



# Home and School Air Filtration Program Funding

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee

May 14, 2025

Anna Lee

Manager

Environmental Justice Division



# Presentation Outline

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- Program Background
- Program Outcomes
- Community Impact
- Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives
- Proposal
- Requested Action

# School Air Filtration Program - Background

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- Started in 2019 through the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Supplemental Environmental Projects program
- Focused on public elementary schools near freeways and schools impacted by fine particulate matter
- Funding sources:
  - \$2 million (M) CARB Supplemental Environmental Project
  - \$300,000 Wildfire Mitigation Reserve
- Contracted with IQAir Foundation

# School Air Filtration Program - Outcomes

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Completed installations of high-efficiency air filtration in 16 public elementary schools with IQAir Foundation in the following areas:

- East and West Oakland
- Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco
- Pittsburg-Bay Point
- Richmond and San Pablo
- Tri-Valley

# Home Air Filtration Program - Background

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- Launched in 2021, piloted with California Asthma Mitigation Project and Regional Asthma Management and Prevention, local health centers and one-time distributions to community-based organizations
- Expanded program reach through partnerships with James Cary Smith Community Grantees, community-based organizations and local health centers
- Broadened reach beyond Assembly Bill (AB) 617 communities
- Included air filter replacements to extend program impact
- Eligibility updated to remove respiratory illness requirement
- Funding Sources:
  - \$350,000 from General Fund (pilot phase)
  - \$750,000 from Wildfire Mitigation Reserve

# Home Air Filtration Program - Outcomes

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- Distributed over **4,100** air filter units with 25 organizational partners
- Community Partner Survey Highlights:
  - **100%** said the program was "very valuable" or "extremely valuable" for the community
  - **100%** said their overall experience was "positive" or "very positive"
  - **96%** said that participating in the program aligned "very closely" with their organization's other programs and activities
  - **87%** of community partners see "a great deal" or "a lot" of community members still in need
  - **100%** of community partners are interested in receiving additional filters to distribute

# Community Impact



Photo and testimonial provided by HOPE Collaborative, an Air District community partner

**“Truly grateful for this program! Air purifiers are so expensive and having access to clean air is life changing!”**

**- East Oakland community member**

# CAP Incentives

- Established by CARB in 2017 as a community-focused program to improve air quality and reduce exposure to air pollution
- State budget appropriates Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds
- At least 80% of project funds must benefit priority communities
- Eligible projects must follow CARB approved guidelines, which were recently updated to allow more flexibility for air filtration
- Since 2017, Air District has been allocated \$227 M
  - Project funds awarded annually to eligible mobile source emission reduction and zero-emission infrastructure projects
  - Recommending \$3 M allocation for School Air Filtration projects and \$1 M allocation for Home Air Filtration projects





# Proposal to Expand Program Impact

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- Continue partnership with IQAir Foundation to install and maintain high-efficiency air filtration in 14 public elementary schools in Richmond and San Pablo for five years, prioritizing schools with Path to Clean Air Leads
- Identify public elementary schools in Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco AB 617 area and partner with IQAir Foundation on installations and maintenance
- Total contract cost not to exceed: \$3,000,000

# Proposal to Expand Program Impact (cont.)

- Relaunch Home Air Filtration Program in AB 617 communities and other priority communities aligned with CAP guidelines
- Total program cost not to exceed: \$1,000,000

# Recommended Action

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## ***Recommend to the Board of Directors that the Board:***

1. Allocate \$4,000,000 of CAP Incentives funding to support Home and School Air Filtration Programs; and
2. Authorize the Executive Officer/APCO to execute a Master Services Agreement with IQAir Foundation in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 for implementation of a School Air Filtration Program.

# Questions?

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**For more information:**

Please email: [airfilters@baaqmd.gov](mailto:airfilters@baaqmd.gov)



# Community Perspectives: Sustainable Contra Costa

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee

May 14, 2025

Eliana Batrez, Senior Program Specialist, Sustainable Contra Costa

Elinor Mattern, Senior Staff Specialist, Environmental Justice Division

# Presentation Outline

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- About the James Cary Smith (JCS) Community Grant Program
  - Origin of the program
  - Background and information
- Grantee Spotlight: Sustainable Contra Costa

# James Cary Smith

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The Community Grants Program is named for Jim Smith, the Air District's former Community Outreach Manager.

Mr. Smith passed away in 2015 from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and the program extends his vision of more engaged and empowered communities.



*James Cary Smith*

# JCS Community Grant Program

- Unique, multiyear grant program supporting community-based organizations and nonprofits to implement capacity-building projects in environmental justice (EJ) communities.



*Convening of six JCS Grant Program Awardees – March 2025*



# JCS Community Grant Program Details

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- Wide range of capacity-building projects serving diverse populations
- Multiyear grants; up to \$100,000 per grantee per year
- Cycle 1 (2022 – 2025): \$6.4 million to 33 projects over 3 years
- Cycle 2 (2025 – 2028): \$3.5 million to 12 projects over 3 years

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

# The East Bay Clean Air Coalition

**Sustainable Contra Costa**

**Presenter:** Eliana Batrez, Senior Program Specialist

Funded by a grant from the Bay Area Air District.



# Who We Are:

Sustainable Contra Costa (SCOCO) is a community of citizens, educators, innovators, and organizations working together for ecologically sustainable, economically vibrant, and socially just communities for all.

- Founded in 2008
- Cleaner Contra Costa Challenge
- Sustainable Leaders in Action, our youth-led branch

Today's presenter: Eliana

[sustainablecoco.org](http://sustainablecoco.org)

[cleanercontracosta.org](http://cleanercontracosta.org)



# Who We Are:

## **Purpose Statement:**

The East Bay Clean Air Coalition brings together community based organizations and agencies to collectively work to improve air quality in Antioch, Pittsburg and Bay Point by coordinating resources and ensuring the interests of local residents are represented.

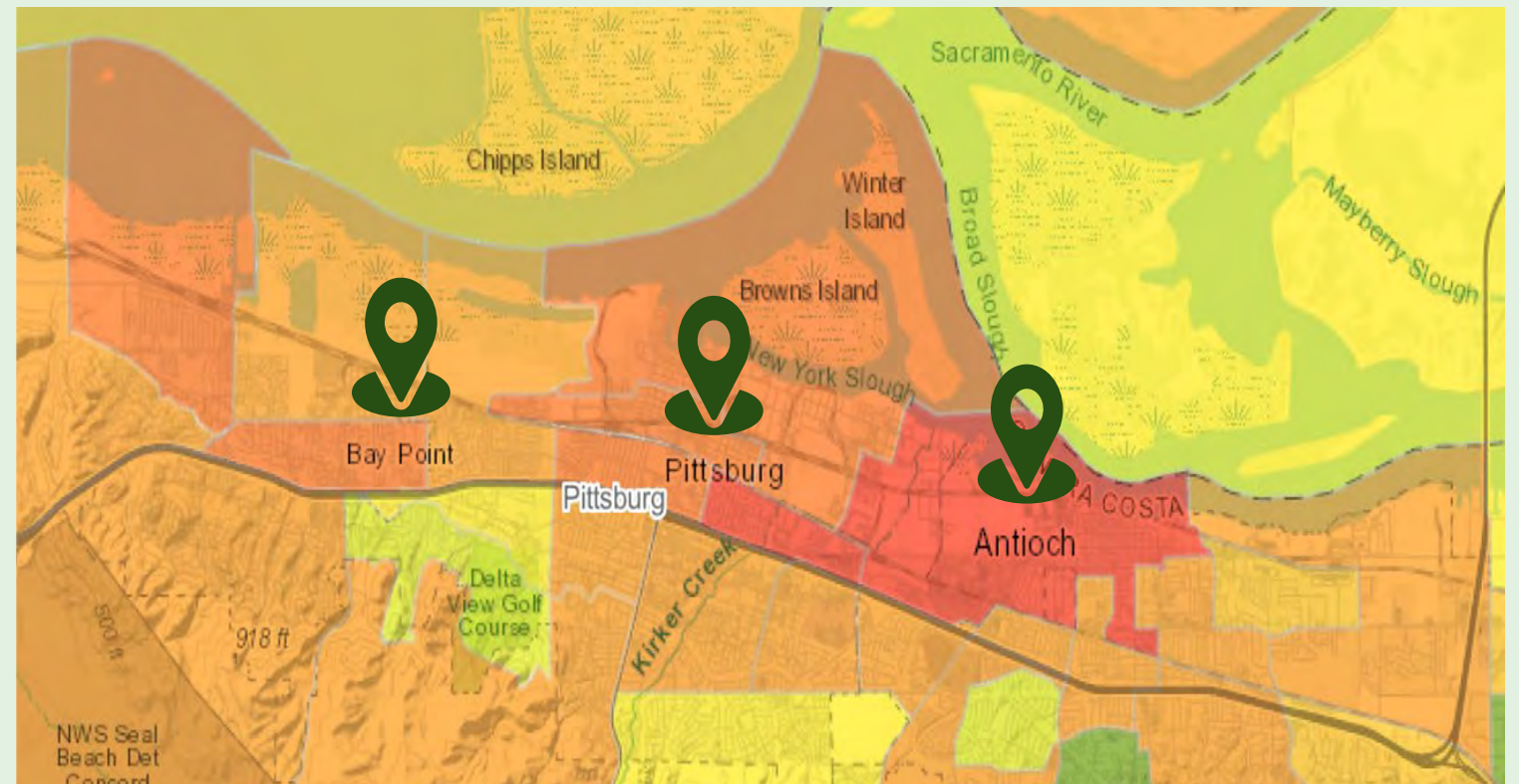
## **Vision Statement:**

The East Bay Clean Air Coalition engages and uplifts the voices of residents in Antioch, Pittsburg, and Bay Point—especially those from disproportionately affected communities—to improve air quality and public health for community well-being and a more sustainable environment.



# East Contra Costa County

- Includes the cities of Pittsburg, Antioch, and the unincorporated community of Bay Point
- High CalEnviroScreen percentiles:
  - Pollution burden
  - Population characteristics
  - Overall CalEnviroScreen scores
- Bisected by Highway 4



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# Year 1



**April 2022**

Awarded three-year  
JCS Community Grant.



**Community Needs Assessment(s)**

Survey development, translation, outreach, and  
data collection.



**January 2023**

End of Year 1



**Getting to know the community**



**Community dinners and public events**

# Community Needs Assessment(s)

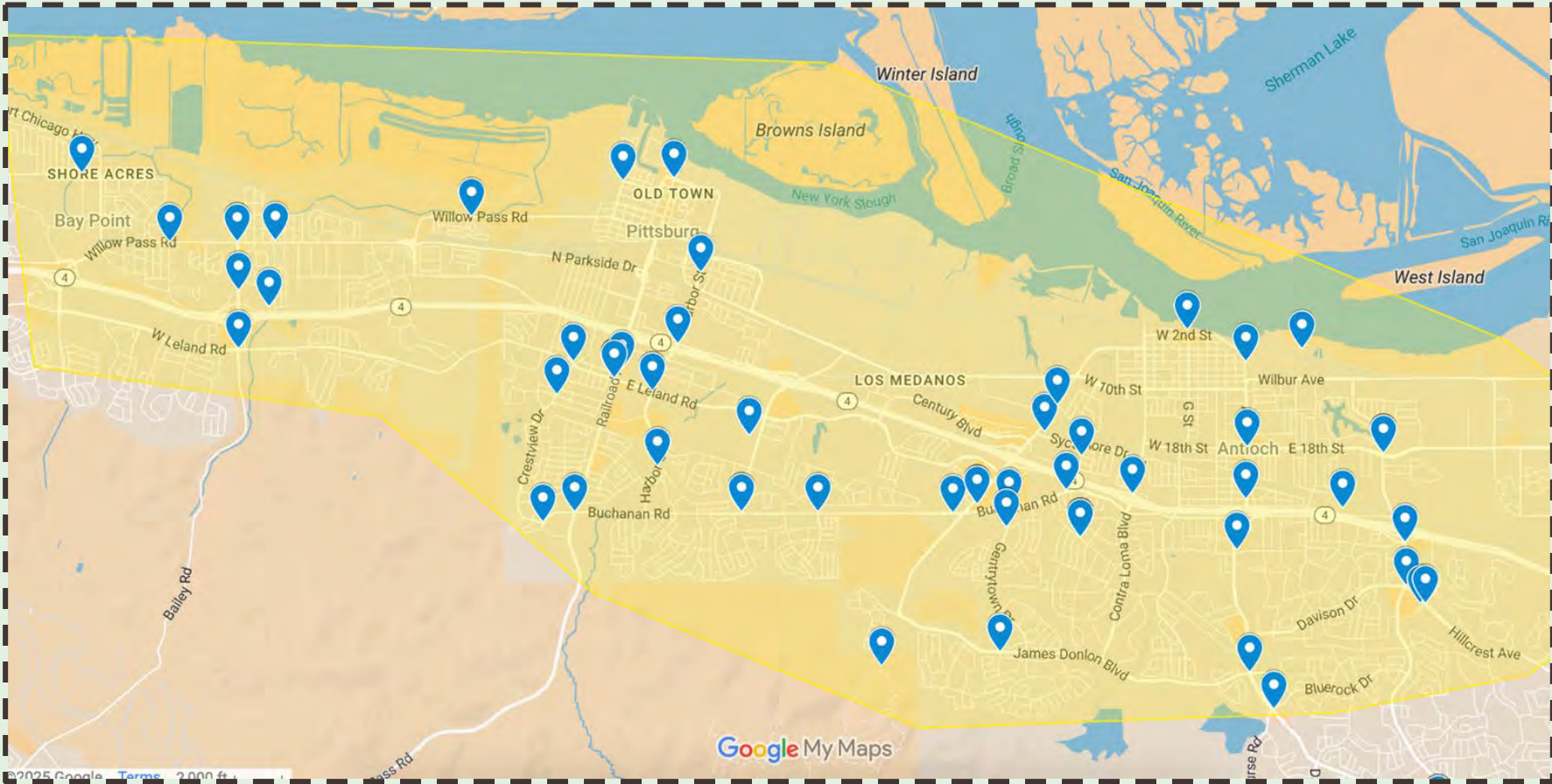
## Highway 4

Concerns about road-related pollution

## Health Conditions

Prevalence of air-quality-related health conditions

## Collaboration with other JCS grantees



General survey respondent locations (nearest major intersection)

# Community dinners and public events



**Community Meeting For Clean Air**  
**Reunión Comunitaria Por Aire Limpio**

Everyone who completes the survey is eligible to participate in a drawing for Target gift cards worth \$50 or \$25!

Free childcare available for up to 15 children.

¡Todos los que completan la encuesta son elegibles para participar en un sorteo de tarjetas de regalo de Target de \$50 o \$25!

Cuidado de niños gratuito disponible para hasta 15 niños.

[CLEANAIRCOMMUNITY.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://CLEANAIRCOMMUNITY.EVENTBRITE.COM)  
10/25/22 | 6:00 - 7:30 PM  
NICK RODRIGUEZ COMMUNITY CENTER  
213 F ST, ANTIOCH, CA 94509







# Clean Air Coalition

- Membership is composed of representatives from a diverse range of community organizations, public services, agencies, and local government.
- Google Group community
- Monthly meetings (every second Thursday)
  - Have met 18 times!
  - Activities include:
    - Member-led "lightning talks" and guest presentations
    - Group discussions and round robin updates
    - Facilitating interorganizational connections



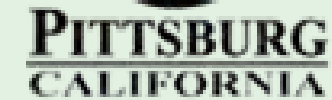
# Clean Air Coalition Membership



Healthy + Active  
Before 5



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
of Contra Costa County



The East Bay Clean Air Coalition is funded by the Bay Area Air District's James Cary Smith Community Grant Program.



# Project approach

Community-centered

Adaptive and responsive

Coalition-driven

Collaborative

Culturally competent

Grounded in humility

Relationship building

Utilizing our organization's knowledge  
about air quality

Informed by Coalition member expertise

Learning from the community

Shared commitment to public health, community well being, and air quality  
exposure reduction

# Year 3

- Supporting the Bay Area Air District's Regional Climate Action Planning outreach and community engagement efforts
- JCS Ripple Effect Mapping Workshop
- Aclima and California Air Resources Board's Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative
- Wrapping things up, as our grant cycle concludes at the end of June
- **Looking ahead:**
  - Working on an Urban Forest Management Plan with Contra Costa County
  - Pursuing funded projects and opportunities to continue the East Bay Clean Air Coalition

# Experience as a James Cary Smith grantee

- Excellent support from the Community Grants project team every step of the way:
  - Grantee resource library
  - Quarterly grantee coalition meetings and Google Group
  - Plethora of opportunities to connect with other JCS grantees and become familiar with their work
  - Learning opportunities (All About Air Quality Bootcamp, Bay Air Center, etc.) and participatory evaluation processes
- Multi - year project allowed us time to learn, find our footing, and hit our stride
  - Ability to adjust our approach until we landed on the best fit for East Contra Costa County
- Clear growth as an organization from having been involved in this program

# Hopes for the James Cary Smith Program

- Funding capacity for more projects and additional funding for previous cycle grantees
- Grantee support towards the beginning of the cycle:
  - Introductory presentations on the Air District and the history of the JCS Community Grant Program
  - Building awareness of available grantee resources, learning materials, and the resource library
  - Another All About Air Quality Bootcamp

# Acknowledgements

- Thank you to the Bay Area Air District for funding this project, and Aneesh Rana, Elinor Mattern, and the rest of the JCS Community Grants team for their ongoing support
- Irving Joe and the East County Networking Group
- Sarah Romano, Consultant
- Jody London, Contra Costa County
- Sara Bellafronte and Dhaynae Romero, City of Pittsburg
- Julie Haas-Wajdowicz and Olivia Talley, City of Antioch
- William Goodwin, BAAD Community Advisory Council Member
- Sabrina Villaro and Eyana Rodgers, Contra Costa Health
- Grace Benzler and Cam Foley, SCOCO Volunteers
- Ali Uscilka, Healthy & Active Before 5 and Catherine Stafford, CoCoKids



# Acknowledgements

- Acterra, Cool the Earth, and La Clínica de La Raza
- Forest Abbott-Lum, Bay Area Air District and InterEthnica
- Clean Air Coalition Members and Member Organizations
- Fellow JCS Grantees:
  - Bike East Bay
  - Citizen Air Monitoring Network
  - Marin City Climate Resilience
  - Rise South City
  - Tri-Valley Air Quality Climate Alliance
- Coalition for Clean Air and TD Enviro
- 350 Contra Costa Action
- Stand Together Contra Costa
- SparkPoint Contra Costa
- MCE Clean Energy
- East Contra Costa Community Alliance
- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County
- Contra Costa Health

# Thank you!



# Questions/Feedback

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**For more information:**

**Sustainable Contra Costa:**

Eliana Batrez, Senior Program Specialist, [eliana@sustainablecoco.org](mailto:eliana@sustainablecoco.org)

**James Cary Smith Community Grant Program:**

[communitygrants@baaqmd.gov](mailto:communitygrants@baaqmd.gov)



# Assembly Bill 617 Program Update

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee

May 14, 2025

**Diana Ruiz, Acting Director, Environmental Justice Division**

**Karissa White, Staff Specialist II**

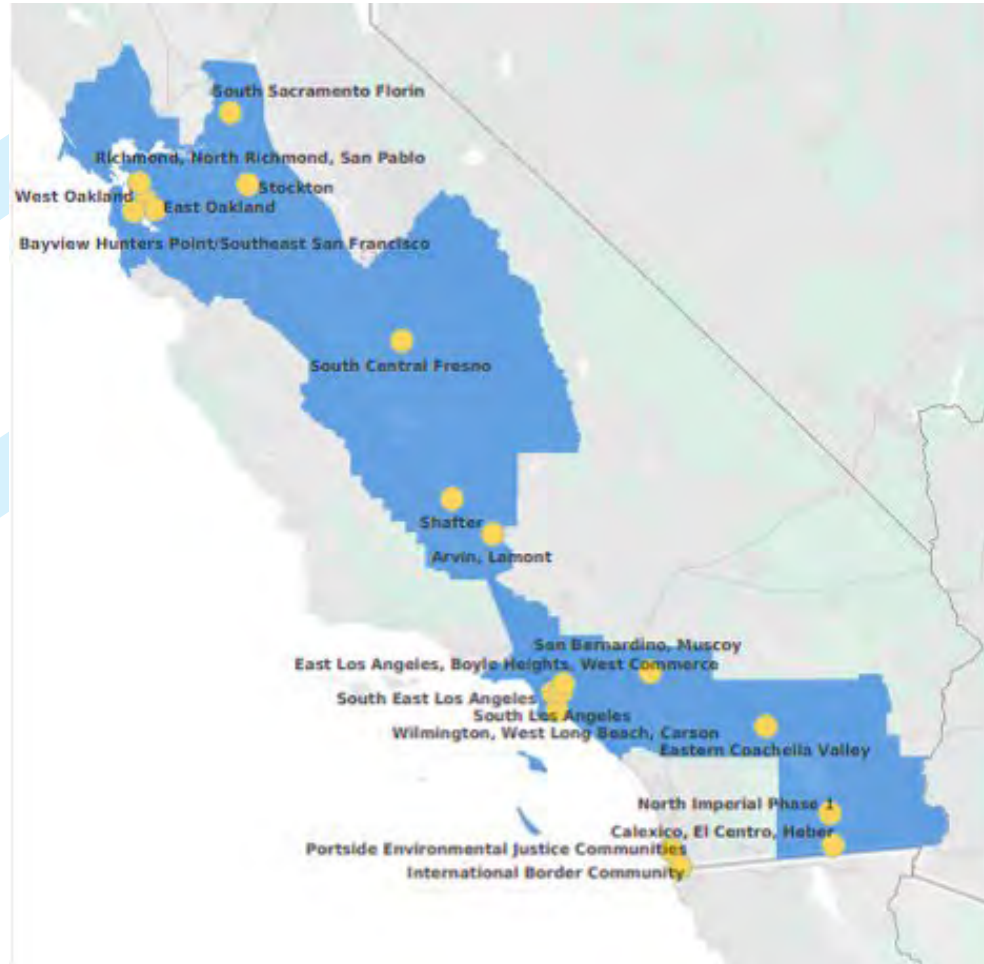
**Aneesh Rana, Senior Staff Specialist**

**Daniel Madrigal, Senior Staff Specialist**

**Environmental Justice Division**

AGENDA: 6

# Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Overview



Designated AB 617 communities in California. Map from California Air Resources Board.

- State mandated program that responds to the history of environmental injustice
- Focused on reducing exposure in communities most impacted by air pollution
- Committed to deep partnerships with community to develop and implement new strategies to measure air pollution and reduce health impacts

# West Oakland Overview

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- West Oakland is neighborhood located adjacent to the Port of Oakland and surrounded by three major freeways
- Designated AB 617 Community August 2018
- The Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP) was adopted in 2019 and completed its five years of implementation in December 2024



West Oakland housing adjacent to the Port and Freeways

# West Oakland Milestones

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- Five Years of Implementation (completed)
- Prescott Greening Project (in progress)
- Street Sweeping and Road Dust Study (in progress)

# Next Steps for West Oakland

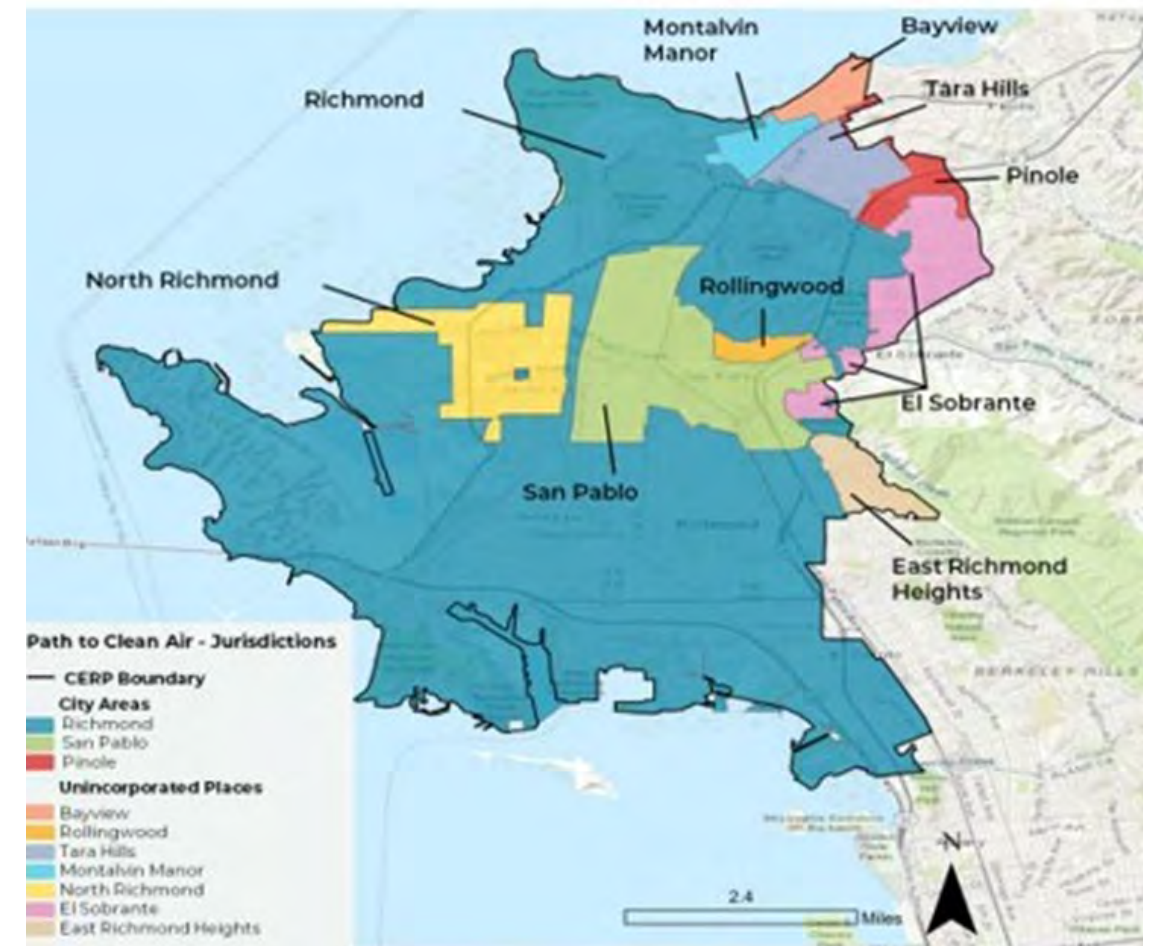
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- West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) Grant Agreement will go into effect on March 31, 2025
- Further implementation of the West Oakland Community Action Plan (WOCAP) will focus on 16 strategies over the next two years
- WOEIP is the sole lead working on Year Six and Year Seven of WOCAP implementation



# Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Overview

- Includes areas of Richmond, North Richmond, San Pablo and unincorporated Contra Costa County
- Designated AB 617 CERP Community September 2020
- Community Steering Committee (CSC) convened in 2021 to develop a CERP
- CSC is comprised of up to 27 individuals who work, live or grew up in the area



Community Emission Reduction Plan Boundary and Jurisdictions

# Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Milestones

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- Air District Board of Directors approved CERP in May 2024
- CSC approved a Year One Implementation Plan in October 2024
  - Including implementation framework and priority strategies
- CSC Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee and CSC members selected 10 new members in February 2025
- New Standing Committees will form in April 2025 for Just Transition and Community Benefits Policy

# Next Steps for Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo

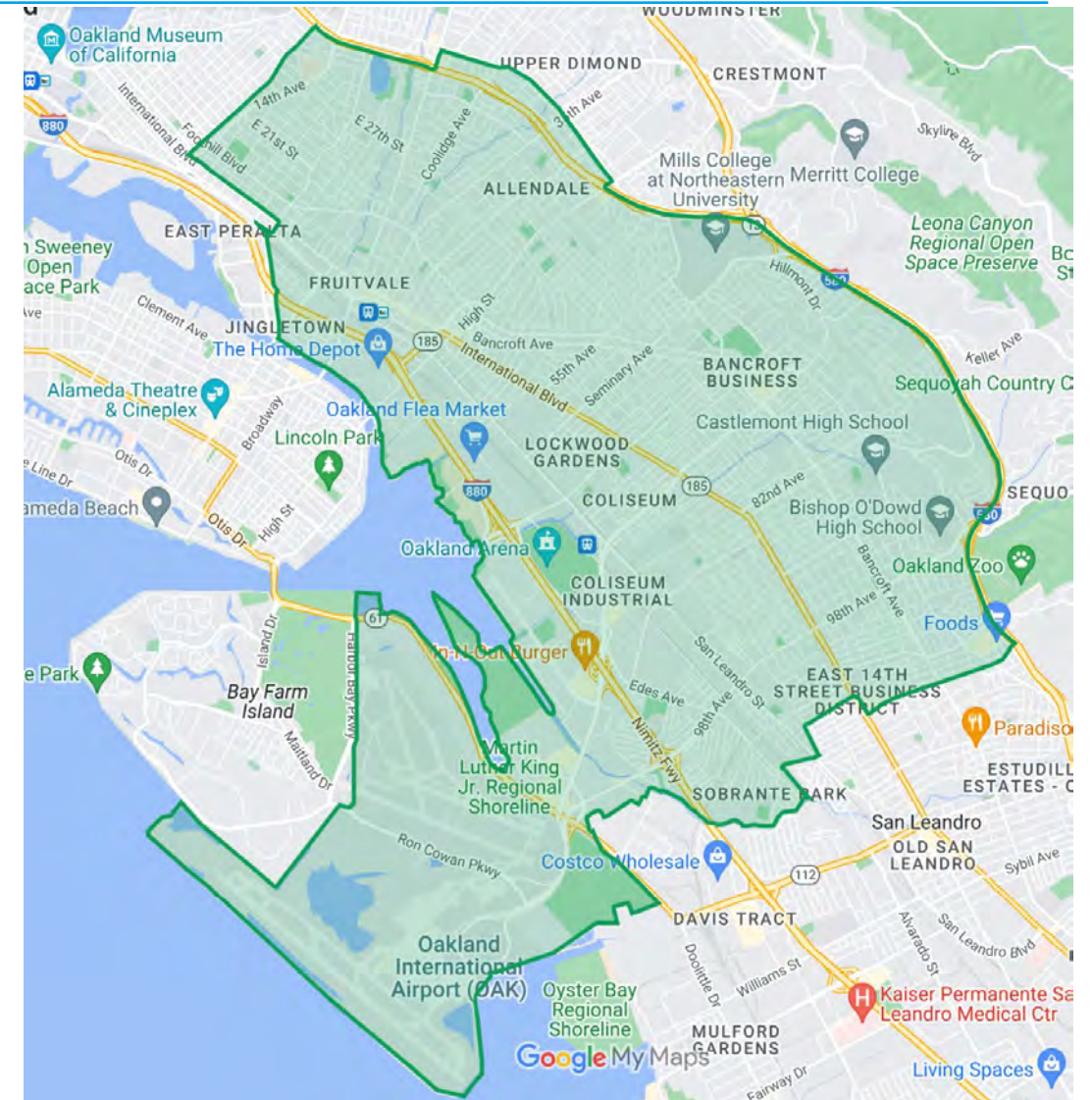
- Year One implementation continues
- Two standing committees to be created
- First annual progress report in October 2025



Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo CSC Meeting

# East Oakland Overview

- Designated AB 617 CERP Community February 2022
- Co-Lead with Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)
- CSC started in September 2022
- 28 monthly CSC meetings held, convened by Co-Leads and three CSC Co-Chairs
- CSC is comprised of 24 individuals who work or live in the area



AB 617 Planning Area for East Oakland

# East Oakland Milestones

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## Completed Milestones:

- CSC Charter Agreement
- Vision & Principles
- Community Boundary
- Emissions Inventory
- Health Inequities Data
- Compliance & Enforcement Data
- Community Mapping Project
- Community Mapping Mini-Grants

## Pending Milestones:

- Strategy Development (ongoing)
- Community Engagement Mini-Grants (ongoing)
- Community Profile (ongoing)
- CERP Goals
- CERP Adoption
- CERP Implementation

# Next Steps for East Oakland



East Oakland CSC Meeting

- Complete draft CERP strategies and actions
- Finalize CERP goals
- Wrap up Community Engagement Mini-Grants
- Hold a public workshop on the draft CERP
- Bring the CERP to the CSC for adoption in the winter of 2026

# Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco (SF) Overview

- Designated AB 617 CERP Community February 2023
- Co-Lead with the Marie Harrison Community Foundation and the Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates
- CSC meetings started in January 2024
- 15 monthly CSC meetings held, convened by Co-Leads and two Co-Chairs
- CSC is comprised of 24 members who represent residents, business, non-profits, youth, education



AB 617 Planning Area for Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco

# Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast SF Milestones

- CSC Charter Agreement
- Community Map of Sensitive Receptor Sites and Pollution Concerns
- Community Boundary
- Subcommittee to review emissions inventory and identify potential gaps in Air District data on emissions sources
- Requested an extension to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to complete the CERP by July 2026



BVHP/SESF CSC Meeting mapping activity



# Next Steps for Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast SF

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- CSC review of emissions inventory, air quality data, compliance and enforcement data, and incentive funding
- Finalize vision and principles, community concerns, and focus areas
- Develop goals, strategies, and actions for the CERP
- Hold community town hall in late 2025 to share preliminary strategies
- Complete draft CERP strategies and actions in Spring 2026

# Questions/Feedback

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**For more information, visit the Air District's Community Health Protection Program Webpage:**

<https://www.baaqmd.gov/en/community-health/community-health-protection-program>

**For questions, contact:**

[ab617info@baaqmd.gov](mailto:ab617info@baaqmd.gov)