



Second Public Hearing on Proposed Fee Regulation Amendments and Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget

Board of Directors Meeting Public Hearing
June 4, 2025

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Deputy Executive Officer of Finance and Administration
Stephanie Osaze, Director of Finance
Fred Tanaka, Engineering Manager

Presentation Outline

- Background
- Overview of the Proposed Budget
 - Ongoing and New Investments
 - Budget Resolution Action
 - Staffing Overview
 - Additional Pension Funding
 - Assembly Bill (AB) 2561: Status of Vacancies, Recruitments & Retention Efforts

Presentation Outline (cont.)

- Proposed Amendments to Regulation 3 Fees
 - Proposed Fee Amendments
 - Cost Recovery Trends
 - Overview of Public Comments
- Fee Amendment Resolution Action

Background

Description	Date
Finance and Administration Committee briefing – Cost Recovery Strategy	December 18, 2024
Public workshop for Fee Regulation amendments	February 14, 2025
Written workshop comments on Fee Regulation due	March 17, 2025
Finance and Administration Committee briefing	March 19, 2025
Community Workshop on the Budget and Fee Regulation	April 10, 2025
Public hearing on budget & Fee Regulation to receive testimony	May 7, 2025
Written public hearing comments on proposed Fee Regulation due	May 16, 2025
Public hearing to consider adoption of budget and amendments to 16 fee schedules	June 4, 2025
Budget and fee amendments to 16 fee schedules effective, if adopted	July 1, 2025
Public hearing to consider adoption of amendments to 2 fee schedules	July 2, 2025



Background (cont.)

On December 18, 2024, Finance and Administration Committee was provided options on the cost recovery strategy.

March 19, 2025 - Finance and Administration Committee discussed the proposed fee regulation amendments and budget and referred to the full Board of Directors (Board) for consideration.

Background (cont.)

The Board is required to conduct two public hearings for public review and testimony. The Board held the first public hearing on May 7, 2025, and provide opportunity for public comments.

At today's public hearing, the Board will consider approving resolutions to adopt the fee amendment, including 16 fee schedules, and the budget.

On July 2, 2025, the Board consider approving a resolution to adopt the fee amendment, including the remaining 2 fee schedules.

Budget Summary-Ongoing Investments

\$312 million (M) Consolidated Budget, includes \$165M General Fund Budget

Ongoing investments from reserves (approved in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-2025) include:

- \$1.8M staffing investment to support 8 FTE, reduction of \$1.4M from the initial 14 FTE requested in FY 2024-2025 budget
- \$1.5M from designated Schedule X reserves to support the Refinery Community Air Monitoring Program
- \$600 thousand (K) transfer from Limited Term Contract Employee (LTCE) staffing reserve designation to support existing 3 LTCE positions

Budget Summary- New Investments

New investment from reserves includes:

- \$8.4M for one-time services and capital costs
- \$800K from LTCE staffing designation to support 4 new LTCE positions

8% Vacancy Savings

2% Estimated increase to support employee salaries and benefits

Continued discretionary contributions to prefund Pension Trust

Air District Staffing Overview

The 23 new FTE and 6 LTCE positions are supported by:

- AB 617 Implementation Grant Funds - 5 FTEs
- Up to 9% administrative costs from the Community Benefit Funds allocation - 5 FTEs
- An increase in the Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentive Program administrative limit from 6.25% to 12.5% - 7 FTEs
- Shifting of professional services to support staffing & efficiency - 4 FTEs
- Additional cost savings to support 4 FTEs
- Facility funded pilot program to support 2 LTCEs
- Additional investment to the LTCE Designation Reserves to support 4 new LTCEs

General Fund Reserve Policy

- Last year, the Finance and Administration Committee recommended, and the Board formally adopted a policy on May 1, 2024
- Policy established a range for reserves based on an analysis of the types of risks
- Reserve policy range is 25% - 35% of the General Fund operating Budget
- FY 2025-2026 proposed economic contingency reserve remains at the 25% minimum amount, similar to this year

FY 2026 Proposed Budget: Previously Proposed General Fund Reserve Designations

General Fund Reserves (In Millions)	
	FY 2025-2026
Projected Reserves Balance (June 30, 2025)	101.4
Contingency Designations*:	
Assembly Bill 617 Staffing Contingency	9
Economic Contingency (25% of Budget)	40.2
Federal Grant Contingency	7.7
Litigation Support Contingency	3.7
	60.6
Long -Term Commitment Designations*:	
Community Benefits	3
Limited Term Contract Employee (LTCE) Staffing	2.9
Schedule X - Capital	1.1
Schedule X - Operating	4
Technology Implementation Office	2.9
	13.9
Other Designations *	
Appliance Rule Outreach	2.5
Building Improvements (Headquarters East & West)	3
Incident Monitoring Program	1
One-Time Professional Services	2
Prefund Pension Trust	4
Wildfire Mitigation	0.3
Woodsmoke (Enforcement)	0.5
Woodsmoke Program (Strategic Incentives)	0.5
	13.8

General Fund Reserves (In Millions)	
	FY 2025-2026
Use of Reserves to Balance the FY 2026 Budget:	
<i>Ongoing Investments:</i>	
Short Term Staffing Investment (8 from 14)	1.8
3 Limited Term Contract Employee (LTCE) Staffing	0.6
Schedule X Capital and Operating costs	1.5
	3.9
<i>New Investments:</i>	
4 Limited Term Contract Employee (LTCE) Staffing	0.8
One-time capital & service cost	8.4
	9.2
AVAILABLE GENERAL FUND RESERVES	0.0
COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND - ADMIN PORTION	
	FY 2025-2026
Available funding (9%)	9.5
Staffing cost for 5 FTE and 3 LTCE	2.2
Service cost	1.1
	3.3
ENDING BALANCE	6.2

*Designations are subject to change at Board of Directors discretion.

Following discussion by the Finance and Administration Committee, Staff is proposing a \$4M allocation from Reserves to increase the discretionary contribution to the Pension Trust.

Board Feedback: Request to Increase Pension Funding

- **Current Funded Status:** 77% (per latest actuarial valuation)
- **Board's Discussion:** Increase funding level to 80%
- **Total Proposed Discretionary Contribution:** \$15M
 - \$9M previously proposed in the budget
 - \$6M additional amount needed to reach 80% funding level
- **Staff Recommendation:** Transfer \$6M from Federal Contingency Reserve, leaving \$1.7M
- Staff will propose alternative options if Federal Contingency Reserve needs exceed the \$1.7M

Proposed General Fund Reserve Designations with Increased Contributions to Pension Trust

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Building Improvements (Headquarters East & West)	3
Incident Monitoring Program	1
One-Time Professional Services	2
Prefund Pension Trust	10
Wildfire Mitigation	0.3
Woodsmoke (Enforcement)	0.5
Woodsmoke Program (Strategic Incentives)	0.5
	<u>19.8</u>

General Fund Reserves (In Millions)	
	FY 2025-2026
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Following discussion by the Board, Staff is proposing a \$10M allocation from Reserves to increase the discretionary contribution to the Pension Trust to meet 80% funded level based on the most recent valuation

Summary of Budget Resolution Actions

- Carry forward encumbrances and appropriations
- Transfer unencumbered funds to undesignated reserves
- Define use of operating surplus
- Approve reserve designations modifications and funding amounts
- Authorize budget transfers between specified accounts
- Authorize certain disposal of assets
- Approve salary schedule and benefits
- Approve funding to the Pension Prefund Trust (\$15M)
- Adopt the FY 2025-26 Proposed Budget (\$312M)

Assembly Bill 2561: Key Provisions

- Public agencies must present the status of vacancies and recruitment/retention efforts at a public hearing at least once per fiscal year
- Agencies must provide employee organizations with an opportunity to participate in these public hearings
- AB 2561 adds Government Code Section 3502.3 to the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (MMBA), imposing new obligations on public agencies related to tracking and presenting information on job vacancies

Vacancy Summary (as of March 31, 2025)

Employee Group	Budgeted FTE	Filled Positions	Open Positions	Vacancy Rate (Open/Budgeted FTE)
Total	500	442	58	11.60%
EA Represented	389	341	48	12.33%
Management and Confidential	111	101	10	9%

Overall Recruitment Statistics:

4/1/2024 to 3/31/2025	EA REPRESENTED	MGMT & CONF	Total
Position Filled	36	9	45
Filled by Promotion	26	4	30
Recruitments Initiated*	55	19	74
Source of Vacancies			
Fy 24/25 Budget-Created Vacancies	24	4	28
Separations (all inclusive)	17	4	21

*NOTE: Additional 13 recruitments initiated to hire for multiple LTCE, Temp & Intern positions

Overall Recruitment Efforts

Vacancy Tracking

- Vacancy rates tracked on a bi-weekly position control report.

Opportunities

- Engineers and IT positions – targeted recruitments to better compete with private sector
- Identify and implement efficiencies in the recruitment and selection process to mitigate risk of losing candidates due to length and complexity of current process
- Expand Internship and Fellowship program, improving the pipeline of employment into Air District

Overall Recruitment Efforts (cont.)

Current Efforts on recruitment and retention

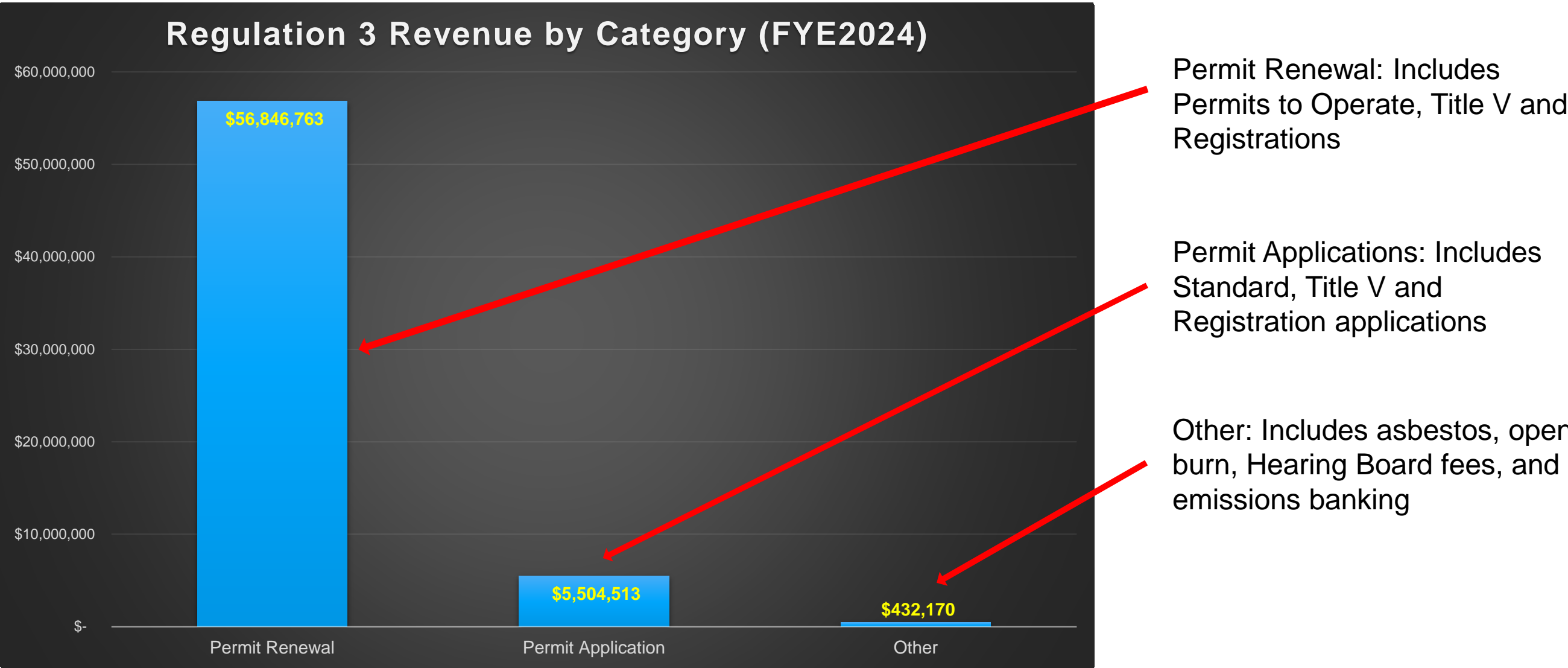
- Minimum qualifications are being broadened to eliminate barriers to employment
- Increased outreach on recruiting and industry association websites
- Moved Job Alert link to Air District website feature page
- Increased attendance at onsite job fairs and Executive leadership held 2 virtual recruiting forums in 2025
- Enhanced job announcements by using working titles, more clearly defined work descriptions, and details about the Air District Strategic Plan

Proposed Fee Amendments: Impact

- Proposed amendments to Regulation 3, Fees, are dictated by the Board-approved Cost Recovery strategy and include other proposed amendments.
- Estimated budget increase is \$4.3 million compared to projected Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) 2024* revenues.
- This strategy has a weighted fee schedule increase of 6.7 percent.

*FYE2024 = FY 2023-2024

Cost Recovery Background



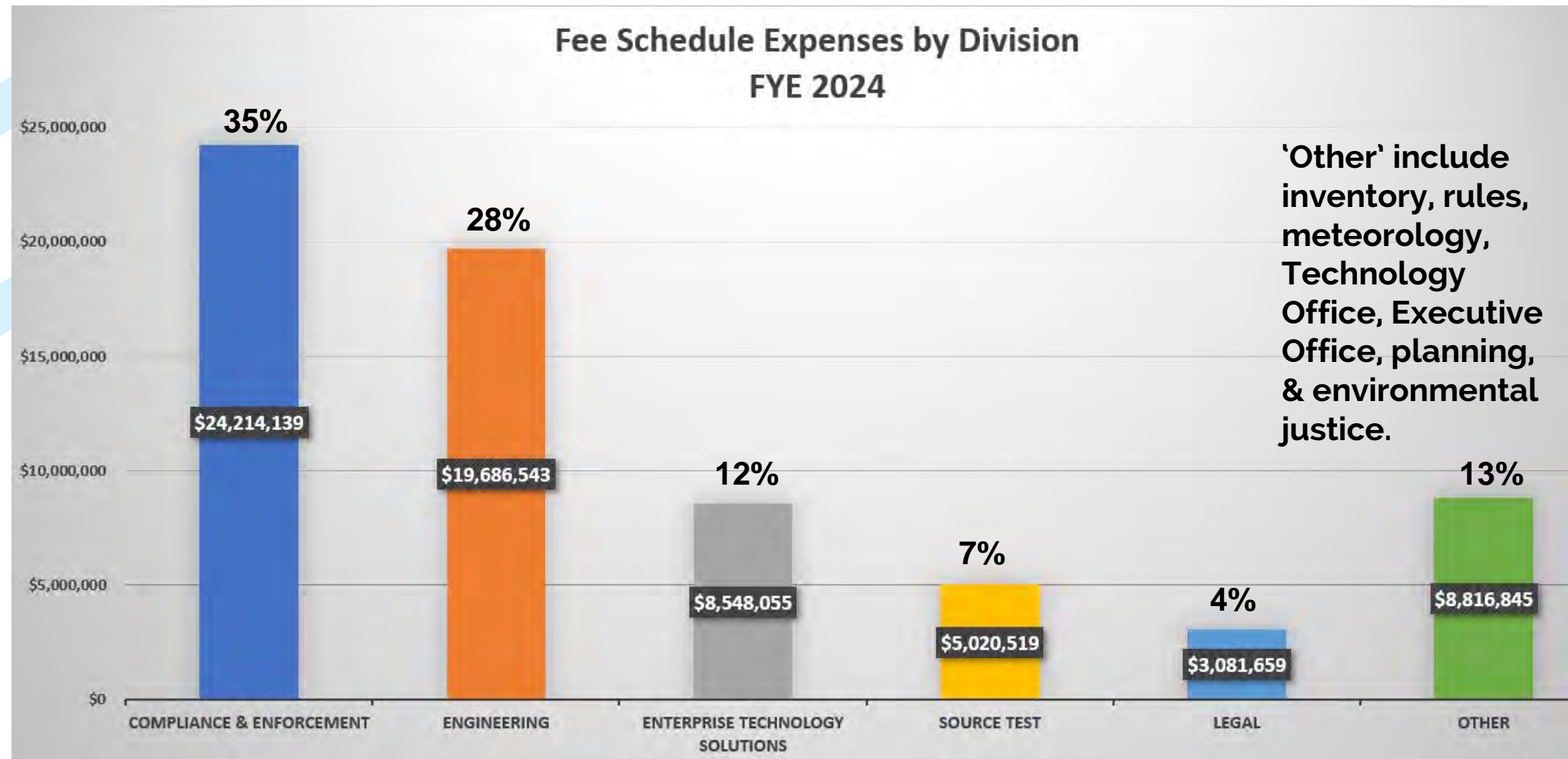
Cost Recovery Background (cont.)

What programs/work (expenses) are supported by fees?*

Covered by Regulation 3 Fees	Not Covered by Regulation 3 Fees
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permitting programs• Notification programs (asbestos, open burn)• Inspections of regulated industries• Compliance assistance/enforcement of permitted and registered facilities• Source Testing at permitted facilities• Rule development for regulated industries• Emissions inventory from regulated industries• Facility-wide Health Risk Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ambient Air Monitoring• Climate change work for non-permitted sources• Communications• Mobile sources• Planning• Rule development for non-permitted sources• Strategic Incentives – “Grants” (e.g., wood-burning device replacement, Carl Moyer Program, Vehicle Buy-Back)

*These lists are not exhaustive.

Cost Recovery Background (cont.)



Cost Recovery Background: Trends

2022 - 2024 Average Revenue	Number of Fee Schedules (Change from 2024)	Percent of Fee Schedule Revenue
110% or more of costs	5 (NC)	21.7
100 to <110% of costs	2 (+1)	32.4
95 to < 100% of costs	0 (-2)	7.0
75 to < 95% of costs	3 (+1)	15.1
50 to < 75% of costs	6 (+1)	21.7
25 to < 50% of costs	3 (NC)	1.3
Less than 25% of costs	2 (-1)	0.7

Specific fee schedule cost recovery levels are published in the Cost Recovery reports.

NC = No change

Cost Recovery Background: Trends (cont.)

Overall Cost Recovery

	FYE 2010	FYE 2016	FYE 2017	FYE 2018	FYE 2019	FYE 2020	FYE 2021	FYE 2022	FYE 2023	FYE 2024
By Year	63.8%	81.4%	81.2%	83.0%	84.7%	83.2%	83.8%	85.9%	92.3%	87.7%
3-Year Average		81.4%	82.2%	81.9%	83.0%	83.6%	83.5%	84.3%	87.4%	88.7%

- Other funding sources have historically been used to close the cost recovery gap.

Cost Recovery Background: Board Actions & Policies

Date	Description
April 2012	Board Resolution with a minimum 85% cost recovery target
February 2018	Cost Recovery Study finalized.
July 2021	Cost Recovery Study commenced, emphasizing 100% cost recovery target.
April 2022	Cost Recovery Study and Containment report presented to Finance & Administration Committee.
December 2022	Board adopted an updated Cost Recovery and Containment Policy, emphasizing 100% cost recovery target.*

*The policy does not dictate the fee amendment strategy, giving the Board flexibility.

Cost Recovery Background: Trends

Revenue from Fee Schedule (3-year average)	FYE 2019 & 2020	FYE 2021 (Covid)	FYE 2022	FYE 2023	FYE 2024 & 2025	FYE 2026
110% or more of costs	-	-	-	-	-	-
100 to <110% of costs	-	-	CPI-W*	+15%	CPI-W	CPI-W
95 to < 100% of costs	CPI-W	-	CPI-W	+15%	+15%	CPI-W
85 to < 95% of costs	+7%	-	+7%	+15%	+15%	+15%
75 to < 85% of costs	+8%	-	+8%	+15%	+15%	+15%
50 to < 75% of costs	+9%	-	+9%	+15%	+15%	+15%
Less than 50% of costs	+15%	-	+15%	+15%	+15%	+15%

*This field was incorrectly marked as NULL.

Proposed Fee Amendments

Proposed Changes to Fee Schedules

Revenue from Fee Schedule	Change in Fees	Fee Schedules	% of Fee Schedule Revenue
110% or more of costs	0%	C, L, N, R, T, V (except Marsh Management), X	21.7%
95 to <110% of costs	CPI-W 2.8% increase	B, D	32.4%*
Less than 95% of costs	15% increase	A, E, F, G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, H, K, P, W	45.9%

* Includes Schedule M revenue

Proposed Fee Amendments (cont.)

Fee Schedules with 2.8% increase

- Schedule B: Combustion of Fuels (E.g., permitted boilers, engines, heaters,)
- Schedule D: Gasoline Transfer at Gas dispensing Facilities (GDF) & Bulk Plants and Bulk Terminals Except the Risk Assessment Fee (RAF) for existing GDFs
- Schedule I: Dry Cleaners (not registered machines & currently none are permitted)
- Schedule M: Major Stationary Source Fees

Fee Schedules with 15% increase

- Schedule A: Hearing Board Fees
- Schedule E: Solvent Evaporating Sources (E.g., permitted graphic arts, painting, wipe cleaning)

Proposed Fee Amendments (cont.)

Fee Schedules with 15% increase

- Schedule F: Misc. Sources (storage silos, abrasive blasting)
- Schedule G-1: Misc. Sources (e.g., glass manufacturing, soil remediation)
- Schedule G-2: Misc. Sources (e.g., asphaltic concrete, furnaces)
- Schedule G-3: Misc. Sources (e.g., metal melting, cracking units)
- Schedule G-4: Misc. Sources (e.g., cement kilns, sulfur removal & coking units)
- Schedule G-5: Misc. Sources (Refinery flares)
- Schedule H: Semiconductor and Related Operations
- Schedule K: Solid Waste Disposal Sites (e.g., Landfills)
- Schedule P: Major Facility Review Fees
- Schedule W: Petroleum Refining Emissions Tracking Fees

Proposed Fee Amendments (cont.)

Specific fees in Section 300 are proposed to be increased by 2.8% (CPI-W)

Section 302:	New and modified source filing fees
Section 311:	Emission Banking Fees
Section 312:	Regulation 2, Rule 9 Alternative Compliance Plan fee
Section 330:	Fee for Renewing an Authority to Construct
Section 327:	Permit to Operate renewal fees
Section 337:	Exemption Fee
Section 341:	Fee for Risk Reduction Plan
Section 342:	Fee for Facility-Wide Health Risk Assessment
Section 343:	Fees for Air Dispersion Modeling
Section 345:	Evaluation of Plans, Regulation 6
Section 346:	Request for a Petition, Regulation 8
Section 347:	Evaluation of Reports, Organic Waste Recovery Sites

Proposed Fee Amendments (cont.)

Fees and fee schedules that are not proposed for increase:

Section 3-307: Transfers of Permits

Schedule C: Stationary Storage Tanks of Organic Liquids Except the RAF

Schedule L: Asbestos Operations

Schedule N: Toxic Inventory Fees

Schedule R: Equipment Registration Fees

Schedule S: Naturally Occurring Asbestos Operations*

Schedule T: Greenhouse Gas Fees

Schedule V: Open Burning*

Schedule X: Major Stationary Source Community Air Monitoring Fees

*Public hearing to consider adoption of amendments
is scheduled for 7/2/2025.

Proposed Fee Amendments (cont.)

Other Proposals

Schedule C – Stationary Containers for the Storage of Organic Liquids

- Align calculation for the RAF consistent with other schedules.

Schedule D.A – Gasoline Transfer at GDFs

- Increase the RAF by 15% in Schedule D.A.4.b consistent with existing GDFs for the same work.

Proposed Fee Amendments (cont.)

Other Proposals

- Small Business Definition (Section 3-209): Increase the cap and clarify the qualifications:

A business with no more than 10 employees and gross annual receipts of no more than \$1,500,000 that is not an affiliate of a non-small business.

- Update out-of-date references.
- General language clean up

Summary of Public Comments

Comment regarding fee increases: Some proposed fees are greater than the rate of inflation.

- Fees and fee schedules that are not fully recovered are proposed for increases to meet the Board's 100% cost recovery policy from fee-based activity.
- To meet that goal, fee schedules that are below 95% are proposed for increases above CPI-W ("inflation"). Once a fee schedule meets the 100% cost recovery level, they are maintained by CPI-W or no increase depending on the 3-year average cost recovery.
- For fee schedules that are below 100% cost recovery, they are charged at a rate below where they should be for the current level of service.

Summary of Public Comments (cont.)

Comments regarding level of service: 1) Level of service is not improving, 2) Delay fee increases until Corrective Action Plan is implemented, 3) Show service improvements

- Cost recovery does not address level of service. It is to recover costs from work that has already occurred with existing resources.
- Level of service is typically addressed in new staffing (budget process), reallocation of existing resources, program efficiencies and cost containment. The latter includes implementing recommendations from the corrective action and strategic plans which are periodically presented to the Board.
- Delaying fee increases would extend timeframe to meet 100% cost recovery and/or drop level of service. Fees fund program activities (level of service), including inspections & enforcement, emissions testing, rule development, as well as permitting.

Summary of Public Comments (cont.)

Comment regarding timekeeping: Staff should bill time to specific projects (e.g., facility, device)

- Fees fund Air District programs. With few exceptions, facilities/entities are not billed based on specific work.
- Adding more data to the timekeeping process would reduce efficiency.
- As our tools improve, we will explore the possibility to have the system provide additional automated metrics.

Recommended Action

1. Adopt Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Proposed Budget and related budget actions, effective July 1, 2025.
2. Adopt Resolution to approve the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Regulation 3 Amendments, effective July 1, 2025, covering Fee Schedules A, B, D, E, F, G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5, H, K, P, and W.

Questions?

For more information:

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Toxic Air Contaminant Control Annual Report

Board of Directors Meeting

June 4, 2025

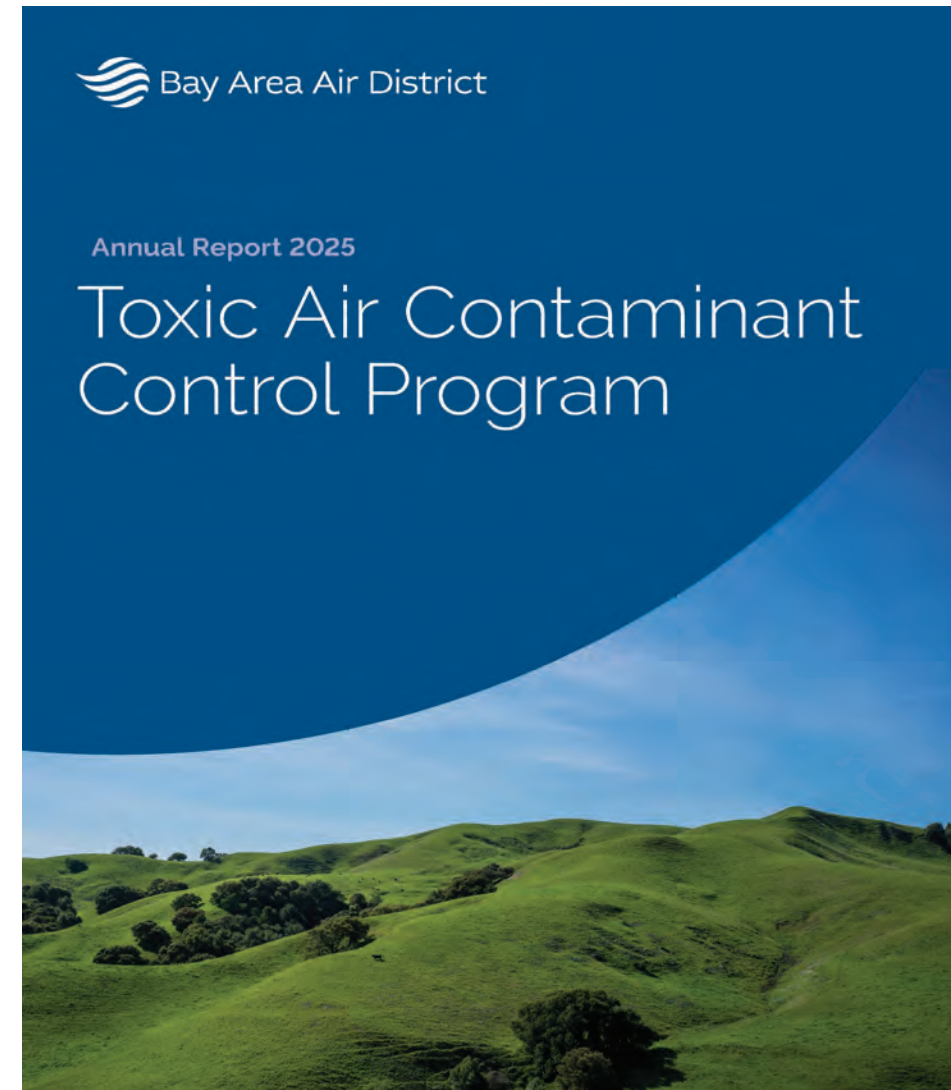
Ariana Husain
Manager
Engineering

Presentation Outline

- Introduction and Purpose of Report
- Overview of Toxic Control Initiatives
- Air Toxic Programs
 - Air Toxics New Source Review
 - Facility Risk Reduction Programs
 - Air Toxics Emissions Inventory
 - Air Toxics Ambient Air Monitoring
 - Community Health Protection Programs
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgments

Introduction and Purpose of Report

- Fulfills mandatory reporting requirements under Assembly Bill (AB) 2588 Air Toxics Hot Spots Program (CA Health & Safety Code 44363)
- Provides consolidated, updated information on all Air District toxics air contaminant control programs



What are Air Toxics?

Definition: Pollutants known/suspected to cause cancer or serious health effects

Differs from Criteria Pollutants:

- No national ambient standards (unlike ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and lead)
- Primarily local impacts near emission sources

Key Examples:

- Industrial chemicals: Benzene, hexavalent chromium, formaldehyde
- Diesel particulate matter (DPM) (major toxic driver in California)

Regulatory Approach:

- Risk-based assessment and control technology requirements
- Source-specific toxic rules
- AB 617 provides community monitoring and emission reduction focus that includes toxics

Overview of Toxic Control Initiatives

- [Air Toxics New Source Review](#) – Preconstruction evaluation for new or modified sources emitting toxic air contaminants
- [Facility Risk Reduction Programs](#) – Identification, assessment, and mitigation of health risks for existing facilities
- [Air District Toxic Control Regulations](#) – Regulations to control toxic emissions from local sources
- [Air Toxics Emissions Inventory](#) – Identification and reporting of toxic air contaminants from permitted facilities
- [Air Toxics Ambient Air Monitoring](#) – Assessment of concentrations through fixed monitoring stations and targeted studies including mobile monitoring campaigns
- [Community Health Protection Programs](#) – Targeted initiatives to reduce air quality disparities and improve health outcomes

Air Toxics New Source Review

- **Background:** Established in 1987, the Air Toxics New Source Review (NSR) Program has evolved through multiple significant updates (2001-2021) to strengthen toxic air contaminant management.
- **Program Implementation:** Completed 235 health risk assessments (HRA) in 2024-2025, with 22% in overburdened communities (OBC).

	HRAs Received	HRAs Completed	Projects in OBC	Percentage of Completed Projects in OBC	Site-wide Projects	Percentage of Completed Site-wide Projects
2024 Quarter 2 (April – June)	61	64	15	23%	39	61%
2024 Quarter 3 (July – September)	56	69	20	29%	44	64%
2024 Quarter 4 (October – December)	69	56	3	5%	8	14%
2025 Quarter 1 (January – March)	70	46	14	30%	26	57%
Total	256	235	52	22%	117	50%

Facility Risk Reduction Programs

Air Toxics Hot Spots Program

Overview: Identify and reduce toxic air emissions from facilities with locally elevated health impacts.

Status Update:

- Reported 2023 toxic emissions to California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- Finalized 2023 toxic emissions inventory and updated Facility Toxic Emission and Prioritization Tool
 - **What is Prioritization?** A screening methodology to rank facilities based on the quantity and toxicity of emissions and the proximity to nearby populations
- Based on 2023 inventory, the Air District has identified 764 high priority facilities
- Verified all facilities with completed HRA were below public notification thresholds.

Facility Risk Reduction Programs (Cont.)

Regulation 11, Rule 18

Overview: Reduce health risks from existing facilities

Status Update:

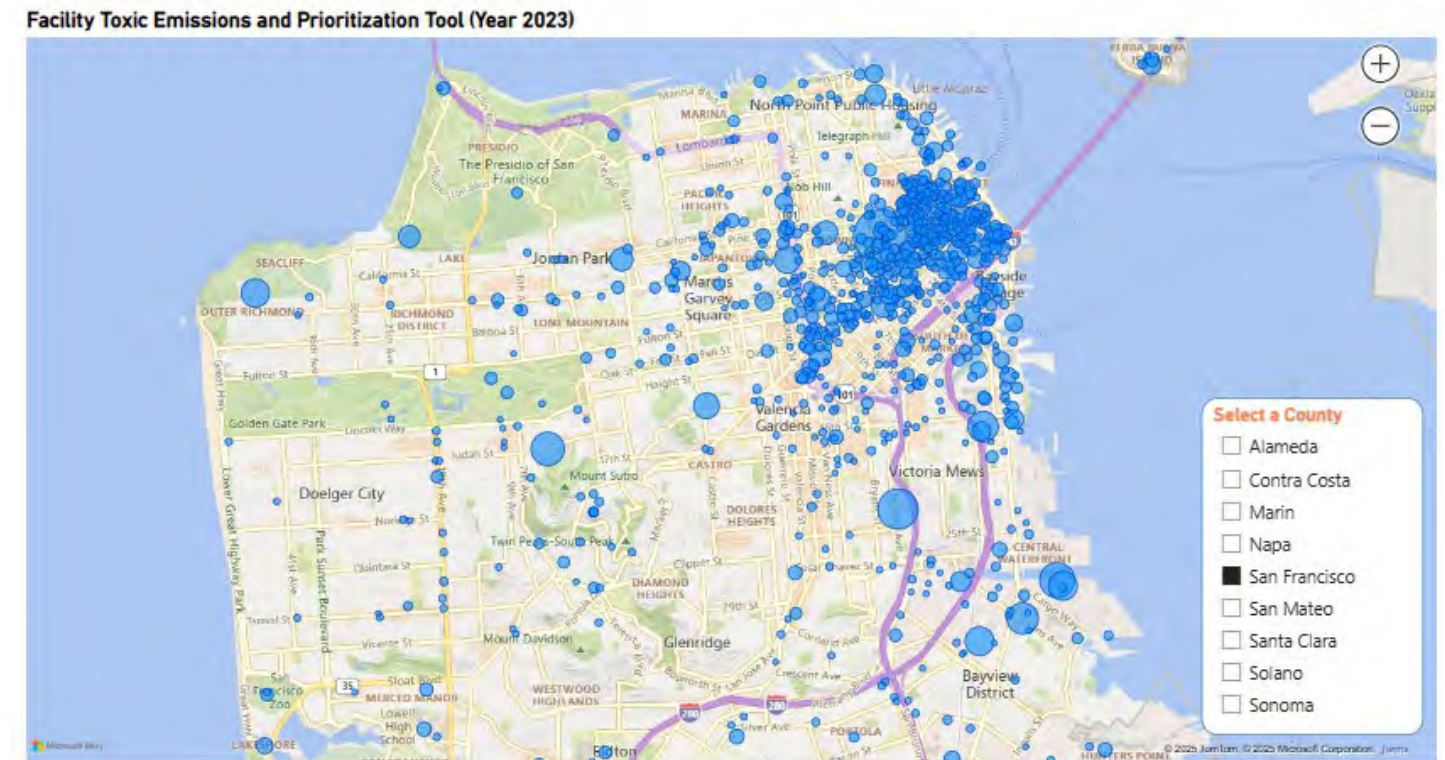
- Completed toxic emissions inventory review for multiple facilities
- Completed HRA modeling protocol for Chevron (March 2025)
- Amended rule language anticipated within the next year

Air Toxics Emissions Inventory

- The Air District maintains a database of permitted and registered facilities in the Bay Area and their associated air toxics emissions
- Air toxics emissions are updated annually and posted on the Air District website for public access
- Under AB 617, the Air District develops community-scale emissions inventories that include air toxics emissions estimates for stationary and mobile sources
- Air District emissions inventories support rule development, air quality modeling applications, enforcement actions, and monitoring efforts
- Under the strategic plan, preliminary regional air toxics inventory that includes area and mobile sources will be available in September 2026.

Air Toxics Emissions Inventory (cont.)

- In 2024, the Air District created the web-based Facility Toxic Emissions and Prioritization Tool for permitted sources
- This interactive map helps members of the public identify air toxics sources in their communities
- Facilities are displayed as bubbles that are sized according to their prioritization score (relative to other facilities shown on the map)



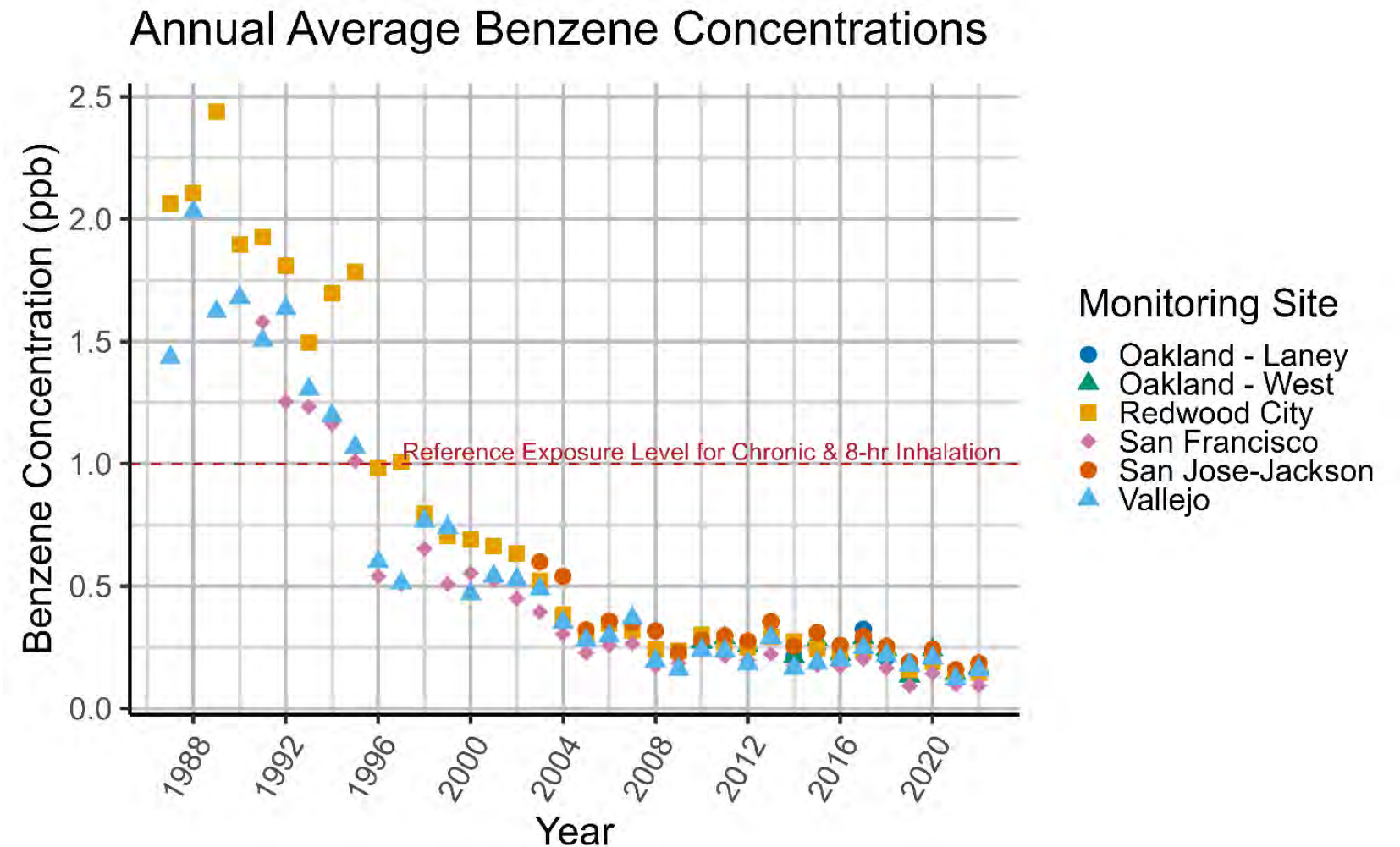
Air Toxics Ambient Air Monitoring

The Air District measures air toxics in ambient air as part of several monitoring programs:

- Long-term ambient air monitoring stations
 - Measurements of several toxics air contaminants at over 20 monitoring stations
- Major Stationary Source Community Air Monitoring Program
 - Expanding monitoring of certain TACs and other pollutants near large stationary pollution sources, starting with refineries
 - New monitoring site in Benicia began operations in July 2024
- Community air quality investigations using a variety of monitoring approaches
 - Monitoring project in East Oakland to be completed by May 2026
 - Monitoring project in Bayview-Hunters Point in initial planning stage

Air Toxics Ambient Air Monitoring (cont.)

- Data collected at long-term monitoring sites can be useful for evaluating trends in different air toxics compounds
- For example, benzene concentrations have decreased (improved) considerably since the 1980s and 1990s, though those improvements have leveled off in more recent years



Community Health Protection

The Air District implements several programs that assess and address public health risks in communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution:

- The AB 617 Community Air Protection Program
- Air District Grant Programs
- Bay Area Healthy Homes Initiatives

Through these programs, the Air District collaborates with community partners and other agencies to reduce exposures and improve public health

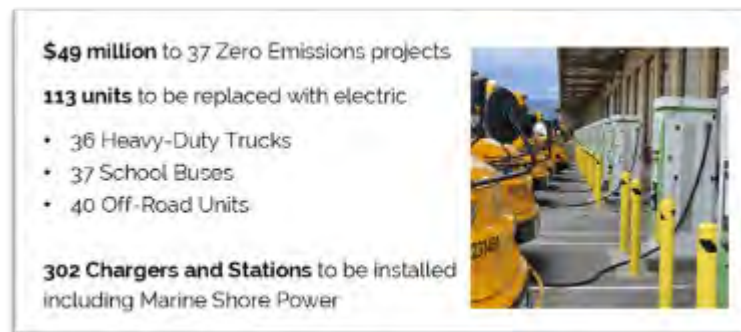
Current AB 617 Communities

1. West Oakland
2. Richmond-North
Richmond-San Pablo
3. East Oakland
4. Bayview Hunters
Point/ Southeast San
Francisco

Community Health Protection (cont.)

2024 Highlights

- For the West Oakland AB 617 community, the Air District completed a 5-Year progress report which showed that DPM emissions in the community were reduced by 31% between 2017 and 2024
- For grant and incentive programs, the Air District executed 124 funding agreements totaling ~\$77 million to reduce criteria pollutant emissions and toxic DPM from heavy-duty mobile sources



Zero Emissions Projects replaced older highly polluting diesel equipment, resulting in a lifetime reduction of about 21 tons of DPM

Conclusions

38 Years of Impact

- Air District has been implementing toxic control programs for 38 years
- These programs have successfully reduced public exposures to air toxics both regionally and locally

Cross-Divisional Approach

- The Air District's air toxic programs involve nearly every division
- Collaborative efforts ensure comprehensive toxics management

2024-2029 Strategic Plan: Protecting Vulnerable Communities

- Strategy 2.7 Understand your Local Air Pollution - Reducing disparate impacts from air pollution
- Strategy 2.3 Make Data Accessible - Increasing accessibility of toxic emissions and health risk information
- Strategy 4.12 Report Progress - Improving transparency for Air District decisions

Acknowledgements

Assessment, Inventory, and Modeling Division

- Song Bai, Director
- Virginia Lau, Manager
- Stephen Reid, Senior Advanced Projects Manager

Engineering Division

- Simrun Dhoot, Supervising Air Quality Engineer
- Kevin Oei, Acting Manager

Environmental Justice Division

- Diana Ruiz, Acting Director

Meteorology & Measurement Division

- Kate Hoag, Assistant Manager
- Daniel Alrick, Principal Air & Meteorological Monitoring Specialist
- Jennifer Ofodile, Principal Air Quality Specialist

Strategic Incentives Division

- Karen Schkolnick, Director

Questions/Feedback

For more information:

Ariana Husain | Manager | ahusain@baaqmd.gov



AGENDA: 30

Wildfire Response, Prevention, and Mitigation

Board of Directors Meeting

June 4, 2025

Ranyee Chiang, Ph.D.

Director

Meteorology & Measurement Division

Presentation Outline

Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality

2025 Fire Season Outlook

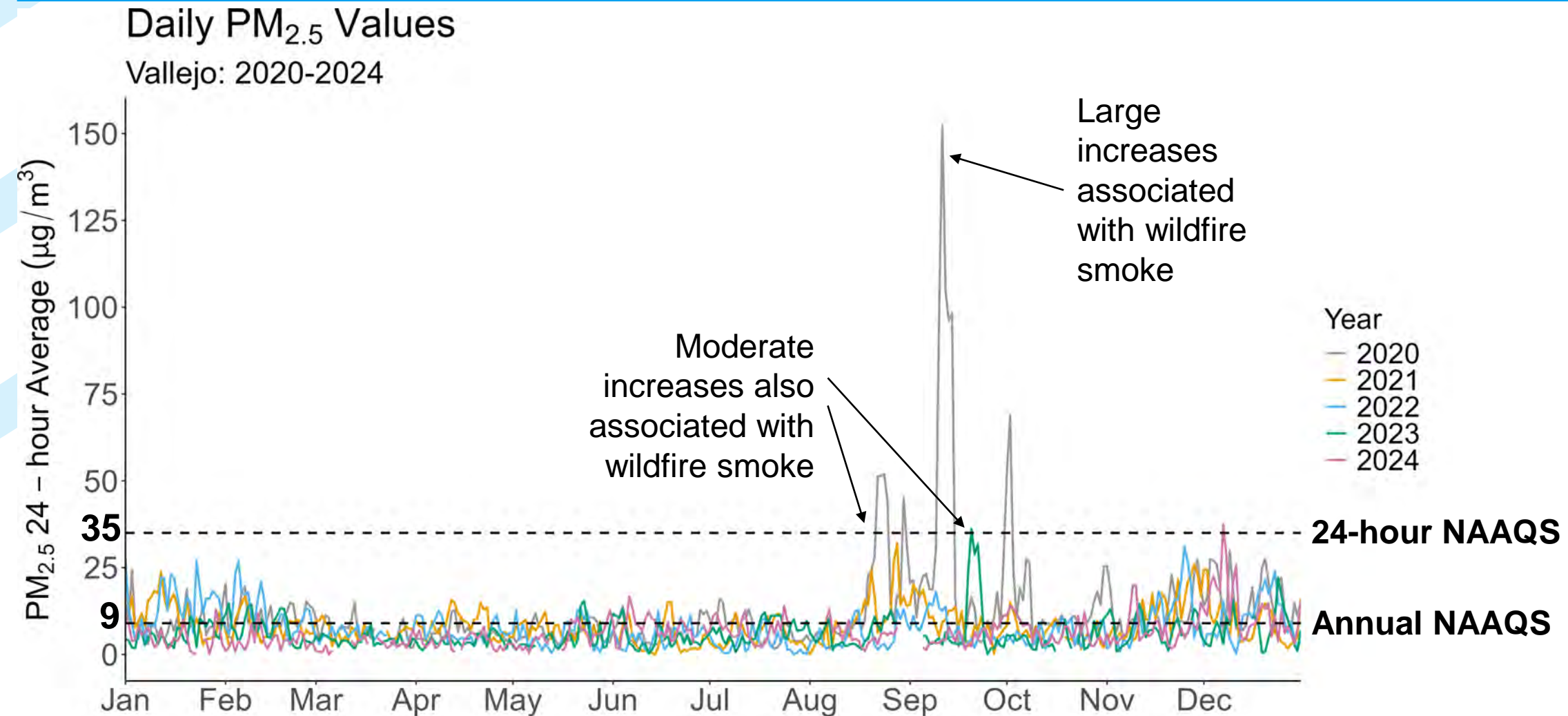
Role During Wildfires

- Monitoring
- Forecasting
- Communications

Programs for Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation of Impacts

- Prescribed burning
- Clean Air Centers
- Air filtration

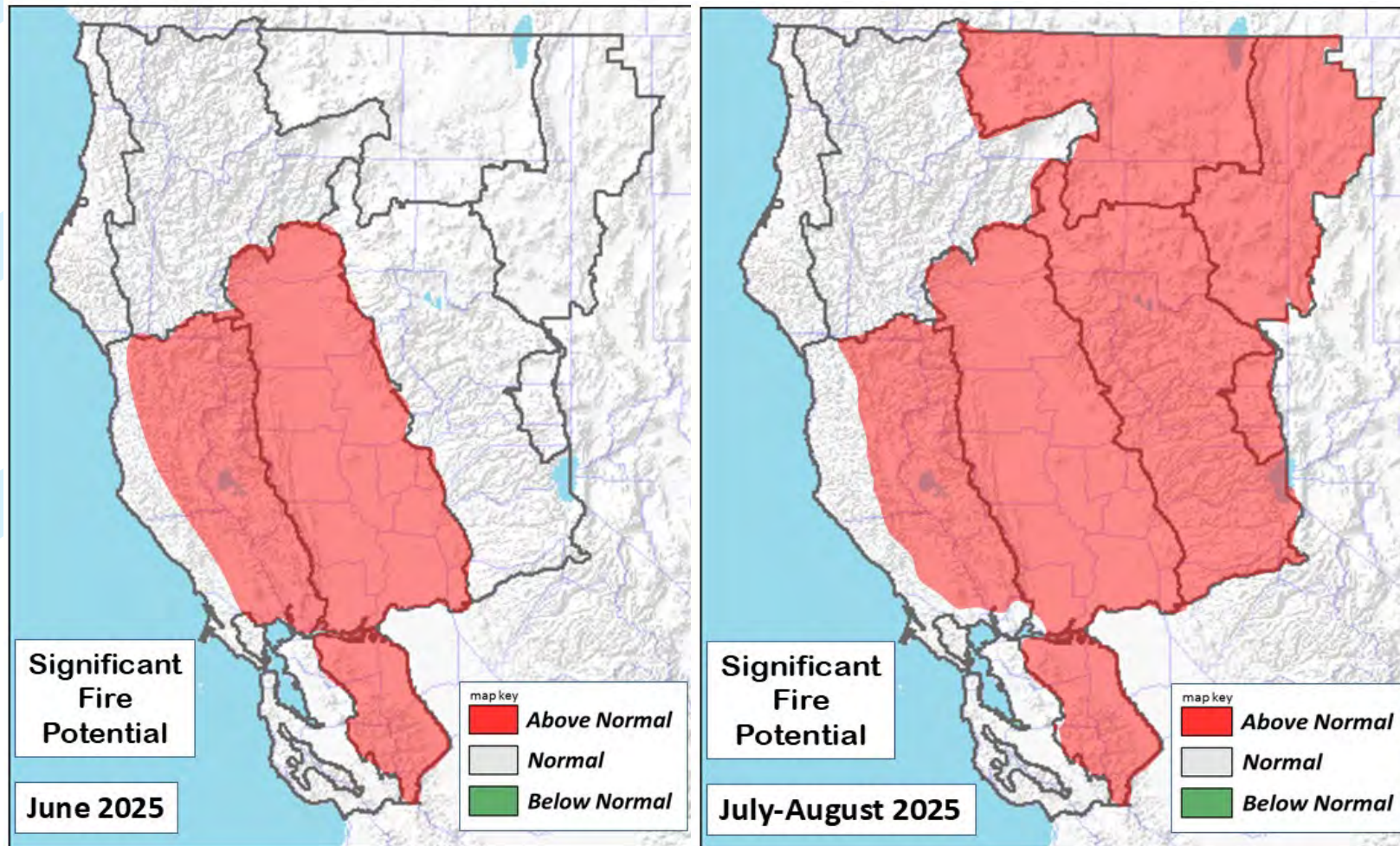
Wildfire Impacts on Air Quality



PM_{2.5}: Fine inhalable particles with diameters of 2.5 micrometers or smaller

NAAQS: National Ambient Air Quality Standard

2025 Fire Season Outlook



Above-normal rainfall in the northern portion of the Bay Area (below normal south and east of San Francisco)

Above normal temperatures expected June through August, leading to dry fuels and an above normal risk for fires, particularly in inland areas

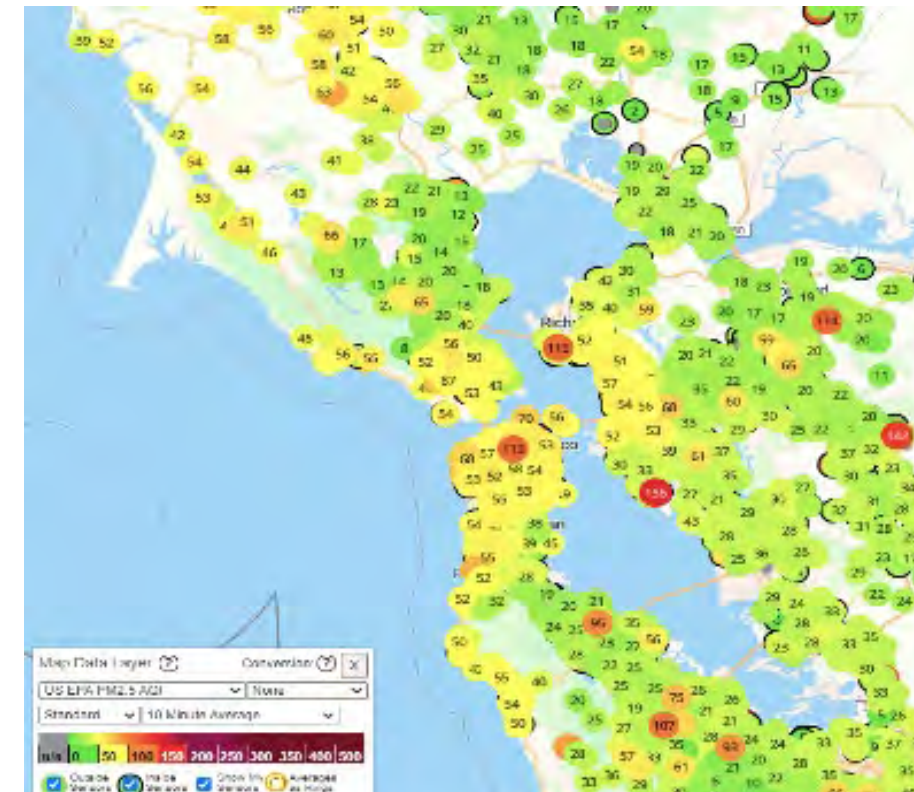
Air District Role During Wildfires



Air Monitoring



Air District Monitoring Network

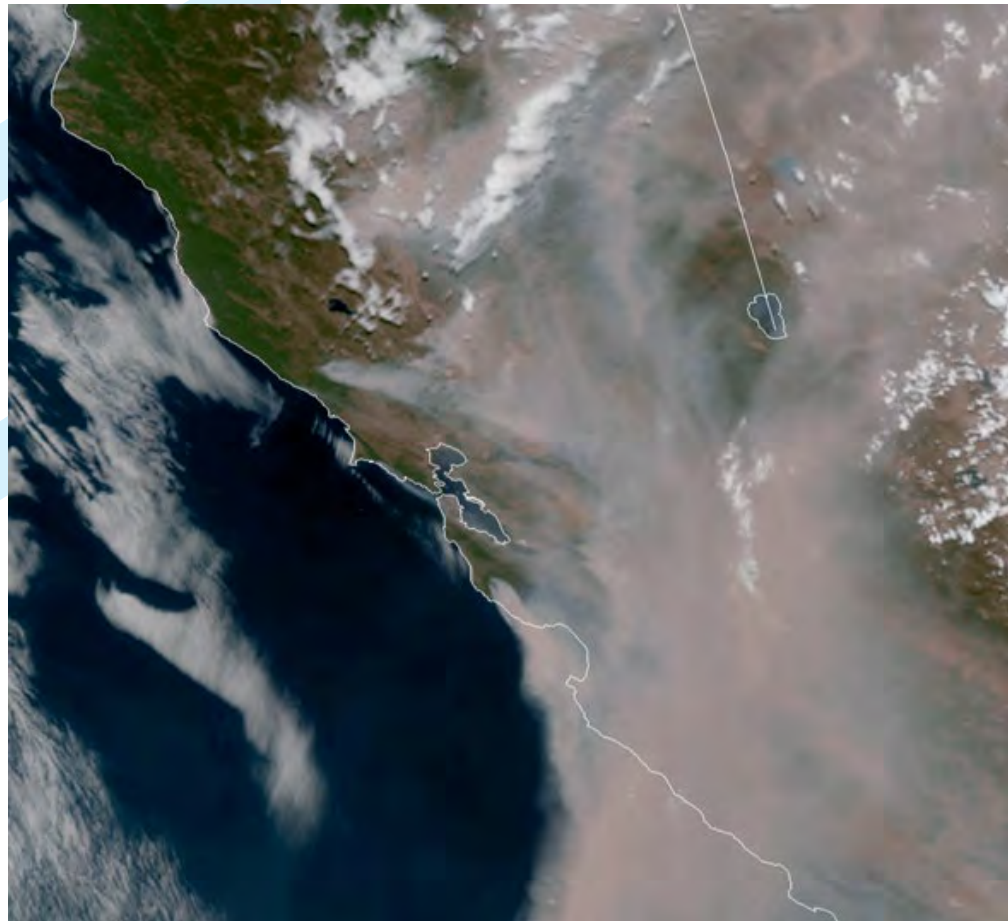


Source: map.purpleair.com

Air Sensors
Example: Purple Air

U.S Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) **Fire and Smoke Map** includes data from both sources, as well as temporary monitors <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

Air Quality Forecasting



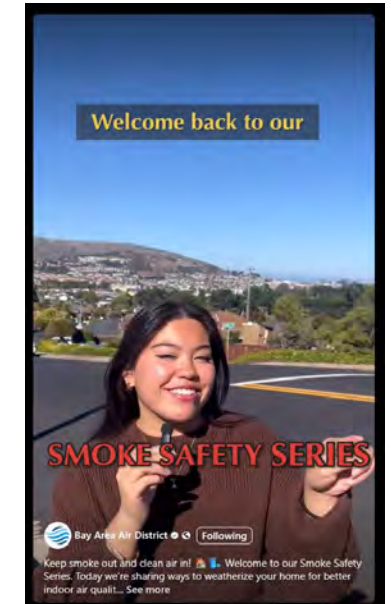
August 19, 2020 – Image is courtesy of [RAMMB Slider](#).

Air quality can change rapidly and varies from one location to another
How is a smoke forecast produced?

- Air quality data
- Weather and smoke models
- Satellite imagery and cameras
- Local geography and wind flow
- Marine layer depth

Communications

- Significant Media Outreach & Response
- Social Media Wildfire Series & Meteorologist Video Updates
- Wildfire Safety Website
- Messaging Coordination with Bay Area Health Officers & Public Information Offices
- Major wildfire smoke incident email & text notifications
- Promotion of Clean Air Centers





Air District Programs for Wildfire Prevention



Reducing Wildfire Risk

Prescribed Burning (Regulation 5: Open Burning; Title 17 of California Code of Regulations, Section 80100)

- Planned, controlled burning of vegetation to achieve natural resource management goals
- When meteorological conditions are favorable for smoke dispersion and to minimize risk of larger wildfires

Wildfire Prevention Chipping Program, \$400,000

- Free chipping services to dispose of material that would otherwise be burned to help reduce fuel loads and wildfire risks

Prescribed Burn Program Summary

Land Manager:

- Submits Smoke Management Plan (SMP) 30 days in advance of the planned burn for Air District review and approval
- Secures burn permit from the local fire agency and/or CALFIRE

Air District:

- Forecasting services are available up to 96 hours (4 days) before a prospective burn day
- Final acreage/pile authorization is allocated by 8 am on the day of the burn

Is the Air District a Barrier to Prescribed Burning?

All SMPs submitted in the Bay Area have been approved

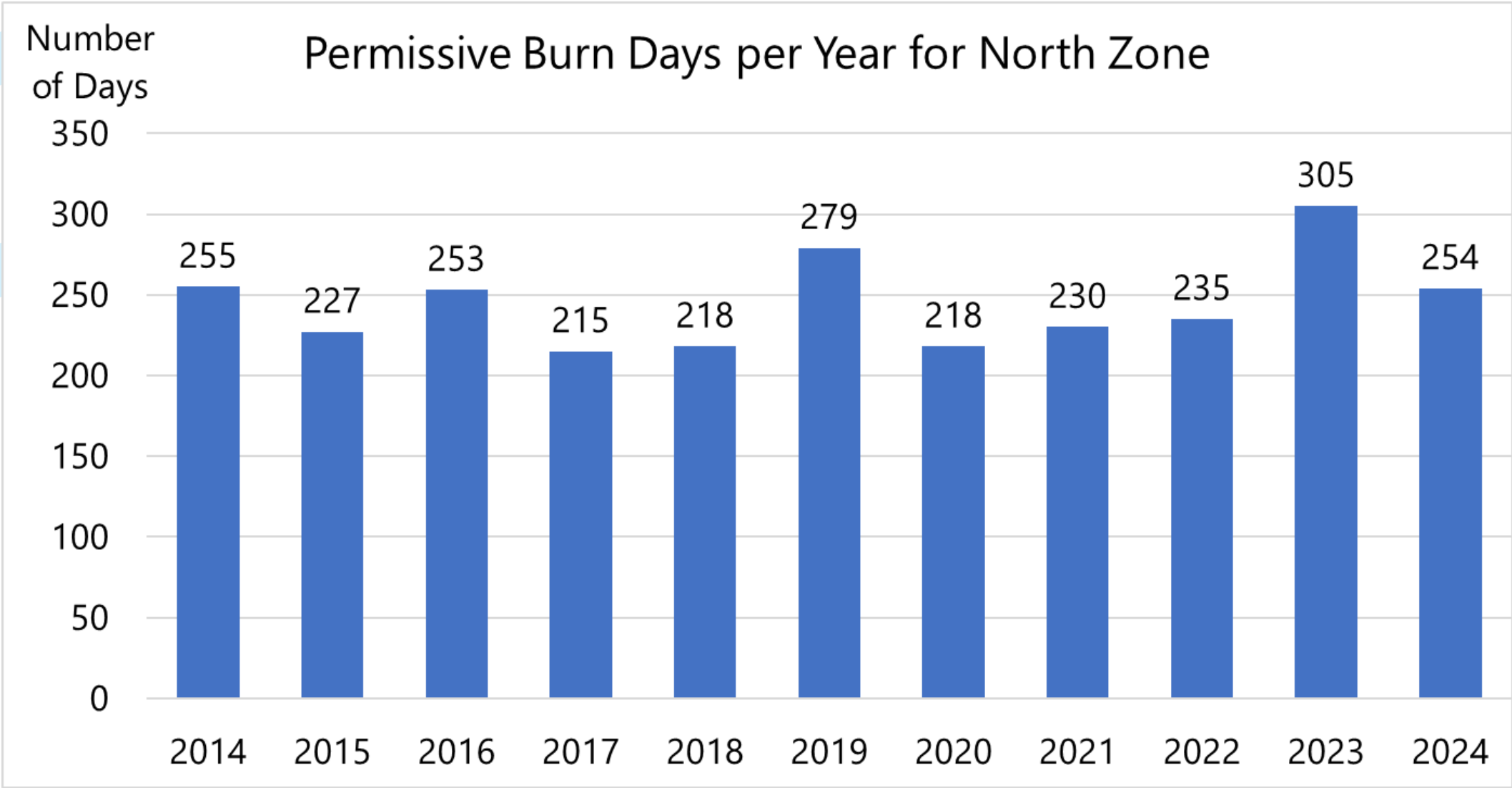
- Air District staff works closely with land managers to address any issues
- Consistent with state-wide data according to review of projects submitted to the Prescribed Fire Information Reporting System (PFIRS) by the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association

Close partnerships with prescribed burners have significantly increased the number of prescribed burns

- Number of projects has risen from 10 – 20 projects per year in the 1990s to 58 projects in 2023 and 68 projects in 2024.

Coordination mechanisms with partner agencies and organizations

Burning Allowed on Average of 244 Days each Year



Recent Program Developments to Encourage Prescribed Burns

- Fee exemption for public agencies
- Integrated with state-wide online PFIRS from the California Air Resources Board
- Continued outreach and coordination with stakeholders, including meeting with land managers prior to SMP submission
- Proactive in identifying meteorological windows conducive for burning and notifying land managers
- Approving more flexible prescriptions for experienced partners, to have more burn window opportunities and minimize potential smoke impacts

Potential Amendments to Woodsmoke Rules

Regulation 5: Open Burning:

- Remove financial barriers for conducting prescribed burns

Rule 6-3: Woodburning Devices:

- Changes to the burn curtailment threshold
- Not expected to impact the number of permissible burn days under Regulation 5

Timeline

- Virtual public workshops held on June 2 and 3, 2025
- Amendments to be considered by end of 2025



Air District Programs for Mitigation of Impacts from Wildfires



Clean Air Centers

- Assembly Bill (AB) 836 (2019) - \$3 million (M) to create publicly accessible clean air centers
- Over 1,200 portable air cleaners delivered to 317 locations
- Cities and Counties are responsible for operating the funded clean air centers
- \$145,000 in funding remains available



Air Filtration Initiatives

- Distributed over 4,200 air filtration units and funded upgrades/maintenance to 16 school Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning systems
- Location Types: Evacuation centers, community centers, senior centers, schools, libraries, homes
- Vulnerable Populations: AB 617 and overburdened communities, low-income households, children, elderly, and individuals with chronic respiratory diseases



Questions & Discussion

For more information:

Ranyee Chiang | Director of Meteorology & Measurement |
rchiang@baaqmd.gov



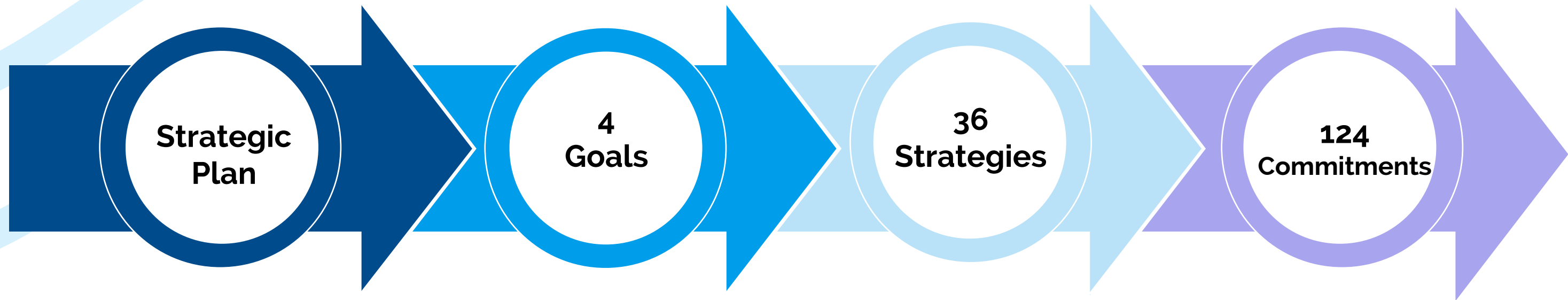
2024-2029 Strategic Plan Implementation Update

Board of Directors Meeting

June 4, 2025

Dr. Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Strategic Plan Overview



See the strategic plan website to read full plan: <https://strategicplan.baaqmd.gov/>

Strategic Plan Goals

Goal 1



- Reduce health impacts of air pollution
- Hold violators accountable
- Mitigate climate change and its impacts

Goal 2



- Build partnership and community capacity
- Identify disparities
- Reduce disparities

Goal 3



- Embody diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging
- Become One Air District

Goal 4



- Improve permitting, monitoring, and enforcement
- Build relationships and enhance communications
- Be accountable

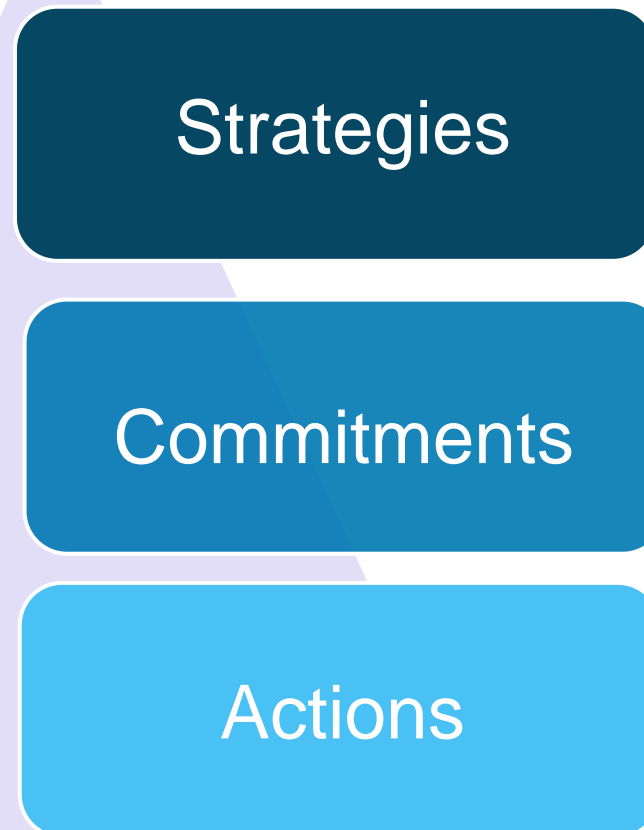
Implementation

2

Action Plans

- **Action plans** identify and prioritize work to advance strategies and commitments.
- Created through **inter-divisional collaboration** across organization, including staff and executives.
- Include **key milestones and due dates** through **December 2026**.

Action Plans (cont.)



- **24** action plans completed
- **2** pending action plans
- **87%** of commitments met through action plans
- **480** estimated key results identified for tracking

24 Action Plans Completed

Accountability

Change Approach to Air Quality
Civil Rights Compliance
Climate Mitigation
Climate Tech Finance
Community Air Quality Info
Community Partnership
Comprehensive Training

Enforcement

Foster Inclusion

Government Relations

Improve Complaint Process

Improve Incident Response

Inspire Action

Make Data Accessible

Manage Penalty Funds

Minimize Flaring

One Air District

Org. Eff. & Employee Success

People's Air Grant Program

Permitting

Regulatory Air Monitoring

Reimagine Incentives

Rulemaking Outlook

Pending Action Plans:

Community Health Data

Cumulative Impacts

* **Bold** = Action Plans showcased today

Enforcement Action Plan



Action Plan

4 Strategies

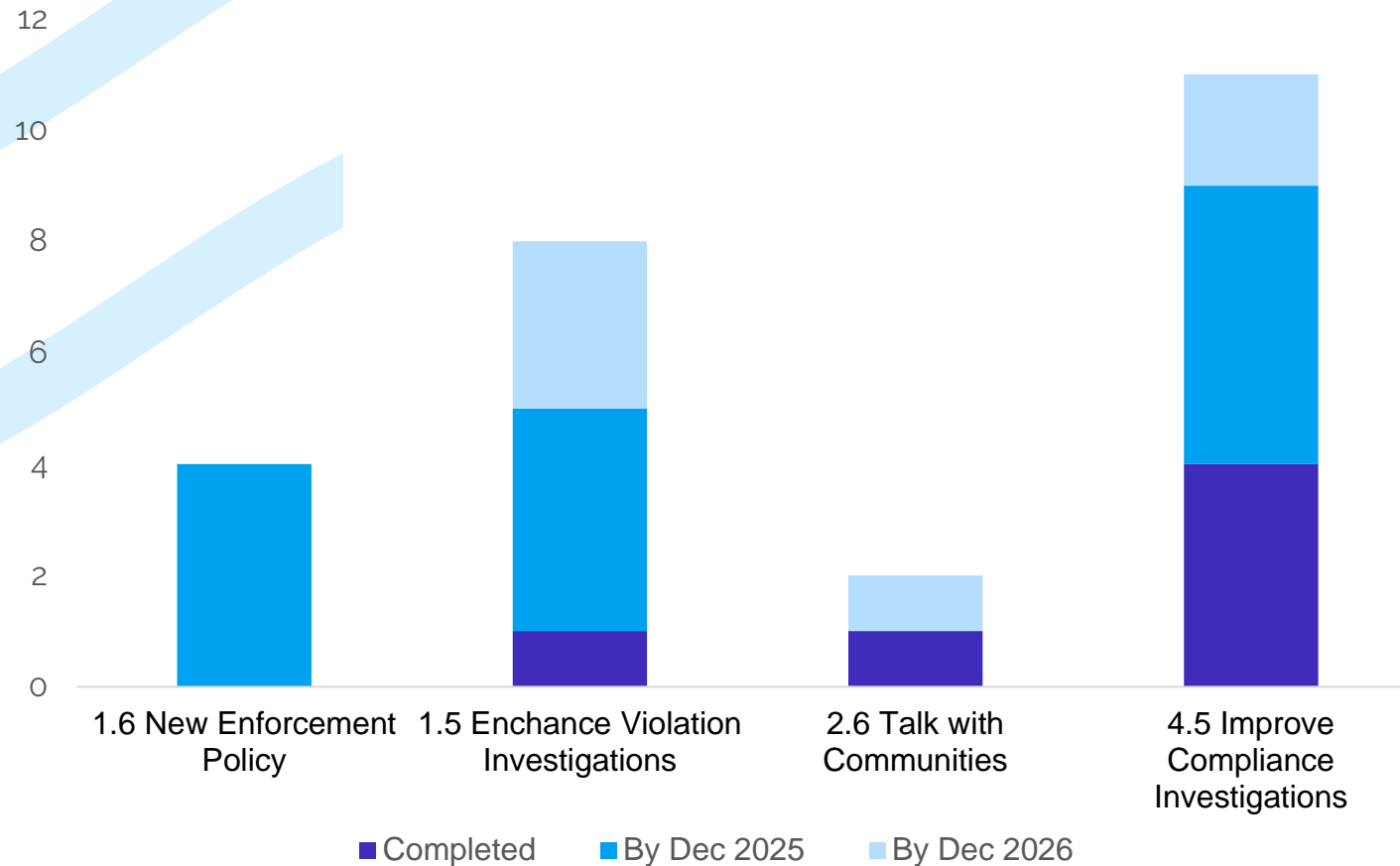
- Strategy 1.6 New Enforcement Policy
- Strategy 1.5 Enhance Violation Investigations
- Strategy 2.6 Talk with Communities
- Strategy 4.5 Improve Compliance Investigations

8 Commitments

28 Actions

Enforcement Actions

Status of Enforcement Actions



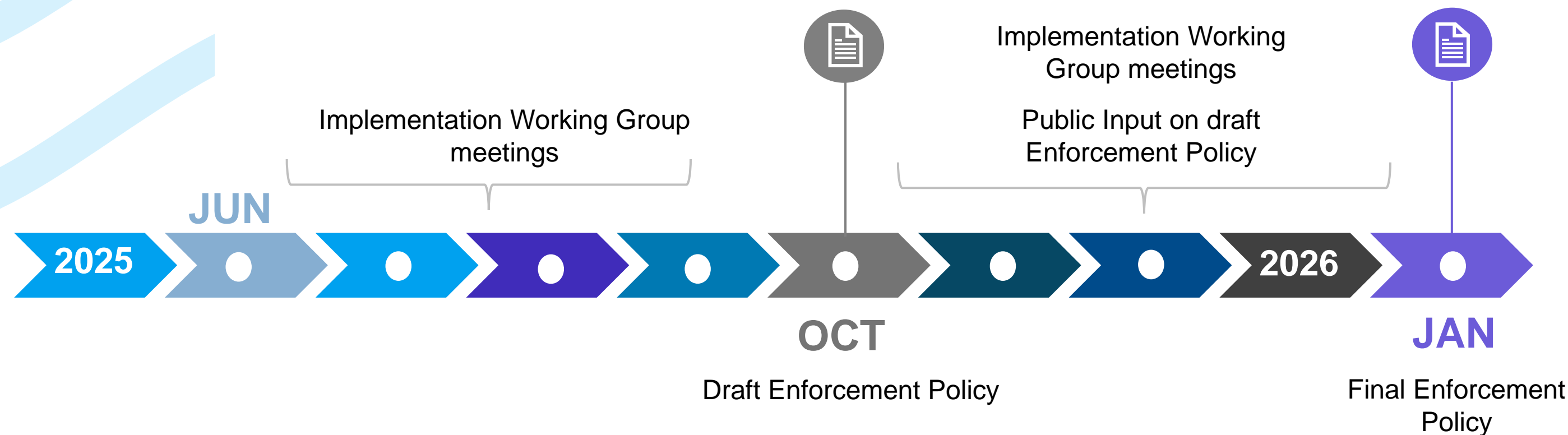
Completed Action Highlights

- Developed new ideas for targeted inspection policy
- Shared ideas on targeted inspection policy with Community Advisory Council

Enforcement Actions Up Next

Strategy 1.6 New Enforcement Policy

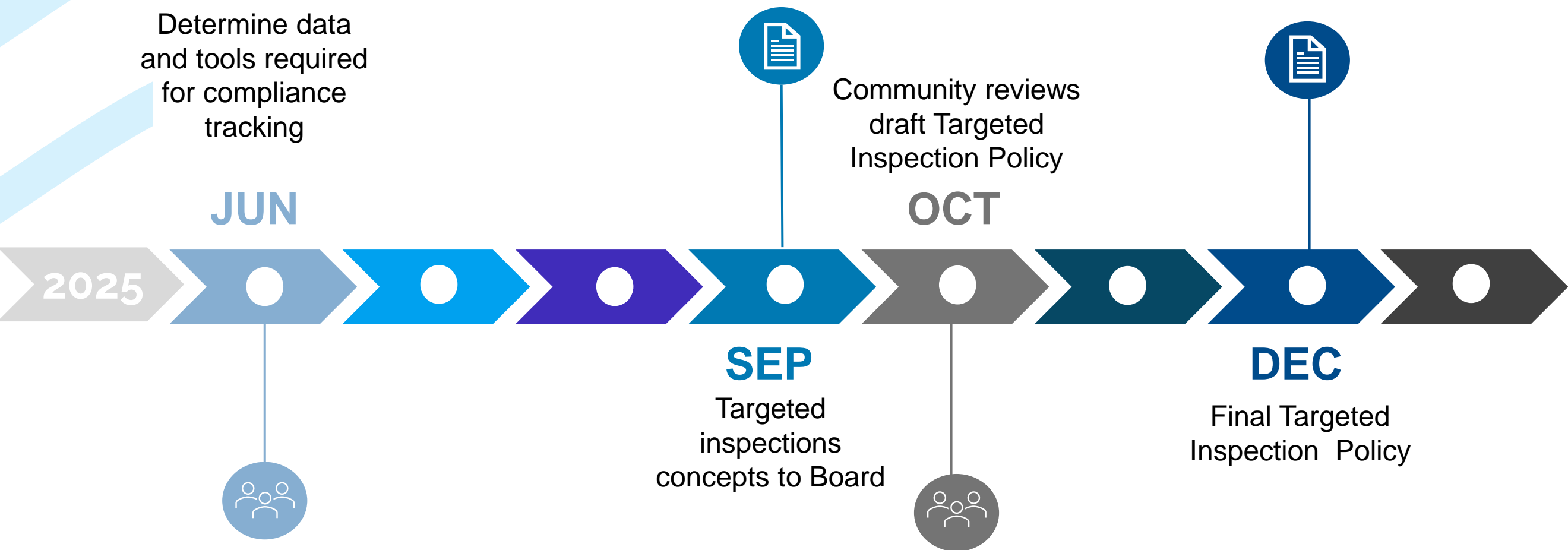
Strategy Commitment: Develop enforcement policy that considers environmental justice principles, community voices, experiences, and perspectives.



Enforcement Actions Up Next (cont.)

Strategy 4.5 Improve Compliance Investigations

Strategy Commitment: Develop a targeted inspection policy



Permitting Action Plan



Action Plan

3 Strategies

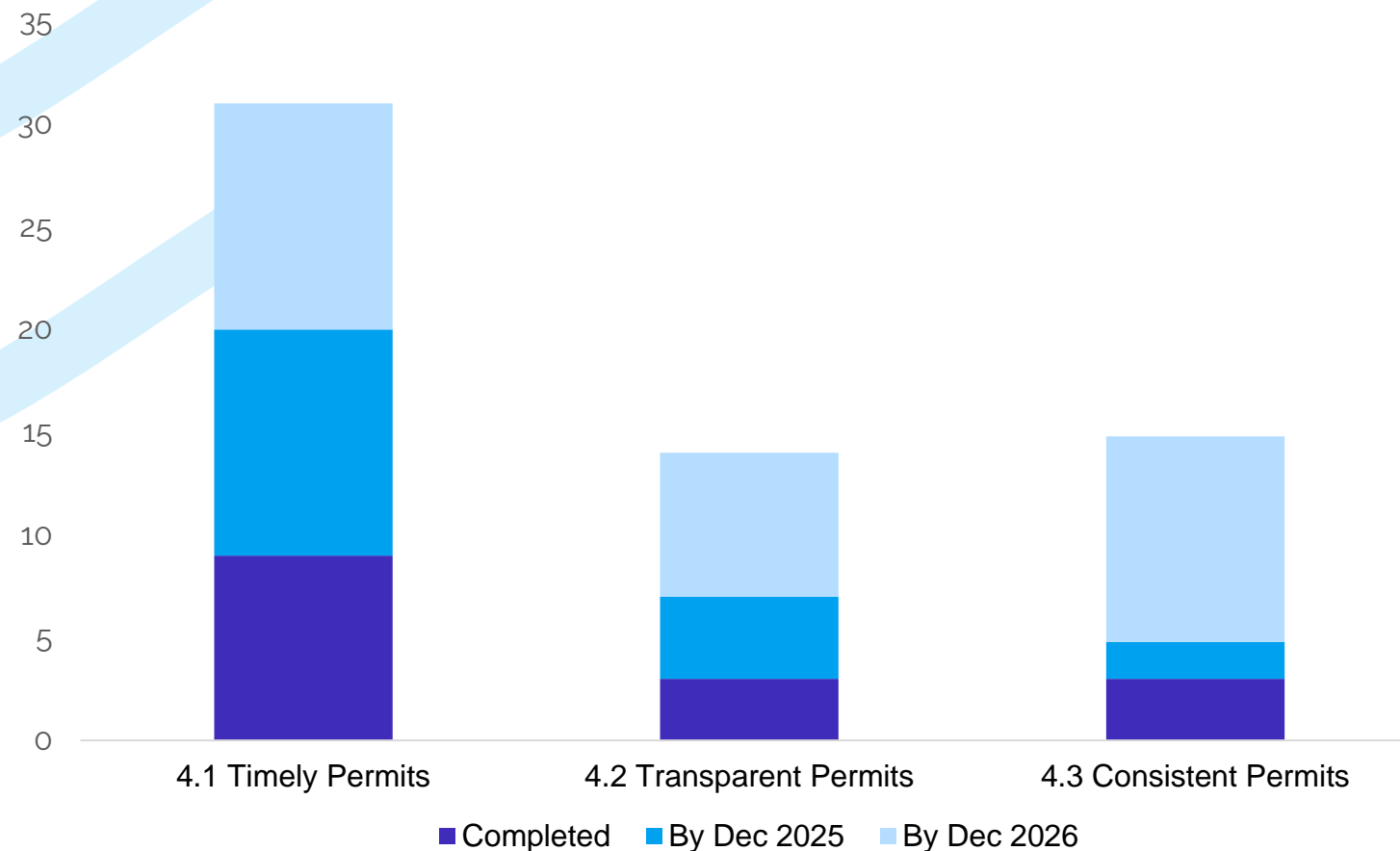
- Strategy 4.1 Timely Permits
- Strategy 4.2 Transparent Permit Process
- Strategy 4.3 Consistent Permits

11 Commitments

61 Actions

Permitting Actions Status

Status of Permitting Actions



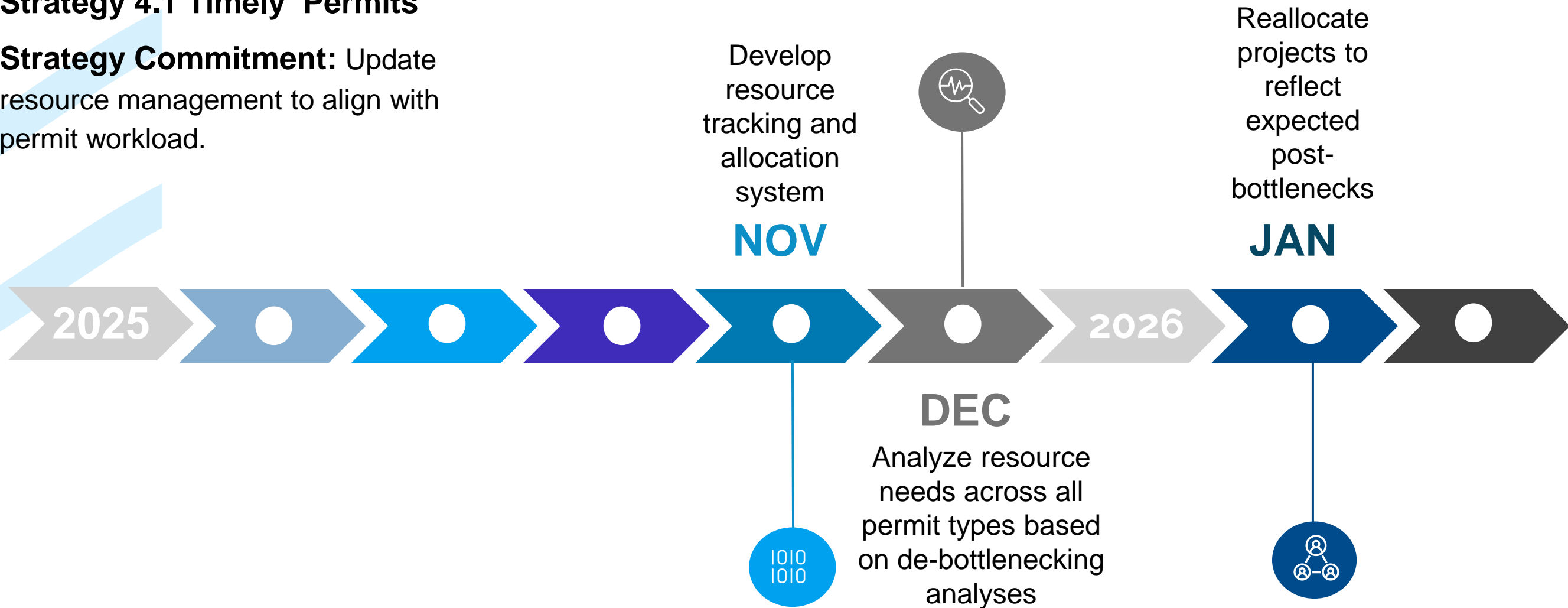
Completed Action Highlights

- New permit application tracking features for permit applicants.
- Updated best available control technology requirements for backup generators
- Updated Air District website to make emissions and permit information more transparent, including an air toxics emissions map by facility

Permitting Actions Up Next

Strategy 4.1 Timely Permits

Strategy Commitment: Update resource management to align with permit workload.



Accountability Action Plan



Action Plan

3 Strategies

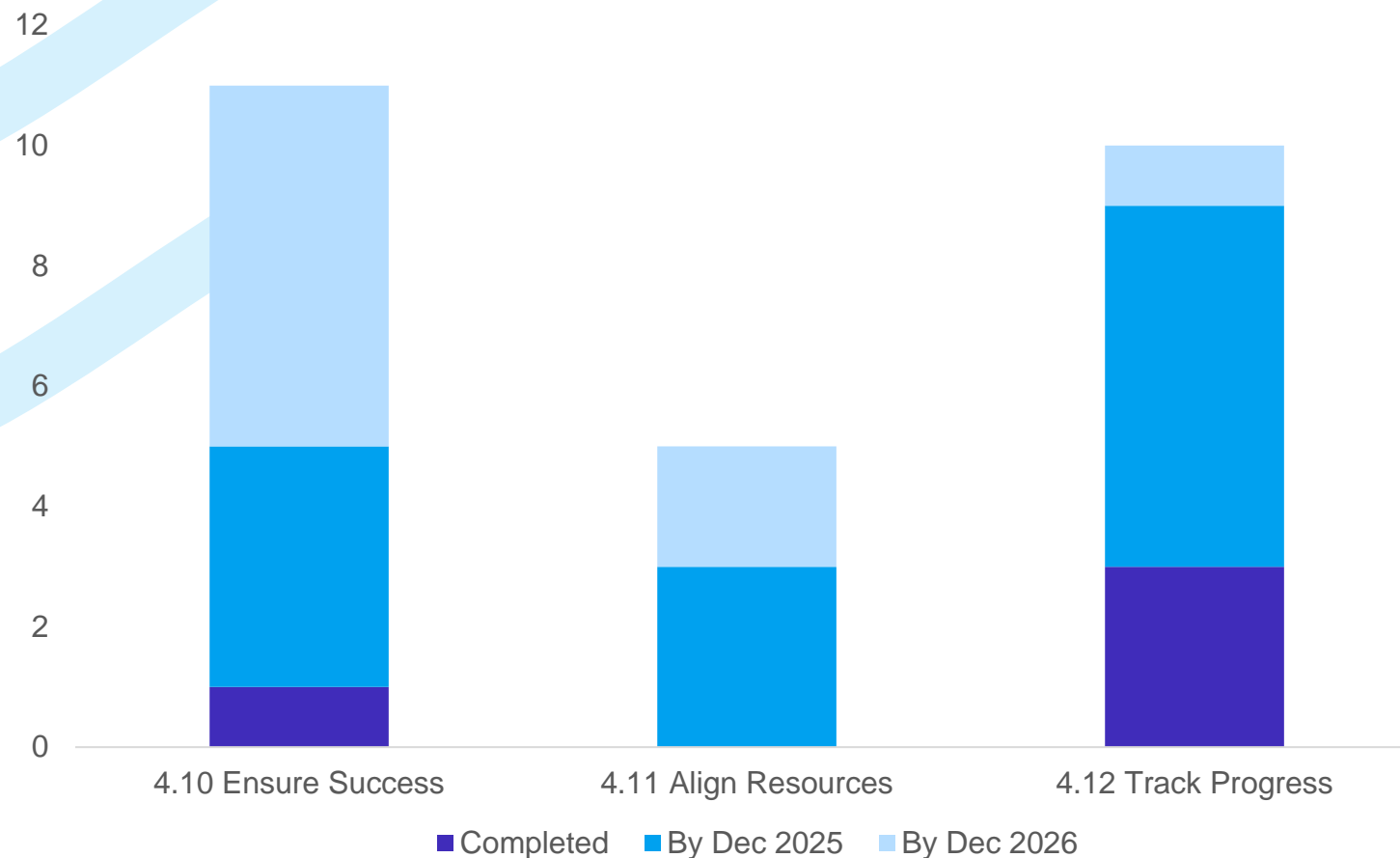
- Strategy 4.10 Ensure Success
- Strategy 4.11 Align Resources
- Strategy 4.12 Report Progress

11 Commitments

27 Actions

Accountability Actions Status

Status of Accountability Actions



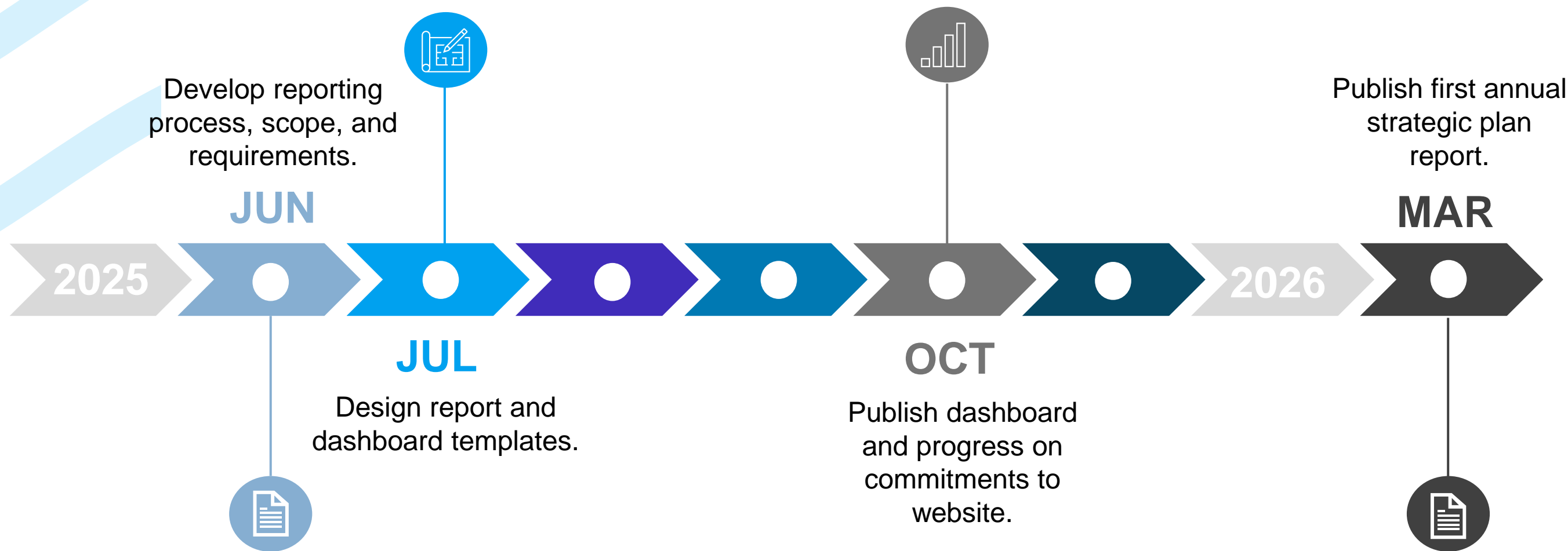
Completed Actions

- Developed action plans for at least 80 percent of strategic plan commitments
- Developed data application to monitor, track, and report progress on action plans
- Established process for updating strategic plan tracking data

Accountability Actions Up Next

Strategy 4.12 Report Progress

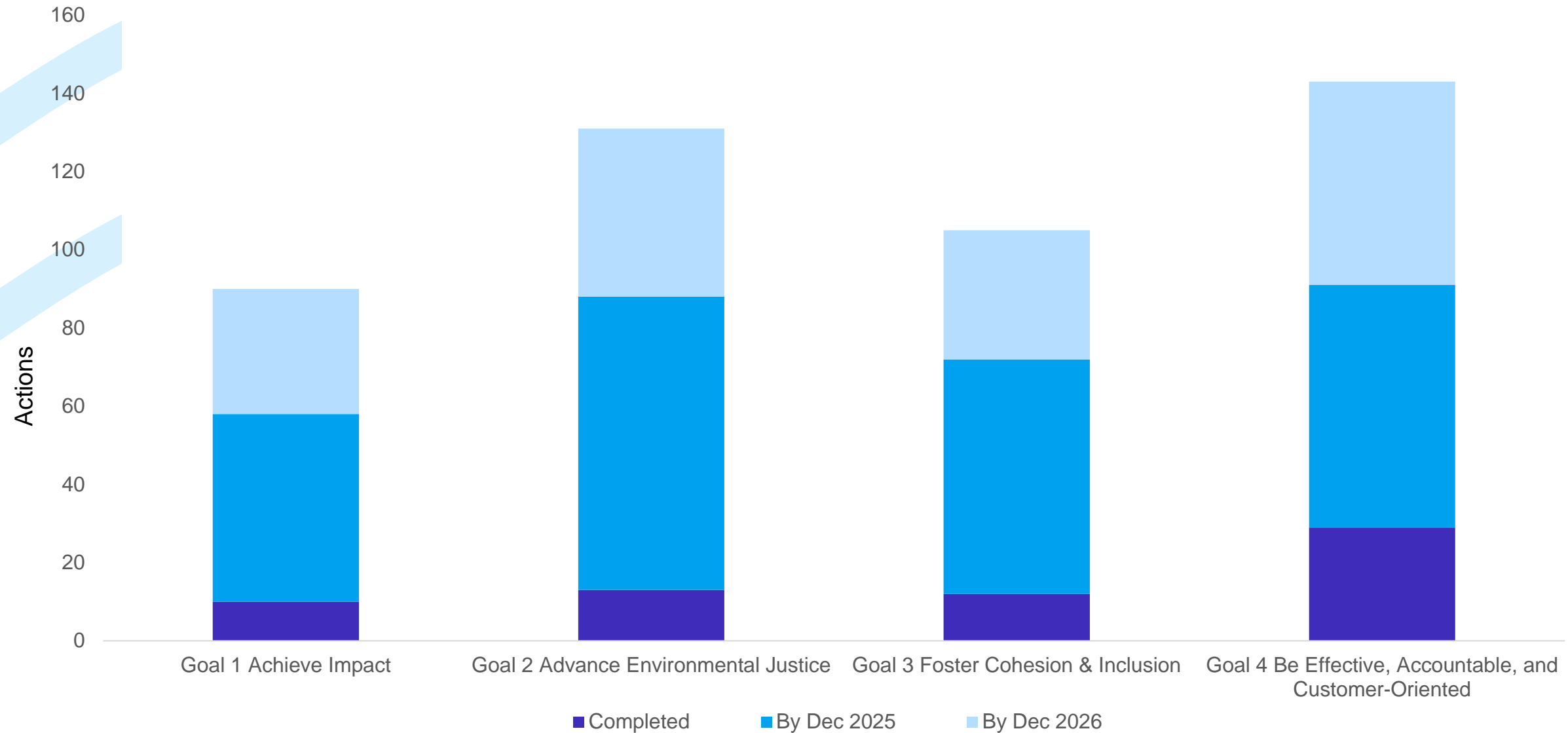
Strategy Commitment: Do an annual progress review.



Progress by Goal

3

Status of Actions By Goal



Goal 1 Achieve Impact



Recent Achievements

- Identified key regulations that contribute to permit delays
- Identified ways to strengthen refinery flaring regulations
- Presented dust regulatory concepts to community groups in East Oakland and Richmond/San Pablo
- Drafted regulatory concepts for wood burning devices

Goal 2 Advance Environmental Justice



Recent Achievements

- Announced launch of the Community Investments Office
- Distributed survey to Bay Area residents to assess community funding priorities
- Air District Board approved the People's Air Grant Program
- Updated air toxics emissions data and online mapping tool for permitted sources

Goal 3 Foster Cohesion & Inclusion

Recent Achievements

- Developed on-line inventory and calendar of available staff training
- Added environmental justice as a core competency in performance reviews
- Improved orientation process for new hires.
- Hosted climate week events



Goal 4 Be Effective, Accountable, and Customer-Oriented

Recent Achievements

- Developed a database and software application to monitor, track, and report on all action plan objectives and key results
- Developed action plans for strategic plan commitments
- Developed regionwide incident notification system
- Developed proposed annual budget to align with strategic plan



Tracking and Reporting

4




Tracking & Reporting

- Actions in tracking database by **Summer 2025**
- Quarterly progress reporting begins **Fall 2025**
- Reporting via website, internal and external dashboards, by **Fall 2025**
- First full annual report anticipated **Spring 2026**

External Dashboard: High-Level View Mock-Up



External Dashboard: Commitment View Mock-Up

 Bay Area Air District – Strategic Plan Commitments						
Commitment ▼						
Strategy: 3.6 Support Employee Success						
Commitment: Develop an expanded mentoring program.						
Objective	Key Result					
	Description	Status		Percent Complete	Start Date	End Date
Increase mentorship participation rate.	Increase participation in mentorship program from 24 to 60 participants by October 2025.		Started	25%	01/15/25	10/31/25
Enhance quality of mentorship program.	Create a post-mentorship survey/evaluation by November 2025.		Completed	100%	02/01/25	03/31/25
	Implement survey after each mentorship cohort concludes beginning in November 2025.	-	Not Started	-	11/01/25	11/30/25
	Incorporate survey results and best practices into mentoring plan by January 2026.	-	Not Started	-	12/01/25	01/31/26

Next Steps



- Quarterly report on all actions
- Develop dashboards
- Report progress on website
- First full annual report Spring 2026
- Continue implementing action plans

Questions & Discussion

For more information:

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