is working with the West Contra Costa Unified School District to gather information on eligible school sites. Next, the Air District will gather new quotes and assessments. Implementation of the projects is expected in Fall 2025.</li> <li>The school air filtration projects are aligned with the strategy objective of ensuring that all residents in the PTCA area have access to a Resilience Center that provides indoor air filtration, has programming to meet community members' needs, and is sustainably funded.</li> <li>In the Fall of 2024, Air District staff worked with CSC Leads to review a list of public elementary schools in the Path to Clean Air Area and prioritize additional public schools in the West Contra Costa Unified School District that could potentially receive Air Filtration upgrades in the future. The Leads reviewed the list of public schools, adding to the list to make</li> </ul>

sure that no school was overlooked. They also shared information on schools listed, helping expand on the criteria the Air District used to identify the schools (ranging from enrollment, school size, free and reduce lunch eligibility, distance from freeway, life expectancy, school size, and PM 2.5 data). For example, conversations with the Leads highlighted the proximity of certain schools to stationary polluting facilities, as well as revealed that one school had closed due to environmental hazards. These conversations were critical for staff to refine and update the lists of schools and begin to have conversations with school officials.

2. Air District secured a decisive victory, with Chevron refinery dropping a lawsuit over Rule 6-5 (a groundbreaking health-protective rule) and agreeing to pay record-breaking penalties

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Fuel Refining	
Strategy:	Strategy 5: Reduce Exposure and Public Health Impacts from Particulate Matter and Other Criteria Air Pollutants Emitted by the Fuel Refining Sector	
Related Action(s):	Action FR 5.1: Implement Rule 6-5. Air District to engage in negotiations to resolve litigation and implement Rule 6-5 such that compliance occurs by the originally adopted timeline specified in the Rule.	
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>On February 13, 2024, the Air District announced¹² that it reached two separate agreements with Chevron and Martinez Refining Company, resulting in an end to the litigation against the agency over its groundbreaking Regulation 6, Rule 5 (Rule 6-5), major emissions reductions from both refineries, unprecedented penalties and other payments of up to \$138 million, and a Richmond-area Community Air Quality Fund, among other benefits.</li> <li>Rule 6-5 will reduce fine particulate matter emissions and exposure. The Air District estimates that the emission reductions achieved by the rule will result in tens of millions of dollars per year in health benefits within the Air District's jurisdiction, including for communities living near refineries¹³, by reducing early deaths and other health impacts of exposure to particulate matter.</li> <li>Chevron will comply with the rule by installing a Wet Gas Scrubber. The City of Richmond is currently evaluating a Conditional Use Permit application for the Wet Gas Scrubber project, and the Air District is working on the air permit. When the</li> </ul>	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Press Release: <a href="https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/files/communications-and-outreach/publications/news-releases/2024/021324\_announcement.pdf?rev=91161901e1c349ea9e0f28172cd91c40">https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/files/communications-and-outreach/publications/news-releases/2024/021324\_announcement.pdf?rev=91161901e1c349ea9e0f28172cd91c40</a>

<sup>13</sup> Total health benefits for the rule were calculated for the region, and thus numbers are not specific to the PTCA area

permitting is complete, Chevron will begin construction of the
equipment, which is expected to take up to two years.

#### 3. Air District introduced the Targeted Inspection Program Policy to the PTCA CSC

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Compliance and Enforcement
Strategy:	Strategy 1: Compliance and Enforcement
Related Action(s):	Action C&E 1.2: Conduct targeted investigations of facilities of community concern (i.e., facilities identified and prioritized using community concern and AB617 data).
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>The Targeted Inspection Program aims to modernize the Air District Compliance and Enforcement inspection program by utilizing comprehensive data analyses and community input to better identify compliance issues, prioritize inspections, and target enforcement resources.</li> <li>Launch of the program is planned for Fall 2025 in PTCA after evaluation of a summer 2025 pilot in the Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco AB 617 community.</li> <li>An initial introduction to the Targeted Inspection Program was given at the March 2025 CSC meeting. Feedback from that presentation helped to shape the pilot, specifically to incorporate emissions toxicity. CSC also shared the importance of outreach and centering community as part of the process.</li> <li>As part of the August CSC meeting, a presentation was given on the progress of the pilot program.</li> </ul>

## 4. Air District Board of Directors approved a policy to allocate money to a community benefits fund with an 80% local to 20% regionwide split.

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Fuel Refining
Strategy:	Strategy 3: Hold Chevron and Other Emitters Accountable for Reducing Pollution and Negative Public Health Impacts from their Operations

Related Action(s):	*Action FR 3.9: First, Air District will partner with the CSC to develop, within 1 year of PTCA Plan adoption, a Community Benefits Policy (CBP) that invests up to 100% of penalty monies from the fuel refining sector back into the PTCA area. Then, Air District will partner with the CSC to expand the Fuel Refining Community Benefits Policy (CBP) to cover the full PTCA area.  *Language of Action FR 3.9 is different from the policy to allocate money to a community benefits fund that was approved by the Board of Directors on May 1, 2024. See PTCA CSC meeting slides <sup>14</sup> from June 2025 for more information.
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>In May 2024, the Air District Board of Directors approved a policy to allocate money to a community benefits fund via an 80% local to 20% regionwide split.</li> <li>This action is a CSC-led action and a top priority chosen by the CSC in Fall 2024.</li> <li>The June 2025 CSC meeting included a presentation<sup>14</sup> on the Air District's Community Investments Office (CIO), including a timeline of actions with respect to funding community benefits from penalty funds.</li> </ul>

## 5. CSC established a Just Transition Standing Committee (JTSC) and a Plan of Action, and JTSC hosted a successful community workshop in July 2025

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Fuel Refining
Strategy:	Strategy 1: Move Towards a Just Transition
Related Action(s):	Action FR 1.1: Educate the CSC and Air District on how Just Transition would apply to the Zero Emission Future and a managed phase-down of fossil fuels in the PTCA area. The CSC will establish a Just Transition [Standing] Committee (JTSC) as part of Path to Clean Air Plan Implementation by Q2 2024.
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>This action is a CSC-led action and a top priority chosen by the CSC in Fall 2024.</li> <li>In Spring 2025, a Just Transition Standing Committee (JTSC) was convened. The CSC formed the JTSC and approved a Plan of Action in accordance with the Year 1 Implementation Plan.</li> <li>In July 2025, the JTSC hosted an educational workshop, which took place in person as well as virtually. Over 50 community participants attended, representing residents, labor unions, elected officials, and local nonprofits, as well as Air District staff and CSC members.</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Slides available at https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/files/ab617-community-health/richmond/2025/06232025-meeting-files/june-23-2025-csc-presentation-pdf.pdf?rev=9cca688f9b63461c8b37dd9fbd387024&sc\_lang=en

<ul> <li>At the workshop, a list of Just Transition Principles drafted by the JTSC was discussed in order to collect feedback from the community.</li> </ul>
The Just Transition workshop was a meaningful accomplishment because "just transition education and develop[ment of] vision & principles will be the foundation for CSC & Air District approach to PTCA Plan implementation, and continue to guide the work long-term through Air District processes even post-CSC activities" – CSC Member

## 6. CSC identified liaisons to participate in the Air District's Refinery Technical Working Group (RTWG) focused on flaring, including joining RTWG meetings in June 2025 and August of 2025

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Fuel Refining
Strategy:	Strategy 2: Reduce Persistent Flaring and Improve Incident Response
Related Action(s):	Action FR 2.6: Air District will initiate a rule development effort, further evaluating potential updates to flaring rules (Rule 12-11 and Rule 12-12), by the end of 2024. Rule development efforts will aim to incorporate health impacts analyses, enhance rule enforceability, and establish new and/or more stringent limits. Health and Safety Code requirements will be satisfied as well.
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>To support ongoing and upcoming rule development on regulations affecting refinery sources, the Air District initiated the Refinery Technical Working Group (RTWG)<sup>15</sup>. The purpose of the RTWG includes the following:         <ul> <li>Act as a forum for air-quality related matters at refineries and in refinery communities.</li> <li>Function to solicit stakeholder inputs on refinery-related rules such as Rule 12-11: Flare Monitoring at Refineries, Rule 12-12: Flares at Refineries, and Rule 12-15: Refining Emissions Tracking Rule</li> <li>Support discussion of technical aspects related to these rules</li> <li>Build a shared understanding of refinery flaring and related rules</li> </ul> </li> <li>The RTWG is composed of Air District staff, refinery representatives, community members, local government staff, advocacy group representatives, and other members to gather information and opinions from stakeholders on a variety of topics related to refinery rulemaking.         <ul> <li>Two CSC Liaisons from the PTCA CSC were identified to participate as members of the RTWG. Both attended the kickoff meeting in June 2025, as well as the second meeting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> RTWG webpage: https://www.baaqmd.gov/en/rules-and-compliance/rule-development/refinery-twg

in August 2025, and are eager to engage in the process and represent the PTCA

# 7. CSC designated liaisons to support its involvement in Rule 11-18 and together the Air District and CSC outlined objectives and mechanisms for engaging in rule implementation and amendment

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Fuel Refining
Strategy:	Strategy 4: Reduce Exposure and Public Health Impacts from Toxic Air Contaminants Emitted by the fuel Refining Sector
Related Action(s):	Action FR 4.1: Amend Rule 11-18 to improve stringency, efficiency, transparency, and public engagement.
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>In 2024, the CSC identified liaisons to support CSC involvement regarding Rule 11-18.</li> <li>In 2025, CSC meetings kicked off with Rule 11-18 and risk reduction as a top focus. In January, the monthly CSC meeting covered an overview of the rule and dialogue on the Settlement Agreement the Air District entered with Communities for a Better Environment. The agenda item concluded with a group discussion with the objective of building a solid foundational understanding of Rule 11-18 within the CSC.</li> <li>In February 2025, discussion of Rule 11-18 continued, covering updates on PTCA actions focused on rule implementation and rule amendments. Air District staff presented an update on the implementation statuses of Rule 11-18 facilities in the PTCA area. This was followed by an overview of rule implementation improvements, including transparency improvements and rule amendment concepts that could help implement risk reductions sooner and improve program efficiency.</li> <li>February's meeting concluded with a CSC discussion on what engagement on Rule 11-18 looks like.</li> <li>Following this series of fruitful conversations, Air District staff distilled the CSC's desires into two objectives and developed a set of Engagement Recommendations intended to support the Air District in delivering on said objectives. A list of accompanying materials was produced as well, including resources, links and answers to CSC questions.</li> <li>Air District staff and the CSC have begun implementing items from the Engagement Recommendations</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Press Release: https://www.baaqmd.gov/~/media/files/communications-and-outreach/publications/news-releases/2023/2023\_022\_cbesettlement\_090423-pdf.pdf?rev=ac0ee6g06bbb451bg16dafeb56bg9g7b&sc\_lang=en

#### Partner Agency-led Implementation

Partner agencies noted achievements in their work that were linked with PTCA strategies and actions. Two key accomplishments are highlighted. Note: as these actions were not among those selected as CSC priorities for Year 1, the Air District and the CSC did not actively participate in their implementation. This may change moving forward based on implementation planning.

### 8. Contra Costa Health developed a Healthy Checkout ordinance, promoting placement of healthy food at point of sale in retail stores

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Health
Strategy:	Strategy 3: Promote Healthy Food Access
Related Action(s):	Action H 3.4: Develop a Healthy Food Retail Model Ordinance for potential adoption by local jurisdictions in the PTCA area.
Progress and Significance:	<ul> <li>In November 2024, following the recommendation of Contra Costa Health (CCH), the County Board of Supervisors directed CCH to draft a county ordinance to promote the placement of healthy food at the point of sale in retail stores larger than 2,000 sq. ft. in unincorporated Contra Costa.</li> <li>As of June 2025, the Family and Human Services (FHS) committee has received a presentation from CCH staff regarding the updates to the Healthy Checkout ordinance. The committee requested additional information and a meeting to discuss the scope of the ordinance further.</li> <li>This action helps "reduce vulnerability of our most affected population by addressing social determinants of health and in turn reducing air pollution exposures." – CSC Member</li> </ul>

## 9. Contra Costa County to pilot Contra Costa Thrives: A Guaranteed Basic Income program that will serve four priority groups

Community Concern Thematic Area:	Health
Strategy:	Strategy 1: Increase Health Resilience and Improve Social Determinants of Health
Related Action(s):	Action H 1.1: Promote and advocate for a guaranteed income pilot for low-income CERP residents.

# Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services (EHSD) has made noteworthy progress on this action. In October 2024, the County Board of Supervisors approved an action to pilot a county-funded guaranteed-income program. Subsequently, EHSD convened a workgroup of subject matter experts to develop the guaranteed income (GI) program design and plan for the launch of the program. The workgroup identified specific target populations, established eligibility criteria and selection methods, outlined the integration of existing case management and other support services, proposed potential metrics for evaluating the pilot's effectiveness, and collected community input.

#### On July 8, 2025, EHSD's proposed program design was approved by the Board of Supervisors (BOS). The full plan is attached to the 6/24/25 BOS agenda, Discussion Item D.6.<sup>17</sup>

#### • The Contra Costa Thrives Guaranteed Basic Income (GBI) Program is a county-led initiative providing consistent, unconditional monthly cash payments to approximately 170 vulnerable Contra Costa residents to reduce financial instability and offer immediate economic support. Shaped by national research, local data, and extensive input from community stakeholders and subject matter experts, the program will serve four priority groups:

- 1. Foster youth (19-21) in Independent Living Skills case management
- 2. Young parents (18-26) with children under six engaged in CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work or Cal-Learn
- 3. Individuals on probation returning to the community after incarceration
- 4. Low-income, housing-insecure older adults receiving APS
- Participants will receive \$18,000 over 12 or 18 months. Multiple payment delivery options will be offered to meet participant preferences. EHSD began the implementation planning phase of Contra Costa Thrives in July 2025, with first payment expected to be issued in early 2026.
- This felt "meaningful and important to me because it prioritizes some of the most vulnerable communities, including youth and low-income residents" CSC Member

#### **Lessons Learned and Opportunities**

This report is the beginning of a broader reflection on the implementation of the Plan. In addition to identifying successes and key accomplishments, it is important to assess challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned. Insights gained through Year 1 will inform future implementation, helping to refine approaches and ensure that the PTCA remains responsive to community needs and priorities.

**Progress and** 

Significance:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> https://urldefense.com/v3/\_https://contra-costa.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=A&ID=1263109&GUID=85D1D8C1-B187-4B5D-BE4D-825726E05CD0\_:!!LFxATBw!DmM9Q\_rNgl6kxxImMfkaxZJgYcARselMSWtfTGVAcdzZ4oe0DZ6imcNfew8DZof77OyDTu-kOWgRVWNNiufSVFg\$

In August 2025, the CSC participated in a retrospective on the implementation process, utilizing a Rose-Thorn-Bud model<sup>18</sup>. Challenges and opportunities spanned various themes, including collaboration, communication, and engagement.

Lessons learned will be actively incorporated into ongoing discussions and decision-making, supporting continuous improvement and a collaborative path forward. These reflections will serve as a foundation for continued dialogue between the CSC and the Air District related to planning for Year 2 implementation.

#### **Next Steps**

Continued collaboration between the Air District, the CSC, and partner agencies has made Year 1 implementation progress possible. Year 1 updates show advancement of actions identified as priorities by the CSC.

Next steps include the co-creation of the next Implementation Plan for PTCA, which will guide priorities for Year 2 implementation. Year 2 will be informed by the CSC and the Air District's reflections and lessons learned during Year 1, including successes, challenges, and opportunities for growth and improvement, which may result in modifying the approach to implementation, as needed.

#### **Appendices**

- Appendix 1 PTCA Action Tracker
  - o Appendix 1A PTCA Action Tracker Action Status Updates
  - o Appendix 1B Emission Benefits and Incentives
- Appendix 2 PTCA Emissions Management Report