



Bay Area Air District

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE
February 11, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JOHN GIOIA – CHAIR
MONICA BROWN
JOELLE GALLAGHER
SHAMANN WALTON

DIONNE ADAMS – VICE-CHAIR
NOELIA CORZO
LINDA SELL
STEVE YOUNG

**MEETING LOCATION(S) FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE BY
COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Bay Area Metro Center
1st Floor Yerba Buena
375 Beale Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Office of Contra Costa County
Supervisor John Gioia
Conference Room
11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D
El Cerrito, CA 94530

Napa County Administration Building
1195 Third Street, Suite 310
County Executive's Office
Napa, CA 94559

Pittsburg City Hall
65 Civic Ave., Room, 301A
Pittsburg, CA 94565

Solano County Administration Building
675 N. Texas St. Room A168
Fairfield, CA 94533

THE FOLLOWING STREAMING OPTIONS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED

These streaming options are provided for convenience only. In the event that streaming connections malfunction for any reason, the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee reserves the right to conduct the meeting without remote webcast and/or Zoom access.

The public may observe this meeting through the webcast by clicking the link available on the air district's agenda webpage at www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas.

Members of the public may participate remotely via Zoom at <https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/89874545151>, or may join Zoom by phone by dialing (669) 900-6833 or (408) 638-0968. The Webinar ID for this meeting is: 898 7454 5151

Public Comment on Agenda Items: The public may comment on each item on the agenda as the item is taken up. Members of the public who wish to speak on a matter on the agenda will have two minutes each to address the Committee on that agenda item, unless a different time limit is established by the Chair. No speaker who has already spoken on an item will be entitled to speak to that item again.

The Committee welcomes comments, including criticism, about the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the Air District, or of the acts or omissions of the Committee. Speakers shall not use threatening, profane, or abusive language which disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of a Committee meeting. The Air District is committed to maintaining a workplace free of unlawful harassment and is mindful that Air District staff regularly attend Committee meetings. Discriminatory statements or conduct that would potentially violate the Fair Employment and Housing Act – i.e., statements or conduct that is hostile, intimidating, oppressive, or abusive – is *per se* disruptive to a meeting and will not be tolerated.

COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026

1:00 PM

Chairperson, John Gioia

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

The Committee Chair shall call the meeting to order and the Clerk of the Boards shall take roll of the Committee members.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

CONSENT CALENDAR (Item 3)

The Consent Calendar consists of routine items that may be approved together as a group by one action of the Committee. Any Committee member or member of the public may request that an item be removed and considered separately.

3. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of November 12, 2025

The Committee will consider approving the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of November 12, 2025.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)

4. Update on the East Oakland Air Monitoring Project

The Committee will discuss the East Oakland Air Monitoring Project, which includes deployment of a community-based sensor network for fine particulate matter and using the Air District's air monitoring van to measure different pollutants in key locations in East Oakland. This item will be presented by Adele Watts, NorCal Program Co-Director for Communities for a Better Environment, and Dan Alrick, Principal Air and Meteorological Monitoring Specialist in the Meteorology and Measurement Division.

5. Bay Area Regional Evaluation of Air Toxics and Health Effects

The Committee will discuss an overview of the proposed Bay Area Regional Evaluation of Air Toxics and Health Effects, an initiative designed to address regional exposure to air toxics and associated health risk in the Bay Area. The discussion will highlight the study's objectives, including the deployment of continuous air toxics monitoring instruments, development of an updated regional emissions inventory, and the use of advanced air quality modeling and health risk assessment methods. This item will be presented by Dr. Andrea Polidori, Deputy Executive Officer of Science.

OTHER BUSINESS

6. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3, members of the public who wish to speak on matters not on the agenda will be given an opportunity to address the Committee. Members of the public will have two minutes each to address the Committee, unless a different time limit is established by the Chair. The Committee welcomes comments, including criticism, about the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the Air District, or of the acts or omissions of the Committee. Speakers shall not use threatening, profane, or abusive language which disrupts, disturbs, or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of a Committee meeting. The Air District is committed to maintaining a workplace free of unlawful harassment and is mindful that Air District staff regularly attend Committee meetings. Discriminatory statements or conduct that would potentially violate the Fair Employment and Housing Act – i.e., statements or conduct that is hostile, intimidating, oppressive, or abusive – is per se disruptive to a meeting and will not be tolerated.

7. Committee Member Comments

Any member of the Committee, or its staff, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, may: ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement or report on their own activities, provide a reference to staff regarding factual information, request staff to report back at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda. (Gov't Code § 54954.2)

8. Report of the Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs

9. Time and Place of Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in-person at the Bay Area Metro Center and at satellite locations as may be specified on the meeting agenda using a remote teleconferencing link. Members of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee and the public may attend at any of those in-person locations, and members of the public may also attend virtually via webcast.

10. Adjournment

The Committee meeting shall be adjourned by the Chair.

CONTACT:

MANAGER, EXECUTIVE OPERATIONS
375 BEALE STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105
vjohnson@baaqmd.gov

(415) 749-4941
FAX: (415) 928-8560
Air District homepage:
www.baaqmd.gov

- Any writing relating to an open session item on this Agenda that is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the body less than 72 hours before the meeting shall be made available at the Air District's offices at 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105, at the time such writing is made available to all, or a majority of all, members of that body.

Accessibility and Non-Discrimination Policy

The Bay Area Air District (Air District) does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, ethnic group identification, ancestry, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, color, genetic information, medical condition, or mental or physical disability, or any other attribute or belief protected by law.

It is the Air District's policy to provide fair and equal access to the benefits of a program or activity administered by Air District. The Air District will not tolerate discrimination against any person(s) seeking to participate in, or receive the benefits of, any program or activity offered or conducted by the Air District. Members of the public who believe they or others were unlawfully denied full and equal access to an Air District program or activity may file a discrimination complaint under this policy. This non-discrimination policy also applies to other people or entities affiliated with Air District, including contractors or grantees that the Air District utilizes to provide benefits and services to members of the public.

Auxiliary aids and services including, for example, qualified interpreters and/or listening devices, to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, and to other individuals as necessary to ensure effective communication or an equal opportunity to participate fully in the benefits, activities, programs and services will be provided by the Air District in a timely manner and in such a way as to protect the privacy and independence of the individual. Please contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator identified below at least three days in advance of a meeting so that arrangements can be made accordingly.

If you believe discrimination has occurred with respect to an Air District program or activity, you may contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator identified below or visit our website at www.baaqmd.gov/accessibility to learn how and where to file a complaint of discrimination.

Questions regarding this Policy should be directed to the Air District's Non-Discrimination Coordinator, Diana Ruiz, Acting Environmental Justice and Community Engagement Officer at (415) 749-8840 or by email at druiz@baaqmd.gov.

**BAY AREA AIR DISTRICT
375 BEALE STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105
FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL (415) 749-4941**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE:
MONTHLY CALENDAR OF AIR DISTRICT MEETINGS**

FEBRUARY 2026

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Board of Directors Stationary Source Committee	Wednesday	11	10:00 a.m.	1 st Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee	Wednesday	11	1:00 p.m.	1 st Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Policy, Grants and Technology Committee	Wednesday	18	10:00 a.m.	1 st Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Finance and Administration Committee	Wednesday	18	1:00 p.m.	1 st Floor Board Room

MARCH 2026

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday	4	10:00 a.m.	1 st Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Stationary Source Committee	Wednesday	11	10:00 a.m.	1 st Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee	Wednesday	11	1:00 p.m.	1 st Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Policy, Grants and Technology Committee	Wednesday	18	10:00 a.m.	1 st Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Finance and Administration Committee	Wednesday	18	1:00 p.m.	1 st Floor Board Room
Community Advisory Council Meeting	Thursday	19	6:00 p.m.	Juntos Fruitvale 3357 International Boulevard Oakland, CA 94601

BAY AREA AIR DISTRICT
Memorandum

To: Chairperson John Gioia and Members
of the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee

From: Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Date: February 11, 2026

Re: Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of November 12, 2025

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of November 12, 2025.

BACKGROUND

None.

DISCUSSION

Attached for your review and approval are the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of November 12, 2025.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Prepared by: Marcy Hiratzka
Reviewed by: Vanessa Johnson

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Draft Minutes of the Community Equity Health and Justice Committee Meeting of November 12, 2025

Bay Area Air Quality Management District
375 Beale Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 749-5073

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2025

DRAFT MINUTES

This meeting was webcast, and a video recording is available on the website of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District at [Board Resolutions, Agendas, and Minutes](#)

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Opening Comments:** Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee (Committee) Vice Chairperson, John Gioia, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, 1st Yerba Buena Room, San Francisco, CA, 94105): Directors Mark Salinas and Shamann Walton.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location: (Napa County Administration Building, 1195 Third Street, Suite 310, Crystal Conference Room, Napa, CA 94559): Director Joelle Gallagher.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location: (Benicia City Hall, 250 East L. Street, Conference Room 2, Benicia, CA 94510): Vice Chairperson John Gioia; Directors Monica Brown and Steve Young.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location: (Pittsburg City Hall, 65 Civic Ave., Room, 301A, Pittsburg, CA 94565): Director Dionne Adams.

Absent: Chairperson Noelia Corzo; and Directors Brian Barnacle, Brian Colbert, and Ray Mueller.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 14, 2025**

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Young made a motion, seconded by Director Gallagher, to approve the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of May 14, 2025; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Adams, Gallagher, Gioia, Salinas, Walton, Young.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: Brown.
ABSENT: Barnacle, Colbert, Corzo, Mueller.

ACTION ITEM

4. COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC) RECOMMENDATION OF NEW MEMBERSHIP SLATE

Lisa Flores, Staff Specialist II, gave the staff presentation *Community Advisory Council Recommendation of New Membership Slate*, including: recommended action; outline; background; Board selection criteria; additional guidance for selection of new applicants; proposed additional guidance for selection of existing CAC members reapplying; and recommended action.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed where the recommended at-large candidates live and work, and whether any applicants were from Napa, Sonoma, and other agricultural areas to ensure geographic balance; whether applicants were from Central or South Alameda County, versus from northern Alameda County; suggested creation of a geographic heat map to better visualize representation across the counties; offers to assist with recruitment of underrepresented areas; the suggestion of approving the current at-large nominees while directing staff to explore charter changes to establish a dedicated North Bay seat, leaving one remaining at-large seat; and the belief that improved outreach would help ensure broader regional representation.

Committee Action

Director Young made a motion, seconded by Director Brown, to recommend that the Board of Directors appoint the following candidates to the Community Advisory Council, for the two-year or four-year terms specified:

Alameda County (1) Margaret Gordon (2 years)	Santa Clara County (2) Violet Saena (2 years) Azjargal Tsogtsaikhan (2 years)
Contra Costa County (4) William Goodwin (2 years) Kevin Ruano Hernandez (2 years) Latasha Washington (4 years) Dominique Brooks (4 years)	Solano County (1) Ken Szutu (4 years)
San Francisco County (1) Arieann Harrison (2 years)	At-Large (2) Jeff Sanchez (4 years) Saidy Dianyra Reyes Mazariegos (2 years)
San Mateo County (1) Adriana Fernandez Arriaga (2 years)	Youth (1) Daphney Saviotti-Orozco* (2 years)

The motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Adams, Brown, Gallagher, Gioia, Salinas, Walton, Young.
NOES: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: Barnacle, Colbert, Corzo, Mueller.

**Staff note: After the meeting, Daphney Saviotti-Orozco withdrew their candidacy.*

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

5. DRAFT GUIDELINES: LOCAL COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUND FOR BENICIA, RICHMOND, AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 7)

Emi Wang, Community Investments Officer in the Community Investments Office, gave the staff presentation *Draft Guidelines: Local Community Benefits Fund for Benicia, Richmond, and Surrounding Communities*, including: background; engagement and outreach; Local Community Benefits Fund; grant types; partnership requirement and structure; eligible applicants; community needs and engagement; core strategies; strategies: 1) reduce or mitigate air pollution and improve outcomes and 2) build economic resilience for a just transition; measurable outcomes; Benicia and surrounding communities: available funding; eligible communities; grant awards; Richmond and surrounding communities: available funding; eligible communities; grant awards; application scoring and recommendations; and anticipated timeline.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Hon. Terry Scott, Benicia City Councilmember; Dr. Constance Beutel; Mary Shaw, Benicia resident; Judith Sullivan, Benicia resident; Marilyn Bardet, Benicia Community Air Monitoring Program; Tom Cambell, former Benicia City Councilmember; Sue Everall, Benicia resident; James Lessinger, Benicia resident; Bob Nickerson, David Batchelor, Benicia Community Foundation; Steve Goller; Betty Lucas, Benicia resident; Lori Brunman, Benicia resident; Jan Warren; and Terry Mollica, Benicia resident.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed when the grant guidelines will be approved; whether North Richmond is eligible under the Richmond-area funding map; the difference between ongoing refinery related-harms in communities like Richmond, versus future, non-pollution-related harms in Benicia; the financial crisis that the City of Benicia anticipates from the impending Valero refinery facility closure and subsequent request for an exception in the draft guidelines to allow a budget-funding arrangement using \$5 million annually for five years from its settlement allocation to maintain essential community services, while committing the remaining funds to environmental and workforce-transition projects so that Benicia can remain functional and fully participate in long-term regional goals; how the percentage and threshold allocations were set for each level (catalyst, opportunity, and seed grant tiers), the rationale in the percentage structure, and its importance for ensuring equity and helping cities like Benicia; the fact that federal grants require awardees to build sustainable models for their pilot programs so that successful programs may be institutionalized, and whether the Air District should adopt a similar expectation; the concern that granting Benicia special bridge-funding treatment could set a precedent; whether the Air District has a contract management system in place for the CIO; the belief that the bridge-funding proposal from Director Young be raised with the full Board instead of the Committee; the different types of harms faced by communities with active versus closing refineries; the desire that any amendment, particularly funding for community services, should clearly demonstrate a connection to the Air District's statutory mission by framing such support as community stabilization and public health related resilience within the just transition guidelines; whether sports and athletic facilities, fire suppression, and paramedic services could reasonably be considered public-health necessities under the guidelines; the concern that anticipated City of Benicia staff layoffs would leave the City unable to meet the outreach and application requirements, given the scale of the impacts of the refinery closure; the desire for a statute-aligned approach that allows flexibility for Benicia and other communities facing similar circumstances; the importance of revisiting language so the framework can be applied equitably in the future; and whether public comments would be posted online for Board members to review in advance.

Committee Action

No action taken.

6. COMMUNITY EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN (CERP) UPDATE FOR THE EAST OAKLAND ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 617 COMMUNITY (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 5)

Alicia Parker, Acting Manager in the Planning and Climate Protection Division, gave the staff presentation *Community Emissions Reduction Plan Update for the East Oakland Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community*, including: overview – East Oakland AB 617 Community; East Oakland Draft CERP; community engagement; East Oakland Draft CERP goals; East Oakland strategy development; focus areas; community concerns and action highlights; and next steps.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

No action taken.

7. YEAR 1 ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE RICHMOND-NORTH RICHMOND-SAN PABLO PATH TO CLEAN AIR (PTCA) ASSEMBLY BILL 617 COMMUNITY (OUT OF ORDER, ITEM 6)

Laura Cackette, Principal Environmental Planner, gave the staff presentation *Year 1 Annual Report for the Richmond- North Richmond-San Pablo Path to Clean Air Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community*, including: overview of PTCA; implementation and annual reporting; summary of Year 1 progress; Community Steering Committee (CSC) Year 1 priority actions; incentives and emission benefits; reflection – key accomplishments; additional reporting included; and next steps.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

No action taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

Public comments were given by Geoff Ellsworth, California League of United Latin American Citizens (Cal LULAC).

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

10. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF EQUITY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs, waived his report.

11. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in-person at the Bay Area Metro Center and at satellite locations as may be specified on the meeting agenda using a remote teleconferencing link. Members of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee and the public may attend at any of those in-person locations, and members of the public may also attend virtually via webcast.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 p.m.

Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards

BAY AREA AIR DISTRICT
Memorandum

To: Chairperson John Gioia and Members
of the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee

From: Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Date: February 11, 2026

Re: Update on the East Oakland Air Monitoring Project

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None, the Committee will discuss this item, but no action is requested at this time.

BACKGROUND

East Oakland community members and organizations have long advocated for health equity, cleaner air, and investments to promote a green and regenerative economy. East Oakland contains large tracts of commercially and heavy industrially zoned land with a complex mix of pollution sources and is a major transportation corridor with goods moving via air, ship, rail, freeways, and truck routes. These pollution sources coexist with residences, schools, and other locations where people work and spend time.

Disparate impacts in overburdened communities such as East Oakland are not always captured by long-term ambient air monitoring stations or modeling efforts. However, air monitoring studies specifically designed to collect spatially resolved data can help reveal areas with persistently elevated pollutant concentrations, improve our understanding of impacts from known emissions sources, identify new sources, and make air monitoring data available to the community in more locations.

The Air District, in partnership with Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) and the University of California, Berkeley (UCB), is implementing an air monitoring project in East Oakland to collect spatially resolved data and inform the development of effective strategies for reducing air pollution exposure and emissions. The project has two main components: (1) deployment of a community-based sensor network for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) and (2) using the Air District's air monitoring van to measure volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulate matter (PM) near sources of pollution and community assets.

DISCUSSION

Both components of the East Oakland Air Monitoring Project are well underway. The PM_{2.5} sensor network is making real-time PM_{2.5} data available in more places in East Oakland and will help build community ownership in air pollution monitoring and response to severe air quality events. CBE conducted extensive community outreach to recruit participants to host indoor and outdoor sensor pairs. Participants also receive a portable air purifier and a stipend to help offset operating costs for the sensors and air cleaner. CBE and UCB have deployed the majority of the planned sensor network as of November 2025 and are holding recurring training and information sessions for community members to learn about air pollution, hosting the PM_{2.5} sensors, accessing and understanding the collected data, and using the portable air purifiers.

The Air District's air monitoring van measures VOCs and PM at high spatial resolution to characterize air quality impacts from key pollution sources in East Oakland and identify potential opportunities for emissions and exposure reductions. This monitoring focuses on sources of pollution and community assets identified by community members through CBE-led community engagement efforts and the Assembly Bill 617 East Oakland Community Steering Committee. Air monitoring and data analysis is ongoing and will continue into Spring of 2026. When the air monitoring data points to a specific source behind an air quality issue, the Air District can take actions in response, such as through targeted inspections, permit review, and rule development, depending on the specific issue. Other identified air quality issues may be less clear and require more investigation through additional data collection or by evaluating other types of information. The Air District is building internal collaboration to support timely, coordinated responses to identified air quality issues.

An important goal for this project is making air monitoring data and findings accessible to the East Oakland community. Project leads will continue to engage with community members to contextualize and provide feedback on the collected data and resulting findings. Information will be shared in a variety of ways, including through public-facing materials and interactive formats, technical reports, and downloadable datasets.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Prepared by: Dan Alrick
Reviewed by: Kate Hoag

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. East Oakland Air Monitoring Project Presentation



Update on the East Oakland Air Monitoring Project

Community Equity, Health, and Justice
Committee

February 11, 2026

Adele Watts
NorCal Program Co-Director
Communities for a Better Environment

Dan Alrick
Principal Air and Meteorological Monitoring Specialist



Overview – East Oakland Air Monitoring Project

- Partnership between the Air District, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), and the University of California – Berkeley (UCB)
- Two project components:
 - Community-based network for fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5})
 - Measurements with the Air District's air monitoring van

COMMUNITIES^{for a}
BETTER
ENVIRONMENT
est. 1978



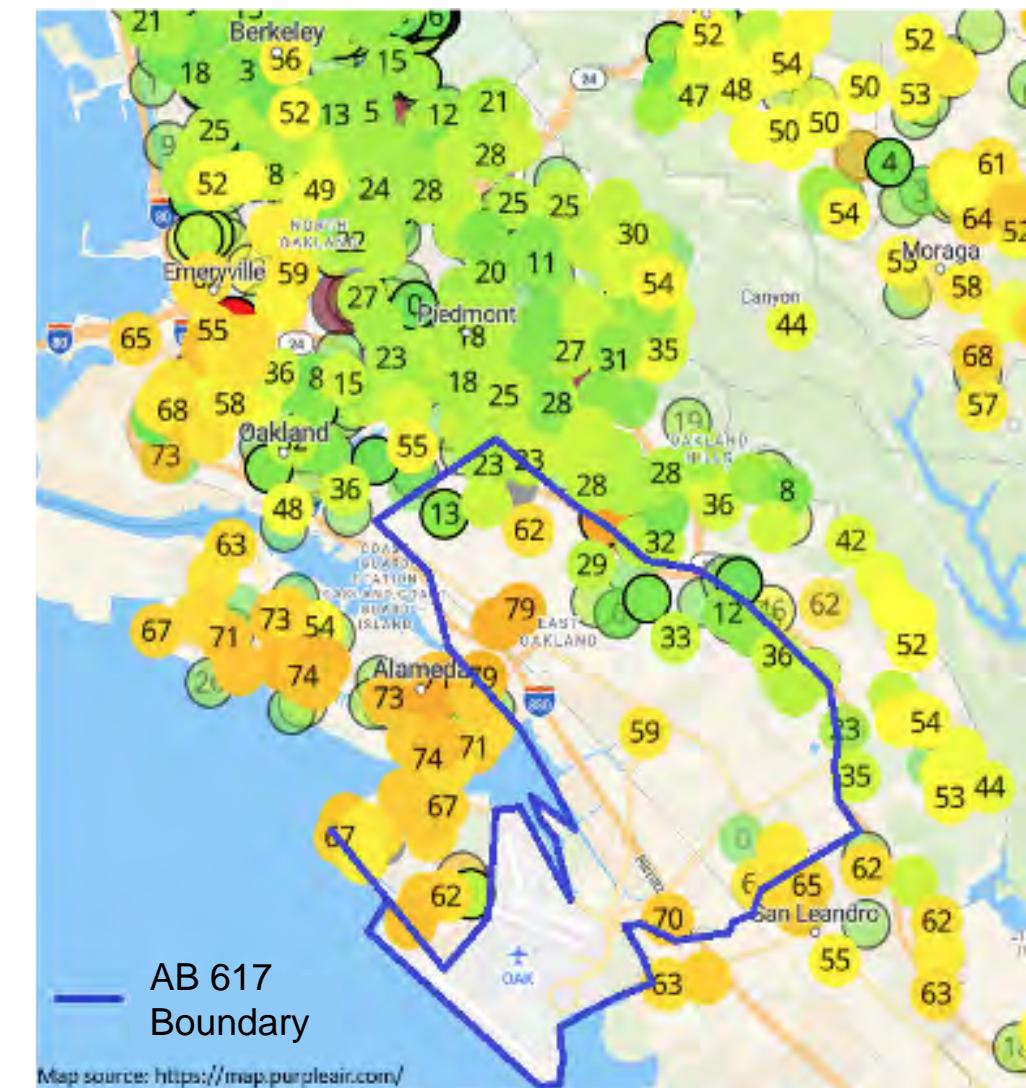
Logos for Communities for a Better Environment (top), the Bay Area Air District (lower left), and the University of California – Berkeley (lower right)

Project Motivation

- Disparate impacts in overburdened communities such as East Oakland are not always captured by long-term ambient air monitoring stations or modeling efforts
- There are information gaps in our understanding of certain sources and their impacts, and gaps in availability of air monitoring data
- Air monitoring studies with different approaches can provide data in more places and to help inform key questions and development of effective strategies to reduce emissions and exposure

PM_{2.5} Sensor Network – Purpose

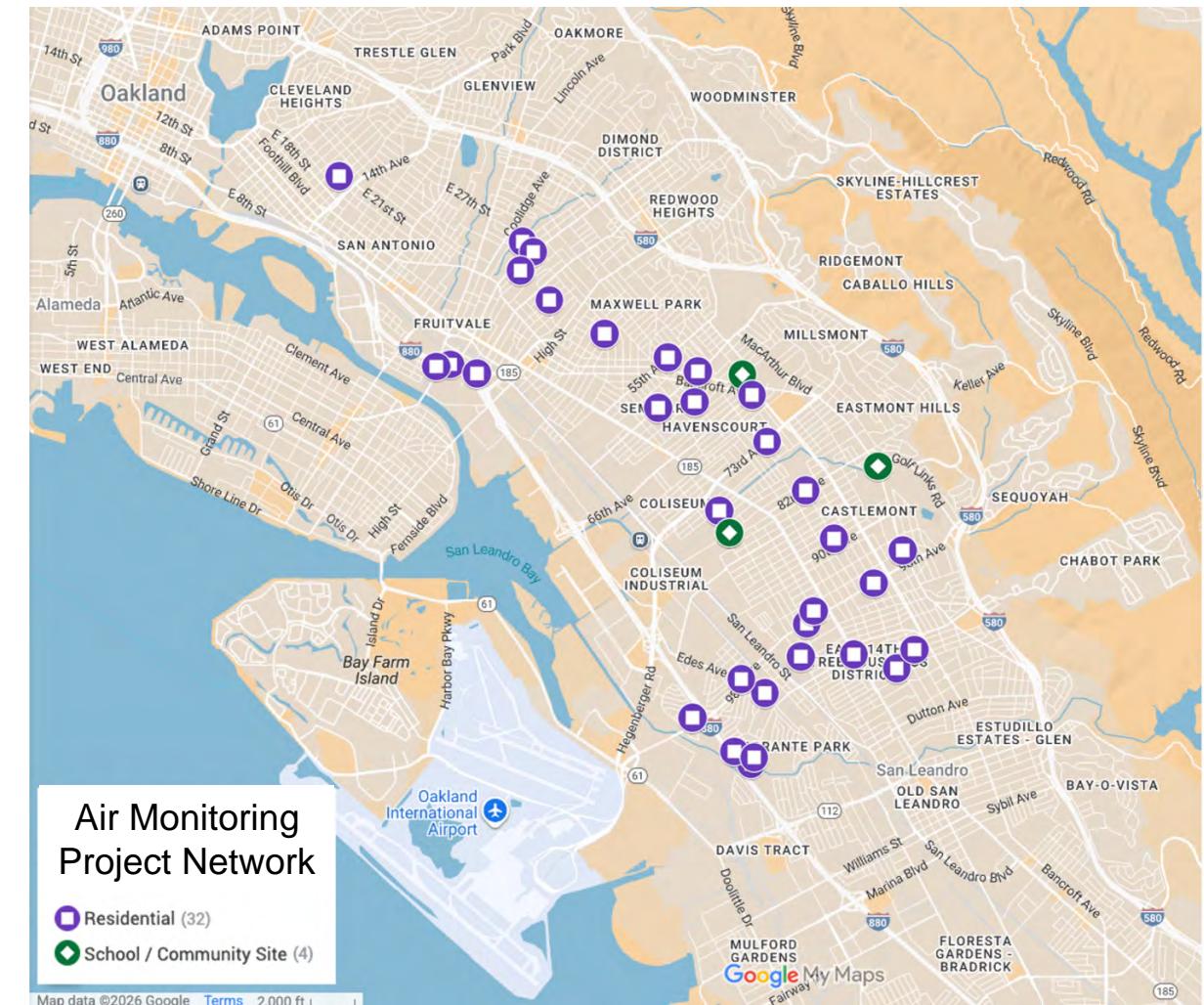
- Make real-time PM_{2.5} data available in more places in East Oakland
- Train community members to interpret air quality data and respond to air quality events
- Build community ownership in air pollution monitoring



A map of the Oakland Area and locations of PurpleAir sensors prior to the East Oakland Air Monitoring Project. Image source: PurpleAir

PM_{2.5} Sensor Network – Recruitment

- CBE has been recruiting participants in a variety of ways
- Residences host an indoor and outdoor sensor pairs and are provided an indoor portable air purifier and stipend
- Sensors are also being deployed at up to five schools in East Oakland



PM_{2.5} Sensor Network – Installation

- CBE and UCB have been installing sensors since May 2025
- 60 sensors have been deployed as of December 2025, including at:
 - 32 residential locations
 - 3 schools
 - 1 community location
- Expecting to complete installations in the next few weeks



Photo of PurpleAir monitor installed at an East Oakland resident's home

PM_{2.5} Sensor Network – Ongoing Outreach

- Community training and informational sessions
- Participants learn about air pollution, hosting the PM_{2.5} sensors, accessing and understanding the collected data, and using the portable air purifiers

Best Ways to Use Your Air Cleaner / Las mejores formas de usar su purificador de aire

- For indoor use only / Solo para uso en espacios interiores
- Best in closed spaces, windows and doors are shut / Mejor en espacios cerrados, ventanas y puertas cerradas
- Recommend running the air cleaner on low all the time / Se recomienda mantener el limpiador de aire en baja todo el tiempo
- Turn the air cleaner on high if indoor PM_{2.5} levels increase after cooking, cleaning, using incense, etc. / Encienda el limpiador de aire en alto si los niveles de PM_{2.5} en interiores aumentan después de cocinar, limpiar, usar incienso, etc.
- When outdoor PM_{2.5} levels are unhealthy, run the air cleaner on high / Encienda el limpiador de aire en alta cuando los niveles de PM_{2.5} son dañinas en áreas exteriores.
- Replace filter every 6–8 months / Reemplace el filtro cada 6–8 meses

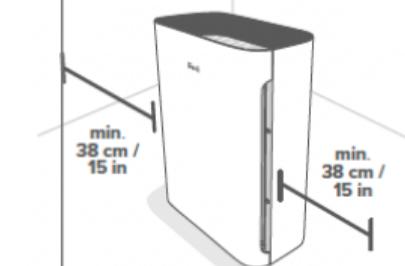
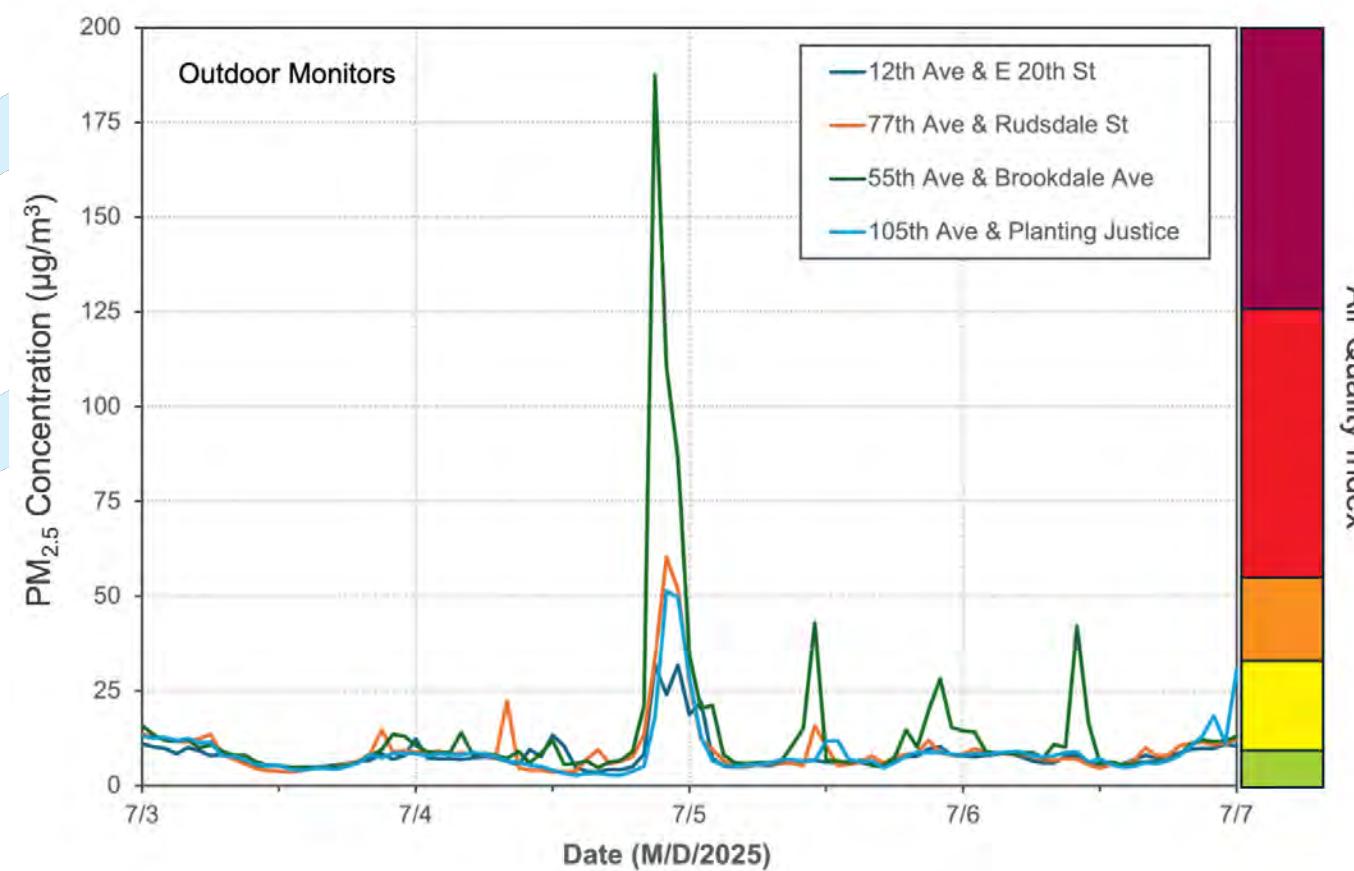


Figure 1.4

Slide from East Oakland Air Monitoring Project Training & Information Session #1- 8/26/2025

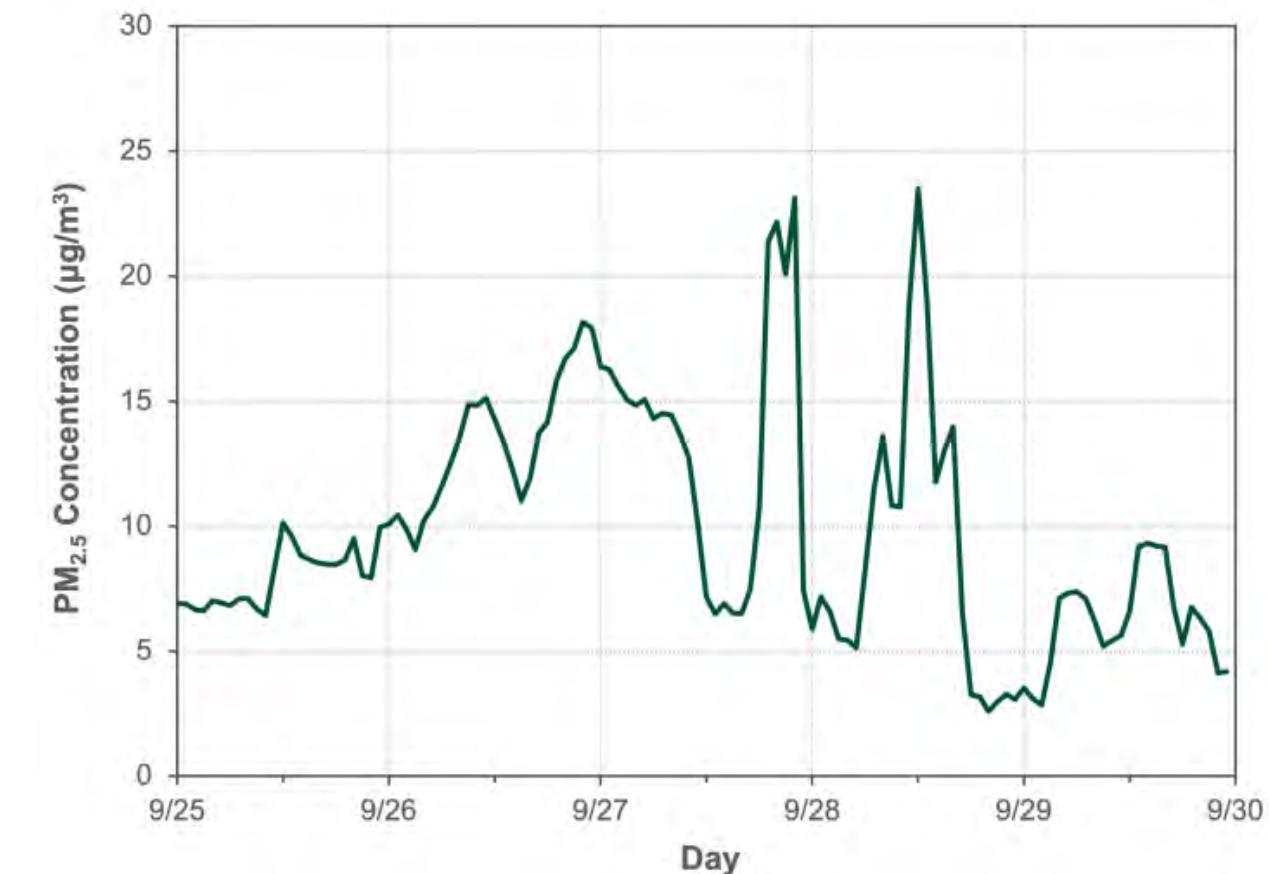
PM_{2.5} Sensor Network – Data Examples

Sensors showed large increases in PM_{2.5} levels on July 4, 2025, due to fireworks



Graph of hourly PM_{2.5} concentrations measured at different sensor locations in early July 2025.

Periods of increased PM_{2.5} levels in late September 2025 due to smoke transported from Oregon wildfires



Graph of hourly PM_{2.5} concentrations measured at a sensor in late September 2025.

Mobile Air Monitoring – Purpose

- Measure levels of multiple air pollutants with high spatial resolution
- Characterize air quality impacts from key pollution sources in East Oakland
- Reveal areas with persistently elevated pollutant concentrations
- Identify opportunities for emissions and exposure reductions



Photo of the Air District's air monitoring van near the Oakland Airport

Mobile Air Monitoring – Capabilities

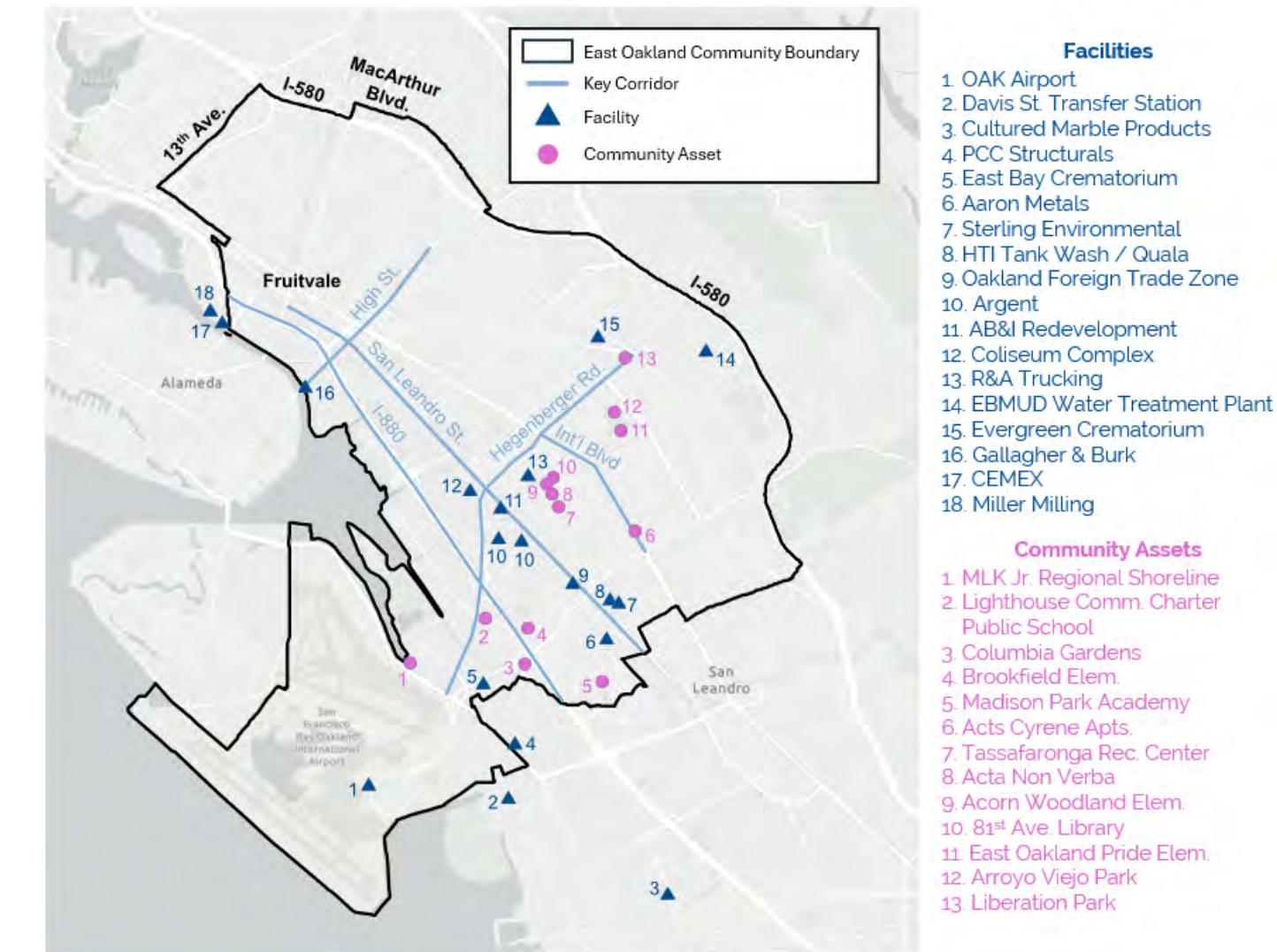
- Includes specialized instruments to measure multiple gas and particle pollutants
 - Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
 - Particulate Matter (PM)
- Provides measurements at high spatial resolution
- Collects meteorological data at designated stops



Air monitoring equipment in the Air District's air monitoring van

Mobile Air Monitoring – Project Design

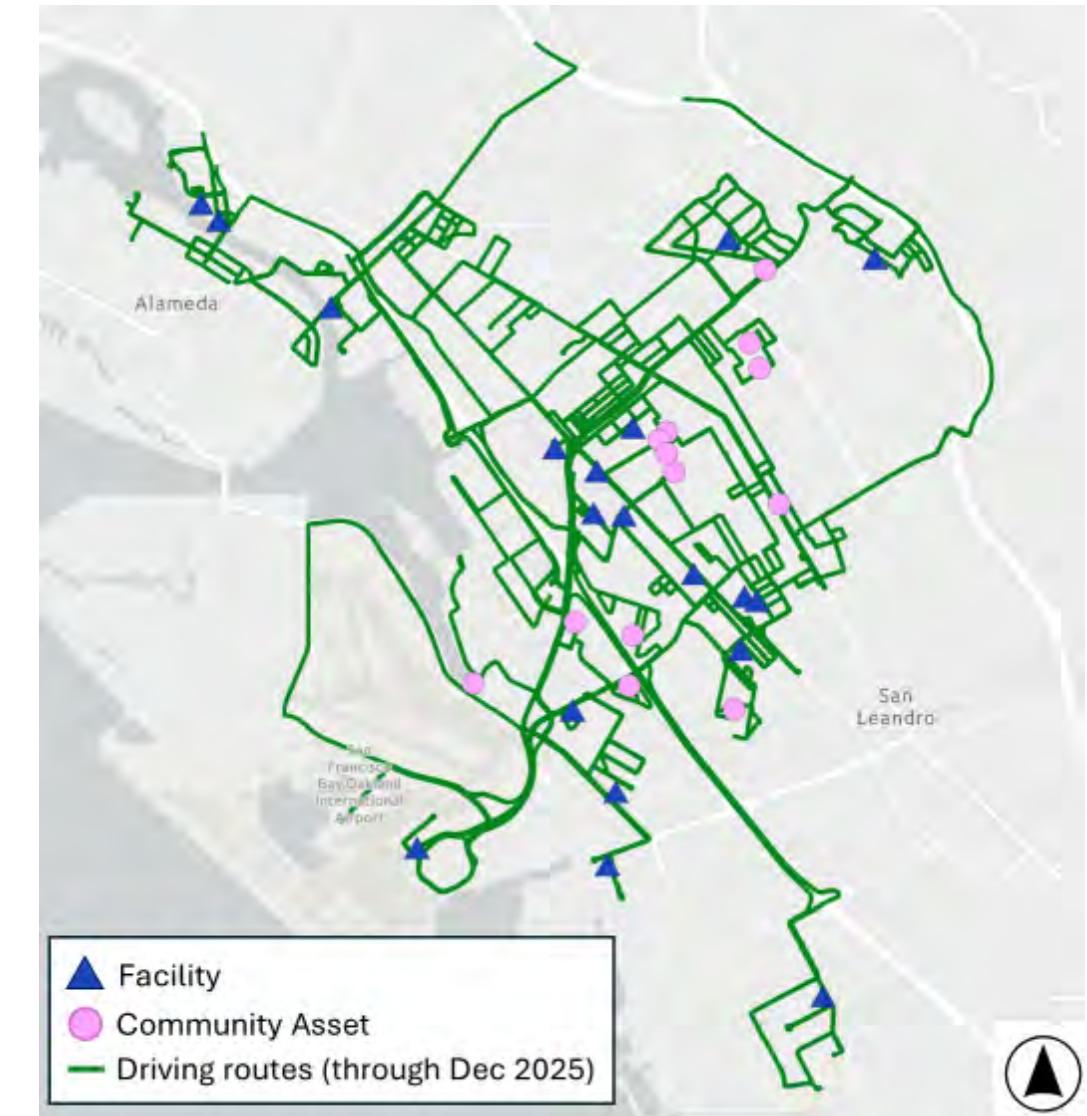
- CBE led community engagement efforts to identify key pollution sources of concern and community assets
- Community air quality concerns served as the foundation for designing the air monitoring project



Map of community-identified key pollution sources of concern and community assets for the East Oakland air monitoring project

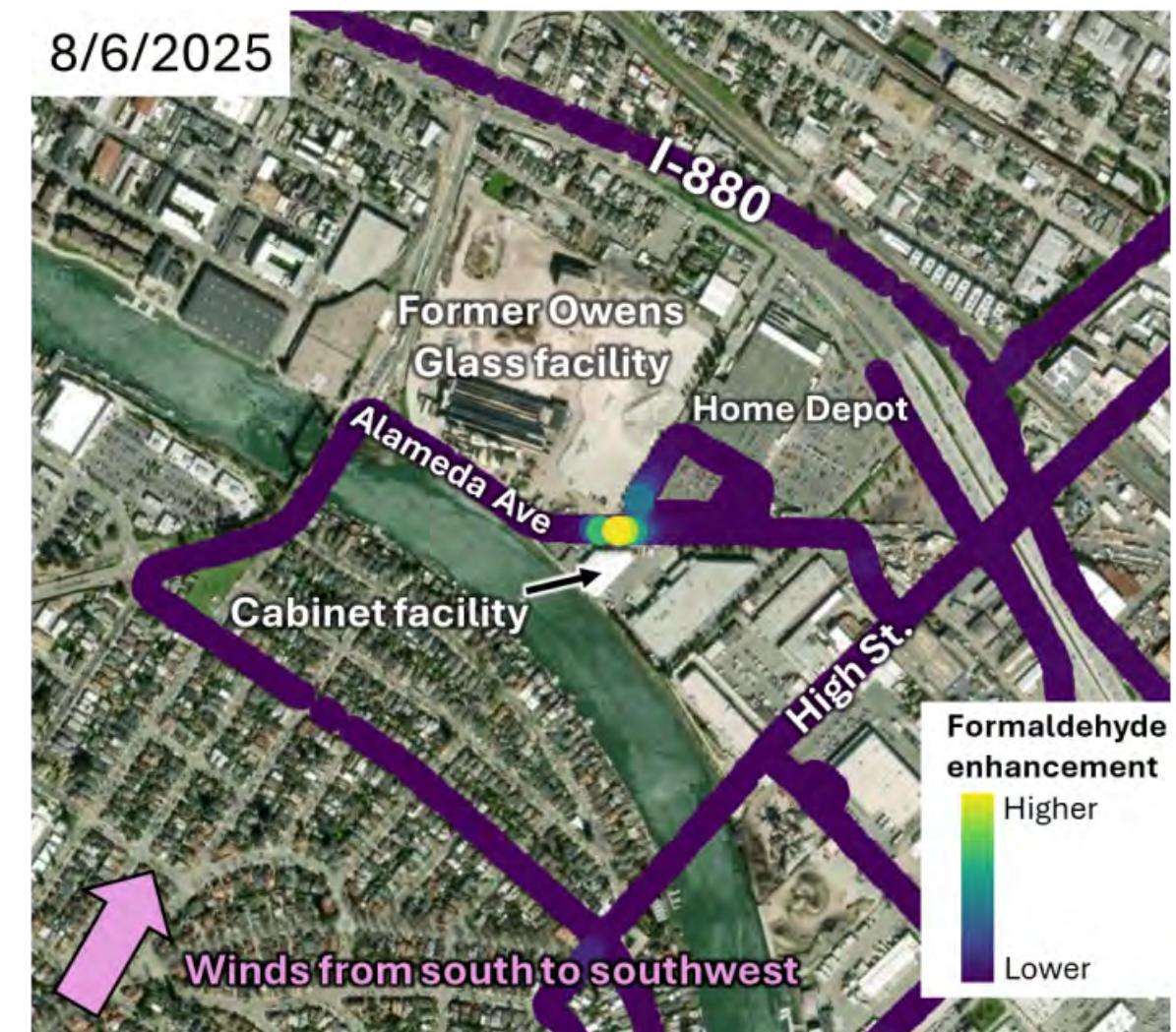
Mobile Air Monitoring – Current Status

- The project team held a community event in East Oakland in July 2025 to mark the start of mobile air monitoring
- Data collection, review, and analysis has been ongoing and will continue into Spring 2026



Mobile Air Monitoring – Using the Data

- Enhancements in concentrations of certain VOCs found along Alameda Ave.
- Nearby cabinet facility (unpermitted) is a possible source
- Coordination with inspection staff to review facility operations, material usage, and recordkeeping
- Investigation is ongoing to determine permitting and violations



Map showing enhancements in formaldehyde concentrations measured by the air monitoring van

Mobile Air Monitoring – Using the Data (cont.)

- The Air District can take targeted actions in response to air quality issues that are identified in the air monitoring data
- Some identified issues may need more investigation
- The Air District is building internal collaboration and processes to coordinate timely response

Project Next Steps

- Complete deployment of the sensor network and data analysis
- Complete mobile air monitoring and data analysis
- Engage with community members to help contextualize and interpret the collected data and shape reporting of findings
- Share project information through public-facing, interactive materials, community meetings, technical reports, and accessible datasets

Funding Acknowledgement

This project has been funded in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) under assistance agreement 0X-98T56701 to the Bay Area Air District. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the US EPA, nor does the US EPA endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document.

Questions & Discussion

For more information:

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BAY AREA AIR DISTRICT
Memorandum

To: Chairperson John Gioia and Members
of the Community Equity, Health and Justice Committee

From: Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Date: February 11, 2026

Re: Bay Area Regional Evaluation of Air Toxics and Health Effects

RECOMMENDED ACTION

None; the Committee will discuss this item, but no action is requested at this time.

BACKGROUND

Air toxic pollutants are a broad class of contaminants that can cause cancer and other serious chronic health effects. In California, toxic air contaminants are addressed through a health risk-based regulatory framework rather than ambient air quality standards, and exposures are often localized and unevenly distributed, with higher impacts near transportation corridors, industrial areas, and Environmental Justice communities.

The Air District has conducted several air toxics-related efforts over time, including Assembly Bill (AB) 617 community monitoring, refinery-focused monitoring, and emissions inventory and modeling work. While these initiatives have provided valuable insights, they are generally targeted in scope and do not provide a comprehensive, basin-wide assessment of air toxics exposure and health risk. The South Coast Air Quality Management District's Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Studies (MATES) have demonstrated the value of comprehensive, integrated regional air toxics assessments. Building on these lessons and recognizing the need for a similar basin-wide framework in the Bay Area, Air District staff are proposing a new study called Bay Area Regional Evaluation of Air Toxics and Health Effects or B(A)REATHE.

DISCUSSION

The proposed B(A)REATHE study is intended to provide a coordinated framework for evaluating air toxics exposure and associated health risks across the Bay Area. The study would integrate continuous air toxics monitoring, emissions inventory development, air quality modeling, and a health risk assessment, serving as an anchor for past, present, and future Air District air toxics efforts.

B(A)REATHE would begin with continuous instrumentation at multiple existing Air District monitoring network sites to establish a strong regional baseline while leveraging existing infrastructure. The study is designed as a scalable platform that can be expanded over time as resources allow, including potential redeployment of instruments to additional priority communities or source-adjacent locations. By combining modern measurements with advanced modeling, B(A)REATHE will support more refined estimates of cancer risk, chronic non-cancer risk, and cumulative impacts, helping inform future policy development and environmental justice priorities.

BUDGET CONSIDERATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed B(A)REATHE study would require a significant upfront investment in continuous air toxics monitoring instrumentation, along with associated operations and maintenance costs. Air District staff have developed preliminary budget projections that include multiple implementation options based on the number of monitoring locations and the scope of monitoring, modeling, emissions inventory, and health risk assessment activities. Three implementation options are presented, with estimated costs ranging from \$2.6 million to \$4.1 million. Because B(A)REATHE is designed as a scalable platform, future expansion beyond the initial baseline network would depend on available resources, community priorities, and evolving program needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip M. Fine
Executive Officer/APCO

Prepared by: Andrea Polidori
Reviewed by: Philip M. Fine

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Bay Area Regional Evaluation of Air Toxics and Health Effects Presentation



Study Proposal: Bay Area Regional Evaluation of Air Toxics and Health Effects: B(A)REATHE

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee

February 11, 2026

Andrea Polidori, PhD
Deputy Executive Officer of Science



Criteria Pollutants

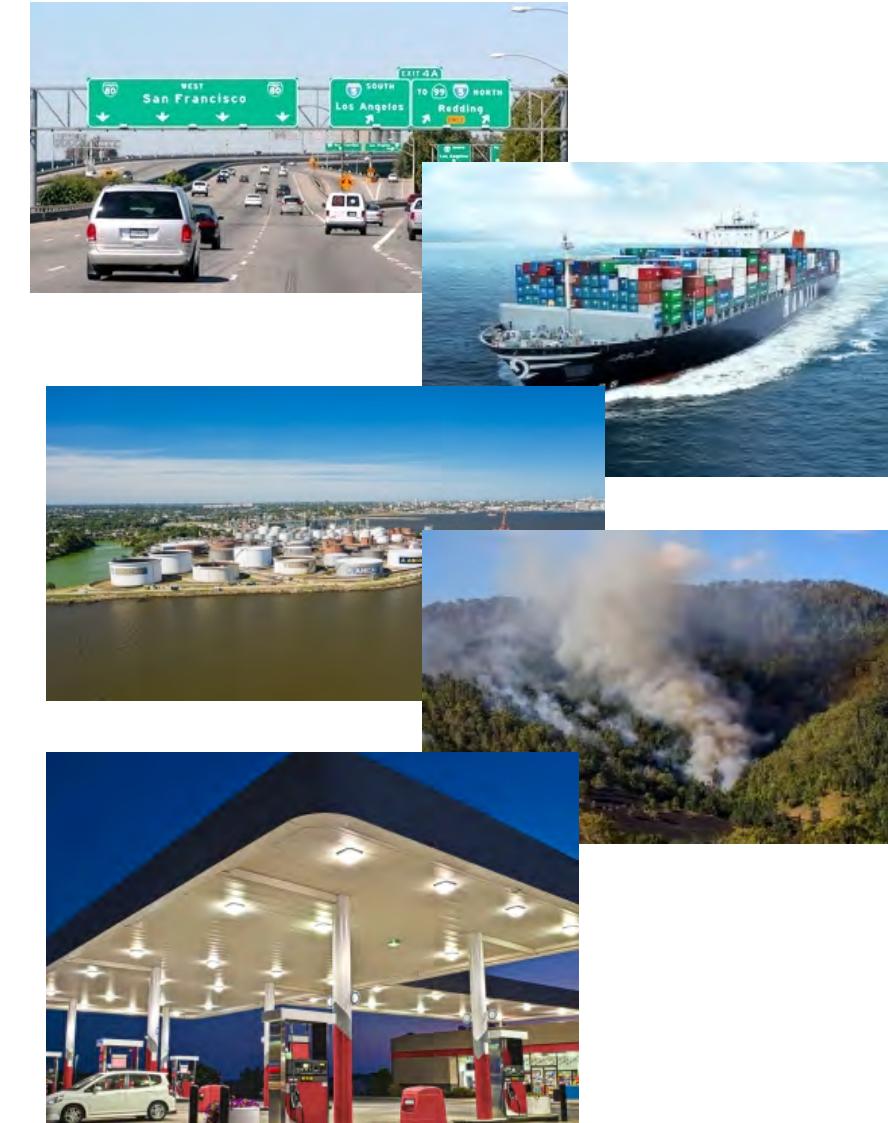
- Six criteria pollutants designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA):
 - Carbon Monoxide (CO)
 - Ozone (O₃)
 - Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀)
 - Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)
 - Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)
 - Lead (Pb)
- They have National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) to protect human health and welfare
- State, local, and tribal governments monitor these pollutants to determine if NAAQS are met
- In nonattainment areas, local and state agencies are required to take action to meet standards



Photos courtesy of bing via Creative Commons license

Air Toxics Pollutants

- The US EPA lists 188 Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)
These include diesel PM, benzene and other Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), and metals
- California identified over 200 Toxic Air Contaminants (TACs)
- HAPs and TACs can cause cancer or other serious health effects
- No NAAQS, but health-based thresholds are often available
- Multiple biogenic/anthropogenic and indoor/outdoor sources
- Exposure to HAPs/TACs is generally localized and not evenly distributed; higher impacts along transportation corridors, industrial areas, and Environmental Justice (EJ) communities



Photos courtesy of bing via Creative Commons license

Ambient Air Monitoring

Criteria

- Measured at multiple network locations throughout a wide region
- Use of well-established, but relatively old technology



Air Toxics

- Typically, measured as part of national programs (e.g., NATTS), at/near specific sources, and in communities
- Use of recently available state-of-the-art and research-grade technology



Air Toxics Efforts in the Bay Area

- Existing programs include:
 - Assembly Bill (AB) 617 community monitoring (e.g., mobile monitoring surveys) and exposure modeling
 - Refinery-focused monitoring (e.g., Regulation 12, Rule 15)
 - Facility- and neighborhood-scale investigations
 - Compliance investigations
 - Incident response and special projects
 - 2025 Air Toxics Program Assessment (coming soon)
 - B(A)REATHE will be highlighted in future Annual Reports
- Current challenges and key limitations:
 - Air toxic gradients are typically localized with episodic peaks
 - Persistent disparities in overburdened communities
 - Sporadic air toxic measurements (limited spatial and temporal coverage)



There is a need for an integrated basin-wide exposure and risk framework for air toxics

Bay Area Air District

FEBRUARY 11, 2026 • COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

South Coast AQMD's MATES Program

- **MATES**: Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study
- Broad EJ initiative
- National benchmark for regional air toxics exposure studies
- Demonstrated ability to:
 - Quantify cancer and chronic risk drivers
 - Track progress over time
 - Identify major sources and hotspots
- Started in 1986; conducted every 5-10 years (MATES VI is underway)
- Resource-intensive
 - Sample collection (every 6 to 12 days) and laboratory analysis
 - Limited continuous or real-time data



MATES V: Summary of Results

(2018-2019 Monitoring; 2021 Report)

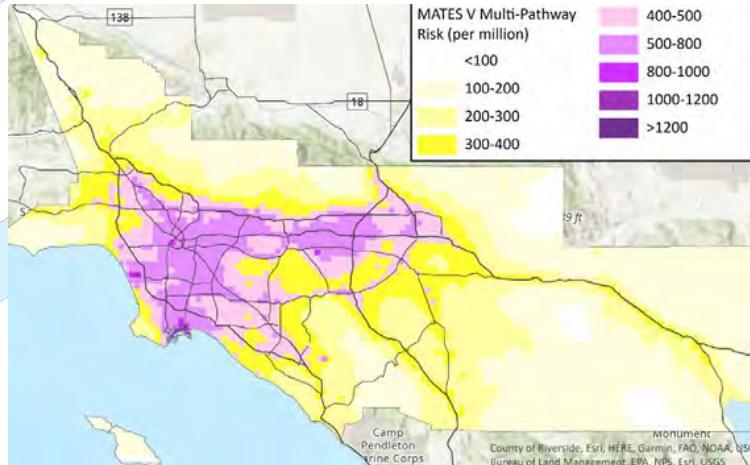


Photo courtesy of South Coast Air Quality Management District



Photo courtesy of bing via Creative Commons license



Total air toxics cancer risk decreased by ~50% from 2012 to 2018, but risks are still high



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Photo by Rick Loomis of the Los Angeles Times

Highest air toxics cancer risk in/around the ports, but also along goods movement corridors, and major freeways

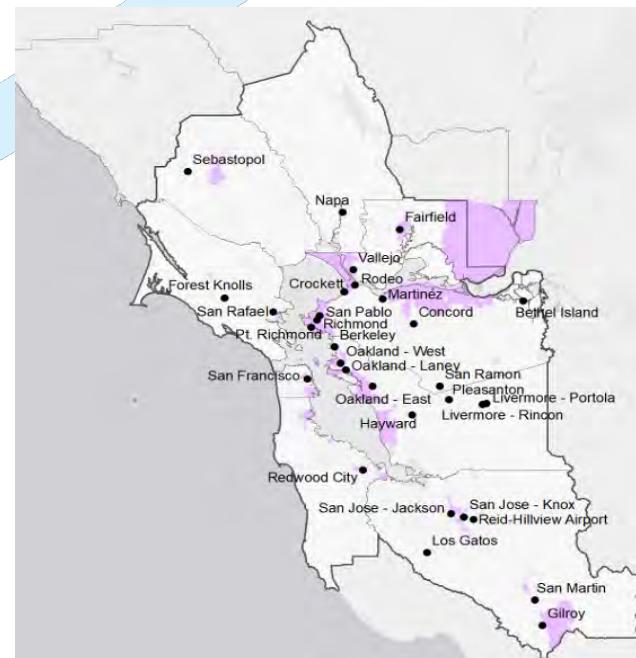
Air toxics levels in EJ communities were higher compared to Basin averages

All results refer to conditions experienced in the South Coast Air Basin

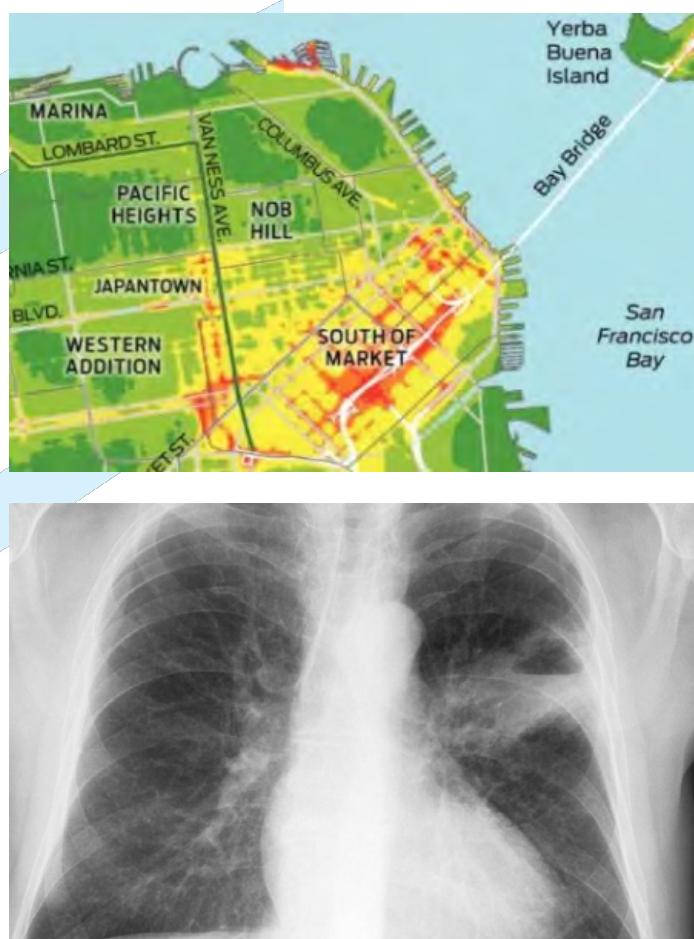
Proposed B(A)REATHE Study



- Form a Technical/Community Advisory Group (TAG) to guide study design and provide technical oversight

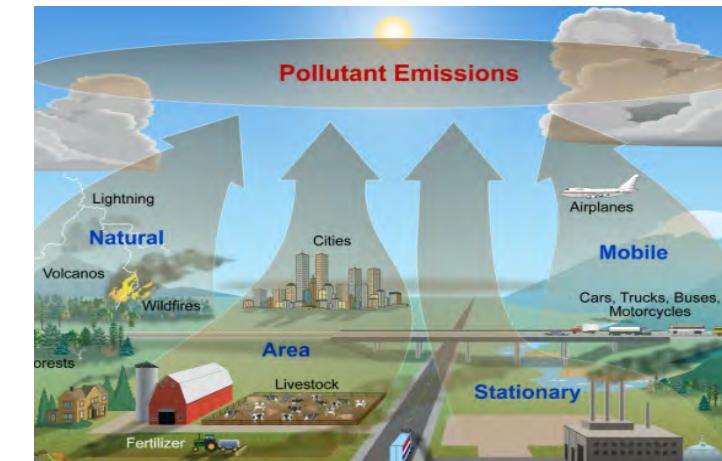


Proposed B(A)REATHE Study (cont.)



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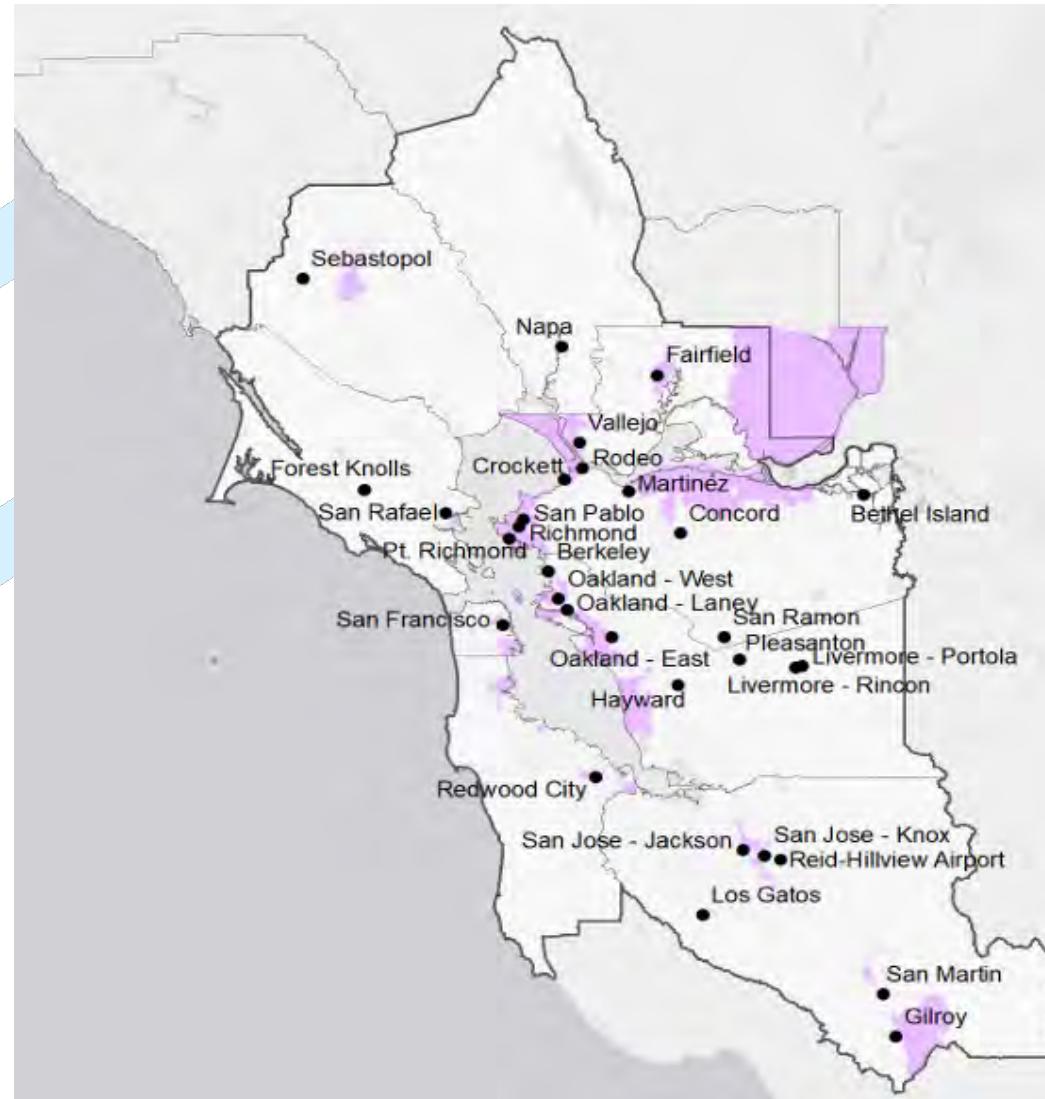
- Modeling of air toxics cancer risk
- Updated emission inventory
- Evaluate regional exposure to air toxic pollutants
- Quantify associated cancer and non-cancer risks



Photos courtesy of NPS.gov (<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/air/sources.htm>)

- Identify sources driving these risks

B(A)REATHE Study - Site Selection



- Start at five (5) air monitoring locations representative of a basin-wide population exposure
- Prioritize areas with known or suspected elevated air toxics risk
- Leverage existing and planned Air District air monitoring infrastructure, including refinery community monitoring sites
- Potential site locations: Redwood City, Bayview-Hunters Point (BVHP), San Jose-Jackson, West Oakland, East Oakland, Vallejo, San Pablo (or other community site near a refinery)

B(A)REATHE Study – Continuous Monitoring



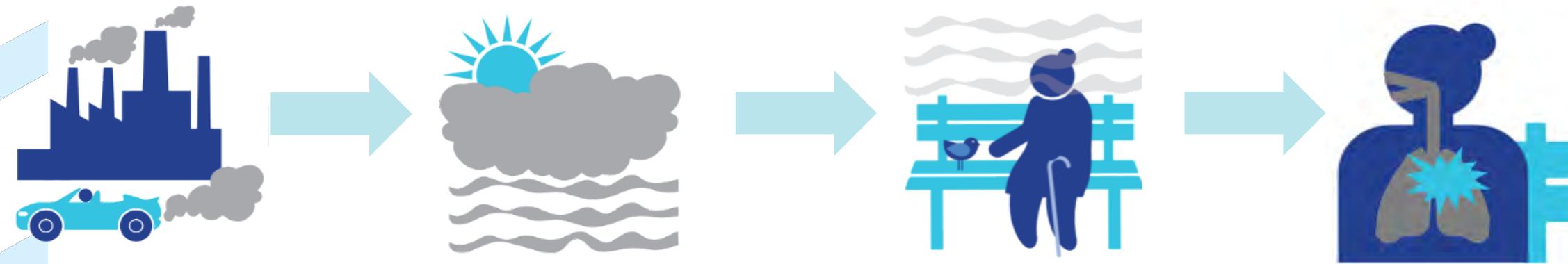
Images represent instruments typically used for air toxics monitoring and do not necessarily depict the exact equipment proposed for this study

Photos courtesy of air quality monitoring vendors' websites



- High time resolution (1-min to 1-hour)
- Low detection limit for all relevant air toxic pollutants
- Ability to measure diesel PM, Benzene, other VOCs, Carbonyls, Metals, and other risk drivers
- Higher capital costs, but no sample collection and lab analysis costs
- Ability to capture episodic peaks missed by traditional sampling/analysis methods
- Combined with meteorological data, can be used for source attribution and a more refined characterization of air toxics exposure

B(A)REATHE Study – Emission Inventory, Modeling, and Health Effects



(Emission Inventory)

(Modeling, Validated by Monitoring)

(Cancer Risk & Chronic Non-Cancer Health Impact)

- Updated air toxics emissions inventory to support modeling and risk assessment
- Regional (basin-wide) modeling of all key air toxic pollutants (based on continuous data)
- Exposure and health risk assessment to characterize cancer risk and chronic hazard indices
- Assess new methodologies for estimating cumulative impact

B(A)REATHE Study – Proposed Budget (Fiscal Year 2027)

Option 1

- Five (5) fully instrumented air monitoring sites (NOT including San Pablo station)
- Measure ALL key air toxic pollutants (VOCs, Metals, and Black Carbon)

TOTAL: \$4,100,000

Option 2

- Five (5) fully instrumented air monitoring sites (including San Pablo station)
- Measure ALL key air toxic pollutants (VOCs, Metals, and Black Carbon)

TOTAL: \$3,640,000

Option 3

- Five (5) fully instrumented air monitoring sites (including San Pablo station)
- Measure MOST key air toxic pollutants (VOCs and Black Carbon; use modeling for Metals)

TOTAL: \$2,600,000

Two or three Limited Term Contract Employees (LTCEs) may be required to support this study

B(A)REATHE Study – Cost Breakdown (Option 2)

Instrument Cost Breakdown (Per Site)

- Continuous VOC Monitor: \$350,000
- Continuous Metal Monitor: \$200,000
- Continuous Black Carbon monitor: \$50,000
- Misc. Supporting Hardware: \$60,000

TOTAL: \$660,000 per site or \$2,840,000 for five (5) sites

(One VOC and Black Carbon monitor set, and supporting hardware, will be purchased for the San Pablo station under Regulation 12 Rule 15)

Emission Inventory, Modeling, and Risk Assessment

- Data Purchases for updated emissions, activity, socio-economic, demographic, and health datasets: \$200,000
- Consultant support to configure emissions and photochemical models for additional toxic species: \$100,000

TOTAL: \$300,000

Other Instrument-Related Costs

- Services and supplies
 - Consumables and field supplies: \$150,000
 - Instrument maintenance and repair: \$50,000
- Contract(s): \$300,000

TOTAL: \$500,000

**TOTAL BUDGET FOR PROPOSED STUDY:
\$3,640,000**

Two or three LTCEs may be required to support this study

B(A)REATHE Study – Potential Timeline

2026-2027 (Planning and Preparation)

- Consultation with TAG
- Procuring equipment
- Prepare air monitoring sites
- Deploy and test instruments

2027-2028 (Measurements and Modeling)

- Baseline year
- Quality Assurance/Quality Control conducted as data is collected
- Quarterly updates on measured data
- Emission inventory preparation
- Air toxics modeling

2028-2029 (Data Analysis and Report Writing)

- Measured and modeled data comparison
- Cancer and chronic risk calculation
- Source apportionment
- Assessment of new cumulative impact methodologies
- Draft and final report
- Public outreach

B(A)REATHE is a scalable project that can be expanded over time as resources allow. Instruments can be redeployed to other priority communities. This long-term investment will support ongoing risk and cumulative impact assessment efforts.

B(A)REATHE Study – Strengths and Benefits

- Unique opportunity to conduct the first comprehensive air toxics exposure study in the Bay Area; and the first ever to use continuous air toxic measurements year-round
- Continued modernization of the existing air monitoring network. Additional B(A)REATHE sites can be added over time
- Will provide context for localized community monitoring (e.g., AB 617), near-source measurements (e.g., Regulation 12 Rule 15), and past, present, and future air toxics studies

B(A)REATHE Study – Strengths and Benefits (cont.)

- Will help identify unknown air toxics sources, and address public questions on air toxics impacts
- Will provide defensible science for future policy and control strategies, including cumulative impact considerations
- Will support EJ and strategic planning priorities
 - Strategy 1.1 – Change Approach to Air Quality
 - Strategy 2.2 – Collect Community Data
 - Strategy 2.4 – Community Health Data
 - Strategy 2.7 – Understand Local Air Pollution
 - Strategy 2.11 – Cumulative Health Impacts
 - Strategy 4.4 – Improve Air Monitoring

Questions & Discussion

For more information:

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