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

Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 2026

APPROVED 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) Chairperson, John Gioia, called the meeting to order at 1:26 p.m.

   Roll Call:

   Present, In-Person (Bay Area Metro Center, 375 Beale Street, 1st Yerba Buena Room, San Francisco, CA, 94105): Chairperson Gioia; and Directors Monica Brown, Linda Sell, and Shamann Walton.

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

   Absent: Director Dionne Adams.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

No requests received.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. **APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY EQUITY, HEALTH, AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING OF JULY 8, 2026**

Public Comments

No requests received.

Committee Comments

None.

Committee Action

Director Sell made a motion, seconded by Director Walton, to approve the Draft Minutes of the Community Equity, Health, and Justice Committee Meeting of July 8, 2026; and the motion carried by the following vote of the Committee:

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

ACTION ITEM

4. **LOCAL COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUND – AWARD OF ROUND 1 FUNDS**

Emi Wang, Community Investments Officer, and Letitia Carpenter and Lisa Hu, Senior Staff Specialists, gave the staff presentation *Bay Reinvesting Penalties for Air Improvement and Resilience (REPAIR) Local Community Benefits Fund: Award of Round 1 Funds,* including: recommended action; outline; core strategies; grant awards – Round 1; Benicia Catalyst Grants; all other grant types; applications received – Round 1; activity type – Round 1 eligible applications; project type – Round 1 eligible applications; application review process; eligibility review; community and technical reviewers; application scoring; reviewer pool; how recommendations were made; examples of portfolio balance factors considered by staff; reference checks; partial awards; Benicia and surrounding communities; grant awards – Benicia and surrounding communities; applications received – Benicia and surrounding communities; oversubscription – Benicia and surrounding communities; anticipated community benefits of the recommended investments; Benicia Opportunity Grant recommendations; Benicia Seed Grant recommendations; Richmond and surrounding communities; grant awards – Richmond and surrounding communities; applications received – Richmond and surrounding communities; oversubscription – Richmond and surrounding communities; anticipated community benefits of the recommended investments; Richmond Catalyst Grant recommendations; Richmond Opportunity Grant recommendations; Richmond Seed Grant recommendations; anticipated next steps; and recommended action.

Public Comments

Public comments were given by Stephen Golub; Princess Robinson, Richmond LAND Staff; Cecilia Lopez, Richmond resident; Matthew Hulse, Contra Costa Legal Services; Philip Rosenthal, Point Richmond Neighborhood Council; Sarah Shawky, City of Benicia; David Lindsay, Benicia resident; Patrick Messac; Ashley Labar, STAX Engineering; Marillyn Bardet, Benicia resident; Ruth Fernandez, First Five Contra Costa; Tom Campbell; Gary Hsueh, Center for Transportation and the Environment; Tim Frank, Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council; Dr. Kirby Lynch; and Debbie Toth, Choice in Aging.

Committee Comments

The Committee and staff discussed concerns regarding partnership requirements for Opportunity Grants; concerns regarding unintended consequences of the networking sessions held for organizations interested in applying to the Local Community Benefits Fund Round 1; concerns regarding the key criteria of "portfolio balance" and "program alignment"; the perception that additional criteria may have been considered after the first application analysis was completed, tainting the application process; how the Air District defines "bias awareness"; which applications fell below the 50th percentile but were advanced because they showed exceptional strengths in other review areas; whether the Bay REPAIR Local Community Benefits Fund will offer funding specifically for "Martinez and Surrounding Communities"; the misinterpretation of the program guidelines regarding eligible projects, and the wish that that had been clarified prior to the application deadline; concerns about particular community and technical reviewers; clarification regarding a recommended project's eligibility, based on the status of an Air District regulation; potential sources of applicants' leverage funding; suggestions of developing requirements to ensure survival rates for the tree-planting project applications; the desire for equitable tree-planting in the Bay Area; how the Air District plans to ensure that awarded grant funds are used for eligible project expenses rather than for an applicant's general operating costs or existing financial obligations; the Air District's proposed contract negotiation process; whether the Air District will offer feedback to applicants whose projects were not recommended in Round 1, whether those applicants may apply for future Bay REPAIR Local Community Benefits Fund grants, and the suggestion that applicants whose projects were not recommended for Round 1 be automatically considered first for any new rounds of funding; the request that the Board be informed of the metrics that are developed; the request for a pie chart for the Board showing recommended grant awards; exceptions made for the Benicia Catalyst Grants that did not apply to the Richmond Catalyst Grants; and concerns regarding the perception that grants were awarded based solely on geographic location.

Committee Action

Chair Gioia made a motion, seconded by Director Young, to recommend the Board to 1) **award** $26,540,000 in Local Community Benefits Fund awards for Benicia and Surrounding Communities and $38,752,145 in grant awards for Richmond and Surrounding Communities; and 2) **authorize** the Executive Officer/Air Pollution Control Officer to execute grant agreements for the recommended projects.

The motion **carried** by the following vote of the Committee:

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

OTHER BUSINESS

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None.

7. 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:

- **East Oakland: The September 10 CSC meeting, from 6:00–8:00 PM, will be held as a hybrid meeting at Youth UpRising Campus (8711 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland)**. This will be the first meeting since the *Right to Breathe: East Oakland Community Air Quality Justice Plan* moved into implementation. The CSC will reconvene, welcome new members, and transition into the implementation phase.

- **Bayview Hunters Point SE/SF:** The Air District will release the Draft Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco Community Emissions Reduction Plan for a 30-day public review on September 14, 2026. Comments on the draft plan can be submitted through the Air District's Public Comment Portal (comments.baaqmd.gov) until October 14, 2026, at 11:59 PM. A public open house will be held September 22, 2026 from 5:30–7:30 PM at the Southeast Community Center.

- **Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo:** The next CSC quarterly meeting is September 28th from 5:30 to 7:40PM (hybrid meeting). Full meeting details are available on the Air District's News and Events Calendar.

8. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, October 14, 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.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

/s/ Marcy Hiratzka
Marcy Hiratzka
Clerk of the Boards