



BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee  
May 13, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JOHN GIOIA – CHAIR  
MONICA BROWN  
LINDA SELL  
STEVE YOUNG

DIONNE ADAMS – VICE-CHAIR  
JOELLE GALLAGHER  
SHAMANN WALTON

**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**

**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**

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

**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 <https://www.baaqmd.gov/bodagendas>**

**Members of the public may participate remotely via Zoom at <https://bayareametro.zoom.us/j/84286828049> or may join Zoom by phone by dialing (669) 900-6833 or (408) 638-0968. The Webinar ID for this meeting is:  
842 8682 8049**

## **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.

Written public comments can be emailed to [comments@baaqmd.gov](mailto:comments@baaqmd.gov) or through the Air District's website via the "Submit a Comment" feature for this meeting. Written public comments emailed by 10:00 a.m. on the business day prior to this meeting will be provided to the Committee members in advance of the meeting. Written public comments emailed after that deadline will be provided to the Committee members following the meeting's adjournment. Unless directed by the Chair, written public comments will not be read aloud during the meeting.

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, MAY 13, 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 April 8, 2026

*The Committee will consider approving the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of April 8, 2026.*

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S)**

4. Bay Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience (REPAIR) Progress Update

*The Committee will review a progress update from the Community Investments Office, which is currently administering Round 1 of the Local Community Benefits Fund, covering the geographies of Benicia, Richmond, and surrounding areas. This item will be presented by Emi Wang, Officer in the Community Investments Office.*

5. Air District Scholarship Program

*The Committee will discuss the Air District Scholarship Program, a new initiative designed to support ten Bay Area college students with a \$5,000 scholarship, with priority given to those from environmentally overburdened communities. This item will be presented by Tim Williams, Officer in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Office.*

**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, June 10, 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](mailto:vjohnson@baaqmd.gov)

**(415) 749-4941**  
**FAX: (415) 928-8560**  
**Air District homepage:**  
[www.baaqmd.gov](http://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](http://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, Kimberly Leefatt, Civil Rights Officer at 415-749-4610 or by email at [non-discriminationcoordinator@baaqmd.gov](mailto:non-discriminationcoordinator@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**

**MAY 2026**

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Board of Directors Stationary Source Committee - CANCELLED	Wednesday	13	10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday	13	10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee	Wednesday	13	1:00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Policy, Grants and Technology Committee	Wednesday	20	10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Finance and Administration Committee -CANCELLED	Wednesday	20	1:00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room
Community Advisory Council Meeting	Thursday	21	6:00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room

**JUNE 2026**

<u>TYPE OF MEETING</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>ROOM</u>
Board of Directors Meeting	Wednesday	3	10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Stationary Source Committee	Wednesday	10	10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Board of Directors Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee	Wednesday	10	1:00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Yerba Buena Room
Advisory Council Meeting	Monday	15	9:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Policy, Grants and Technology Committee	Wednesday	17	10:00 a.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room
Board of Directors Finance and Administration Committee	Wednesday	17	1:00 p.m.	1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Board Room

**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: May 13, 2026

Re: Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice  
Committee Meeting of April 8, 2026

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of April 8, 2026

BACKGROUND

None.

DISCUSSION

Attached for your review and approval are the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of April 8, 2026

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 April 8, 2026

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

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, April 8, 2026

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

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

### **CALL TO ORDER**

1. **Opening Comments:** Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee (Committee) Chairperson, John Gioia, called the meeting to order at 1:17 p.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Yerba Buena Room, San Francisco, CA, 94105): Directors Monica Brown and Linda Sell.

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: (Office of Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, Conference Room, 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530): Director Steve Young.

Present, In-Person Satellite Location: (Best Western Plus, Hacienda Hotel Old Town, Prado Room, 4041 Harney Street, San Diego, CA 92110): Chairperson John Gioia.

Absent: Vice Chairperson Dionne Adams; and Director Shamann Walton.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

3. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2026**

#### **Public Comments**

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Sell made a motion, seconded by Director Brown, to **approve** the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of March 11, 2026; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Brown, Gioia, Gallagher, Sell, Young.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: Adams, Walton.

**ACTION ITEM**

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL (CAC)**

Community Advisory Council Co-Chairs William Goodwin and Latasha Washington, along with Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs, gave the presentation *Recommendations to Strengthen Collaboration between the Board of Directors and Community Advisory Council*, including: recommended action; Purpose of Increasing Board and CAC Communication & Collaboration; Recap from the January 28, 2026 Board of Directors Retreat; CAC Recommendations to the Board; Air District response; CAC Recommendations to the Board; and recommended action.

*Note: The Community Advisory Council adopted these recommendations at its meeting on November 20, 2025. The recommendations were also discussed at the Board retreat on January 28, 2026.*

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Arieann Harrison, CAC member.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed whether other air districts in California have designated members of the public/environmental justice advocates appointed to their governing Boards; the suggestion of having Air District staff coordinate meet and greet meetings between Council Members and Board members representing their geographical area; the Board members' interest in having Council Member liaisons participate in Board and/or standing committee meetings as non-voting guests in the discussions, whether the Council Members would count for the meeting quorum, and the suggestion of rotating the guest Council Members; how organizing joint Board/Council retreats may strain Air District staff resources; the suggestion that items designated for joint discussion by the Board and Council be prioritized at the

beginning of the agenda/morning session; and the perception that the Council is too segregated from the Board with limited access.

Committee Action

Director Gallagher made a motion, seconded by Director Sell, to recommend the Board *consider the Community Advisory Council's recommendations and staff's responses to the recommendations, and consider providing potential direction to staff*; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

AYES: Brown, Gallagher, Gioia, Sell, Young.  
NOES: None.  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: Adams, Walton.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**5. MARIE HARRISON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UPDATE**

Arieann Harrison, Founder and Executive Director of the Marie Harrison Community Foundation, and Daniel S. Madrigal, Senior Staff Specialist, gave the presentation *Marie Harrison Environmental Justice Scholarship Program Update*, including: Marie Harrison Community Foundation; Marie Harrison; scholarship goals and criteria; review of 2025 scholarships; 2025 scholarships winners; and Marie Harrison Environmental Justice Scholarship Year 4.

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed the desire for clarification on eligibility criteria, specifically regarding impacted neighborhoods in which applicants reside.

Committee Action

No action taken.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS**

Public comments were given by Malik Washington.

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

None.

**8. REPORT OF THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF EQUITY AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

Arsenio Mataka, Deputy Executive Officer of Equity and Community Programs, made the following announcements:

- On March 12, the Air District opened the grant application period for the People’s Air Grant Program, a funding opportunity designed to support projects in impacted communities to reduce exposure to air pollution and address public health. This program was shaped by the CAC - the Board established a one-time allocation of \$3M for the Community Benefit Fund, and the CAC then developed a recommendation for disbursement of those dollars.
- At the next Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee meeting, Air District staff will provide an update on the Community Investments Office’s Local Community Benefits Fund, which supports community-driven projects that reduce air pollution, improve health outcomes, and build economic resilience for a just transition away from the harmful effects of a fossil-fuel economy. Applications are now open for Round 1, which will distribute funds in Benicia, Richmond, and surrounding communities.

**9. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, May 13, 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 meeting was adjourned at 2:23 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: May 13, 2026

Re: Bay Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience (REPAIR)  
Progress Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

BACKGROUND

The Air District collects penalties from facilities that violate our regulations. In May 2024, the Board of Directors adopted a Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy to direct these penalty funds back to the communities where violations occurred and communities most impacted by air pollution.

Funding from the Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy is administered through the Bay Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience (REPAIR) program. The Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy sets up a formula that automatically allocates 80% of the funds to the Local Community Benefits Fund and 20% to the Regional Community Benefits Fund after meeting a pre-determined threshold and split for specific penalty amounts.

In addition to penalties, sometimes violators commit to providing mitigation funds to fund projects to mitigate the harmful effects caused by their emissions as part of the resolution of their violations. For example, in 2024, Chevron USA, Inc., committed to funding the Richmond Community Air Quality Fund to provide mitigation for potential particulate matter emissions at the Chevron Richmond refinery in violation of Air District Rule 6-5. The Air District is administering these mitigation funds through the Local Community Benefits Fund, although they are subject to certain additional restrictions that do not apply to the penalty monies in the Local Community Benefits Fund.

## DISCUSSION

Round 1 of the Local Community Benefits Fund is currently open to applicants in Benicia, Richmond and Surrounding Communities. Over the application period, the Air District has provided the following support for prospective applicants.

### **Overall Grant Support**

The Air District implemented multiple outreach approaches to ensure broad and accessible stakeholder engagement.

- *Presentations*: Presented at 14 City and community meetings between fall 2025 – spring 2026
- *Q&A*: Received and answered 225+ stakeholder questions via email
- *Networking Lists*: Maintained voluntary networking lists so applicants could identify potential partnerships and initiate connections independently

### **Grant Support Webinars**

The Air District delivered a series of webinars to support applicants at different stages of the application process. These events helped applicants understand program requirements, prepare their applications, and identify potential partners.

- *Grant Information*: Introduced the program, including goals, eligibility, grant categories and eligible project types
- *Grant Development*: Guided applicants to strengthen their proposal narratives and measurable outcomes
- *Tips & Tricks*: Guided applicants through the application process, including key application documents and step-by-step instructions on how to submit an application

### **Networking Sessions**

To help applicants navigate meeting other interested parties, the Air District offered in-person networking opportunities. These sessions were a direct response to applicant interest and stakeholder feedback, and there was a strong interest in partnership-building expressed through the informational webinar sign-in forms, applicant questions, and outreach.

The Air District, in partnership with consultant InterEthnica, hosted two in-person networking sessions to provide a structured environment for connection. The sessions were intentionally designed to support relationship-building while maintaining fairness in the application process. Each session attracted between 75-80 registrants.

**Technical Assistance Services**

Consultant Environmental Protection Network (EPN) is providing technical assistance to support applicants in understanding program requirements and strengthening their applications.

- *Office Hours*: Office hour sessions to engage in shorter conversations with prospective applicants
- *Technical Assistance*: 1:1 support around interpreting grant guidelines; navigating eligibility; developing project scopes, workplans and budgets; strengthening narratives and measurable outcomes; reviewing applications materials for alignment with evaluation criteria

**Technical Assistance Progress – as of April 24, 2026**

- *Office Hours*: 20 individual office hour sessions
- *1:1 Technical Assistance*: Working with 35 prospective applicants in a one-on-one capacity, including discussions of geographic eligibility, and project scope alignment, scoring, and partnership requirements
- *Proposal Review*: Environmental Protection Agency alumni in EPN’s network are reviewing draft grant proposals. EPN anticipates review of ~15-20 proposals across all grant types and both geographies

**What’s Ahead**

- *May 1, 2026*: Application deadline (Benicia Catalyst Grant)
- *May 29, 2026*: Application deadline (Richmond Catalyst Grant, Benicia & Richmond Opportunity Grant, Benicia & Richmond Seed Grant)
- *Summer 2026*: Application review and scoring
- *Fall 2026*: Grant awards adopted
- *Late 2026 – 2027*: Grant Agreements developed
- *Early 2027*: Grantees commence work

BUDGET CONSIDERATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for the Local Community Benefits Fund is derived from the Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy, which was previously adopted by the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip M. Fine  
Executive Officer/APCO

Prepared by: Emi Wang  
Reviewed by: Arsenio Mataka

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Bay Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience (REPAIR) Progress Update Presentation



# Bay Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience (REPAIR) Progress Update

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee

May 13, 2026

Emi Wang

Officer

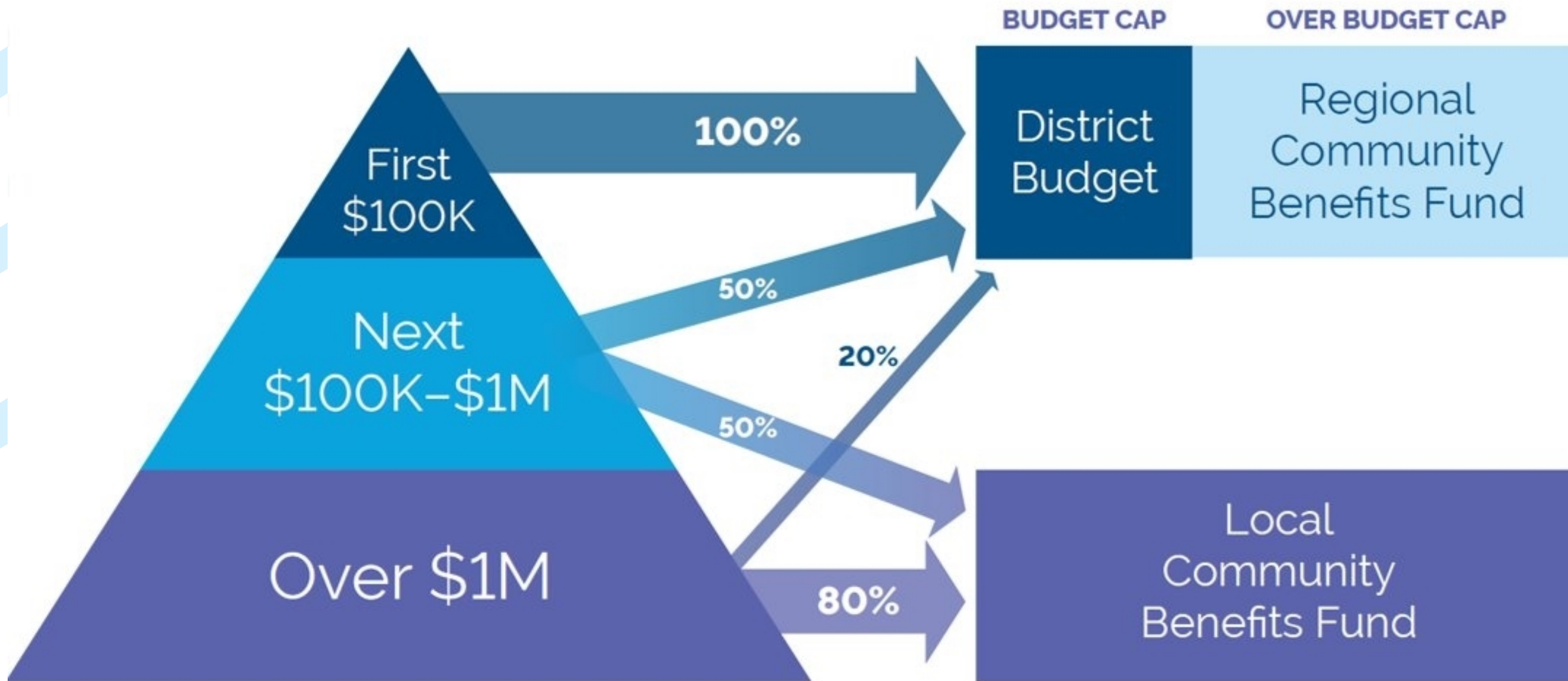
Community Investments Office

# Background

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- In May 2024, the Bay Area Air District established the **Community Benefits Penalty Funds Policy** to direct penalty funds back to the communities where violations occurred
- Some facilities also commit to providing mitigation funds to improve air quality in the communities affected by their violations
- The Air District has generated over **\$132 million (M)** to date in penalty and mitigation funds to be reinvested into affected communities

# PENALTY ALLOCATION BREAKDOWN



# Overview of Available Funds

<b>AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCE</b>	<b>AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025</b>	
Regional Community Benefits Fund	\$	20,596,445
Local Community Benefits Fund	\$	82,096,739
Other funds: Richmond Community Air Quality Fund <sup>1</sup>	\$	20,000,000
<b>Total Project Funds</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>122,693,184</b>
<b>9% Admin Funds</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>10,156,469</b>
<b>Total Project &amp; Admin Funding</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>132,849,653</b>

<sup>1</sup>Funding availability is subject to initiation of projects.

# Local Community Benefits Fund

## Local Community Benefits Fund (as of December 31, 2025)

\*An originating community does not indicate that funds will be limited to a jurisdictional boundary. The geographic boundaries for distribution of funds will be determined based on Board approved criteria.

ORIGINATING COMMUNITY*	PROJECT AMOUNT
Benicia	\$ 60,011,088
Berkeley	\$ 13,797
Byron	\$ 46,672
Cupertino	\$ 47,504
Martinez	\$ 3,730,751
Millbrae	\$ 36,816
Oakland	\$ 154,602
Petaluma	\$ 70,069
Pleasanton	\$ 58,868
Richmond	\$ 17,779,271
San Jose	\$ 113,699
South San Francisco	\$ 28,937
Suisun City	\$ 4,667
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$ 82,096,741</b>

# Local Community Benefits Fund (cont.)

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- The Local Community Benefits Fund reinvests penalties and mitigation funds in the specific communities affected by the air quality violations
- Goals:
  - **Reduce air pollution or mitigate air pollution impacts, improve public health outcomes, and build economic resilience for a just transition away from the harmful effects of a fossil-fuel-based economy**
  - **Advance integrated projects to holistically meet community needs**
  - **Strengthen community-led and collaborative solutions**

# Grant Awards: Benicia and Surrounding Communities

	Seed	Opportunity	Catalyst
<b>Total Funding</b>	\$60,011,061		
<b>Anticipated Awards</b>	1 - 5 grant awards anticipated	1 - 5 grant awards anticipated	1 – 3 grant awards anticipated
<b>Grant Size</b>	\$100,000 - \$200,000	\$500,000 - \$5 M	\$10 M - \$40 M
<b>Grant Term</b>	Up to 2 years	Up to 3 years	Up to 5 years
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Open to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, no Co-Applicants	Lead Applicant must partner with at least 1 Co-Applicant(s)	Exemption: no Co-Applicant required
<b>Eligible Communities</b>	Benicia and surrounding communities	Benicia and surrounding communities	Benicia

# Grant Awards: Richmond and Surrounding Communities

	Seed	Opportunity	Catalyst
<b>Total Funding</b>	\$35,744,460		
<b>Anticipated Awards</b>	1 - 5 grant awards anticipated	1 - 5 grant awards anticipated	1 – 3 grant awards anticipated
<b>Grant Size</b>	\$100,000 - \$200,000	\$500,000 - \$5 M	\$10 M - \$15 M
<b>Grant Term</b>	Up to 2 years	Up to 3 years	Up to 5 years
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Open to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations, no Co-Applicants	Lead Applicant must partner with at least 1 Co-Applicant(s)	Lead Applicant must partner with multiple Co-Applicants
<b>Eligible Communities</b>	Path to Clean Air Community Emissions Reduction Plan area		

# Grant Support

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- **Presentations:** Presented at 14 City and community meetings between fall 2025 – spring 2026
- **Question & Answer:** Received and answered 225+ stakeholder questions via email
- **Networking Lists:** Maintained voluntary networking lists so applicants could identify potential partnerships and initiate connections independently

# Grant Support Webinars

Session	Purpose & Goals	Registrations
<b>Grant Information</b>	Introduce the program: goals, eligibility, grant categories and eligible project types	Benicia: 158 Richmond: 182
<b>Grant Development</b>	Guide applicants to strengthen their proposal narratives and measurable outcomes	97
<b>Tips &amp; Tricks</b>	Guide applicants through the application process, including key application documents and step-by-step instructions on how to submit an application	81

# Networking Sessions



Richmond and Surrounding Communities Networking Session



Benicia and Surrounding Communities Networking Session

# Technical Assistance Services

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- Consultant Environmental Protection Network (EPN) is providing application technical assistance
  - **Office Hours:** Office hour sessions to engage in shorter conversations with prospective applicants
  - **Technical Assistance:** 1:1 support around interpreting grant guidelines; navigating eligibility; developing project scopes, work plans and budgets; strengthening narratives and measurable outcomes; reviewing applications materials for alignment with evaluation criteria

# Technical Assistance Progress – as of April 24, 2026

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- **Office Hours:** 20 individual office hour sessions
- **1:1 Technical Assistance:** Working with 35 prospective applicants in a one-on-one capacity, including discussions of geographic eligibility, and project scope alignment, scoring, and partnership requirements
- **Proposal Review:** Environmental Protection Agency alumni in EPN's network are reviewing draft grant proposals. EPN anticipates review of ~15-20 proposals across all grant types and both geographies

# What's Ahead

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Date	Activity
May 1, 2026	Application deadline: Benicia Catalyst Grant
May 29, 2026	Application deadline: Richmond Catalyst Grant, Benicia & Richmond Opportunity Grant, Benicia & Richmond Seed Grant
Summer 2026	Application review and scoring
Fall 2026	Grant awards adopted
Late 2026 - 2027	Grant Agreements developed
Early 2027	Grantees commence work

# Questions & Discussion

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**For more information:**

Emi Wang | Community Investments Officer | [ewang@baaqmd.gov](mailto:ewang@baaqmd.gov)

**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: May 13, 2026

Re: Air District Scholarship Program

RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

BACKGROUND

The Air District is preparing to formally launch the Air District Community Roots Scholarship Program, a new initiative designed to support Bay Area college students, with a strong emphasis on those from environmentally overburdened communities. The program reflects the Air District's commitment to advancing air quality, protecting public health, and promoting environmental justice through meaningful, community-centered investment.

The program is open to eligible students across the region who demonstrate financial need, strong community ties, and a commitment to community-based environmental solutions, with a priority on students from communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution.

Many students throughout the Bay Area face financial constraints and limited access to professional networks and this can hinder higher education persistence and long-term career advancement. The Community Roots Scholarship is designed to help reduce those barriers while strengthening connections between the Air District and the communities it serves. By pairing financial assistance with engagement opportunities, the program positions education as both a pathway to economic mobility and a foundation for cultivating future environmental leaders.

DISCUSSION

The Air District Community Roots Scholarship Program is structured as both a financial support initiative and a workforce development strategy. It is intended to be a strategic investment in both students and the future environmental workforce and aligns with the Air District's Strategic Plan Goal 3: Foster Cohesion and Inclusion. By combining

financial support with intentional engagement, the program expands opportunities for students who are rooted in and committed to serving their communities. Each year, ten \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded to college students who demonstrate financial need, leadership potential, and a commitment to advancing community-based environmental solutions. A structured, rubric-based evaluation process led by a diverse review panel of three Air District staff, one Board member, and one community representative will ensure that equity, lived experience, and local community connection remain central to selection decisions. Scholarship funds are intended to be flexible and may be used for tuition, books, transportation, and cost of living expenses. Students from all majors will be encouraged to apply, recognizing that environmental solutions require a wide range of perspectives and skill sets. Scholarship recipients will participate in a cohort experience that amplifies their work and strengthens their connection to the Air District through:

- Meet the Scholars profiles
- Features in Air District communications and social media
- Networking and community storytelling opportunities
- Elevated visibility and opportunity for scholars within their community

### **Selection Criteria Factors**

- Community roots and lived experience
- Connection to and understanding of environmental justice
- Leadership, service, or advocacy experience
- Barriers overcome
- Strength of personal statement

### **Field of Study (All Majors Eligible)**

Preference for fields aligned with Air District work and public service. Examples include: Engineering, Environmental Science, Meteorology, Air Monitoring and Data, Policy and Compliance, Community Engagement, Communications, Administrative Resources, Human Resources, Finance, or Accounting.

### **Program Timeline**

- May 2026: Targeted outreach to two- and four-year colleges and universities
- June 2026: Application Open
- August 2026: Application Close
- August 2026: Application Review Period
- Sept. 2026: Notifications and Funds Disbursed

## **Outreach and Equity Strategy**

The program is designed to reach students who have historically faced barriers to opportunity. Outreach will prioritize Bay Area communities disproportionately impacted by environmental burdens, with a focus on first generation and low-income students. Efforts will include direct engagement with colleges and universities, as well as leveraging trusted community networks such as Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Community Air Protection partners, Community Advisory Councils, and campus-based organizations. Success will be measured by:

- Building a strong and diverse applicant pool of 50 or more students annually
- Ensuring meaningful representation from environmental justice impacted communities
- Supporting scholar persistence and graduation
- Establishing a sustained and connected network of scholarship alumni

In addition, an outreach kit has been created and will be provided to Air District staff and personnel tasked with sharing details of the scholarship program with their respective networks.

## **Building a Pipeline of Community Leaders**

Beyond financial support, the Community Roots Scholarship serves as an entry point into long-term engagement with the Air District. Scholars will gain exposure to professional pathways through internships, mentorship, fellowships, and potential employment opportunities. By investing in students with deep community ties and lived experience, the program strengthens the environmental workforce pipeline and advances more inclusive, community-informed solutions. This approach reinforces the Air District's commitment to cultivating the next generation of leaders equipped to address the region's most pressing environmental challenges.

## **BUDGET CONSIDERATION/FINANCIAL IMPACT**

None; funding has been included in the proposed Fiscal Year Ending 2027 budget, Program 113.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip M. Fine  
Executive Officer/APCO

Prepared by: J. Howard and Tim Williams  
Reviewed by: Arsenio Mataka

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Air District Scholarship Program Presentation



# Air District Scholarship Program

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee

May 13, 2026

Tim Williams

Officer

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

# Purpose & Vision

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The Air District will launch its Community Roots Scholarship Program in 2026



Support current college students who face systemic barriers



Focus on Bay Area and overburdened communities



Support equity by addressing barriers beyond college entry



Invest in students who are already making an impact in their communities

# Program Overview

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10 scholarships annually

\$5,000 per student

Funds flexible: tuition, books, transportation, cost of living

All majors encouraged to apply

# Selection Criteria

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## Factors

- Community roots and lived experience
- Connection to and understanding of environmental justice
- Leadership, service, or advocacy experience
- Barriers overcome
- Strength of personal statement

# Selection Criteria (cont.)

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## **Field of Study (All Majors Eligible)**

- Preference for fields aligned with Air District work and public service, examples include:
  - Engineering
  - Environmental Science
  - Meteorology
  - Air Monitoring and Data
  - Policy and Compliance
  - Community Engagement
  - Communications
  - Administrative Resources
  - Human Resources
  - Finance or Accounting

# Cohort Model

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“MEET THE SCHOLARS”  
PROFILE FOR ALL  
RECIPIENTS



FEATURES IN AIR  
DISTRICT  
COMMUNICATIONS  
& SOCIAL MEDIA



NETWORKING AND  
COMMUNITY  
STORYTELLING  
OPPORTUNITIES



ELEVATED  
VISIBILITY &  
OPPORTUNITY FOR  
SCHOLARS IN THE  
COMMUNITIES WE  
SERVE

# Cohort Model – Scholar Visibility

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- LinkedIn Presence: Scholars commit to 2–4 posts highlighting their scholarship journey
- Meet the Scholars Profiles: Individual stories shared on the Air District site & social media, reshared by scholars
- Community Ambassadors: Scholars recognized as ambassadors in Air District publications and events

# Cohort Model – Community Engagement

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- Panel Participation: Scholars join one Air District event or panel
- Scholar Blog: Short reflections on what it means to be rooted in community, published & promoted
- Annual Cohort Campaign: Group photos, short video clips, and a living archive of “Community Roots Scholar” impact
- Alumni Network: Long-term visibility as scholars graduate into Environmental Justice (EJ), law, public health, and advocacy fields

# Review Process for Scholarship

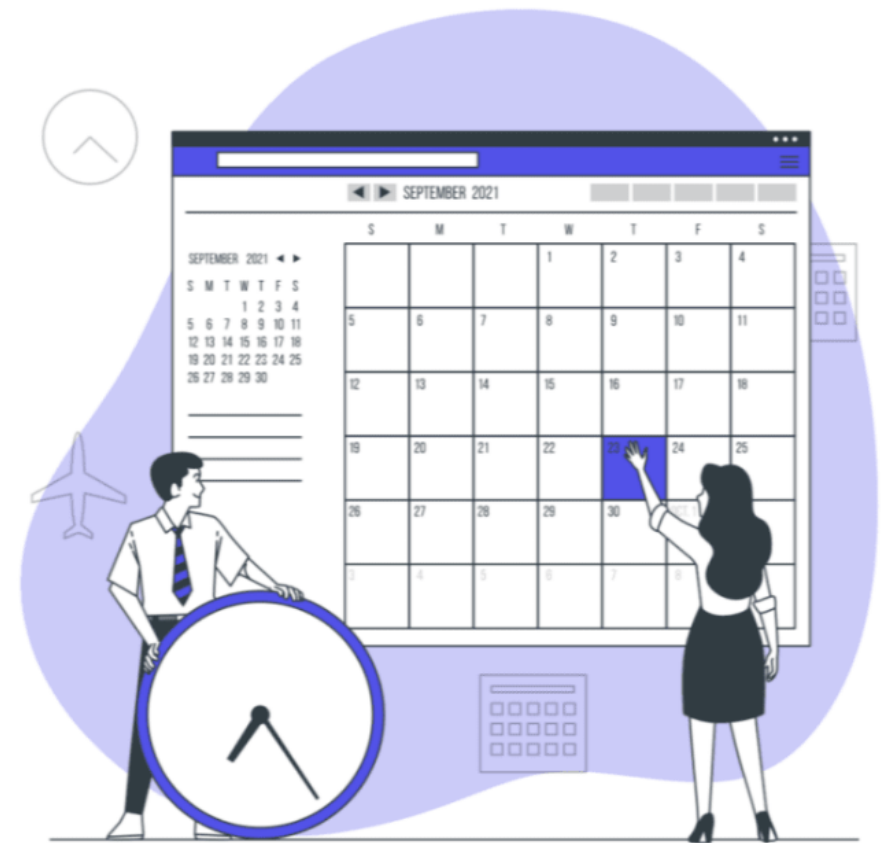
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- 5-person review panel:
  - 3 Air District staff
  - 1 Air District Board Member
  - 1 community/education advocate



# Timeline

2026	
May	Outreach to 2- to 4-year Colleges and Universities
June	Applications Open
August	Applications Close
August	Review
September	Notifications and Funds Disbursed




# Outreach & Equity Strategy

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Direct communication with 2- 4-year institutions in California, reaching multiple touchpoints within each campus



Prioritize: Bay Area/overburdened communities, first-generation students, low-income families



Leverage: Air District Assembly Bill (AB) 617 – Community Air Protection networks (e.g., James Cary Smith grantees, Community Advisory Council and campus-based networks)

# Success Measures

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Target: 50+ applicants annually

Strong representation from first generation, low-income, EJ-impacted communities

Graduation outcomes

Alumni network of scholars

# Pathway of Success - Student to Employee



Marie  
Harrison  
Environmental  
Justice  
Scholarship



Air District  
Community  
Roots  
Scholarship



Air District  
Internship



Air District  
Fellowship



Air District  
Employment

# Building Early Access and Awareness

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## **Marie Harrison Environmental Justice Scholarship**

- Supports high school students
- Introduces environmental/public health pathways
- Builds early connection to Air District mission

## **Community Roots Scholarship**

- Supports current college students
- Expands access beyond entry  
Connects students directly to Air District opportunities
- Prioritized for internships

# Developing Skills and Experience

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## Internship Program

- Hands-on experience in policy, air quality, and community work
- Exposure to public agency operations
- Mentorship and professional development

## Fellowship

- Deeper, project-based work
- Direct connection to environmental justice initiatives
- Strong pipeline into full-time roles

# Creating a Workforce Pipeline

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- Scholars, interns, and fellows build:
  - Experience
  - Networks
  - Credentials
- Aligns directly with Air District Strategic Plan, Goal 3: Foster Cohesion and Inclusion
- Strengthens long-term representation and community connection

# Questions & Discussion

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**For more information:**

Tim Williams| Officer| [twilliams@baaqmd.gov](mailto:twilliams@baaqmd.gov)