



State Legislative Updates

Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee

March 18, 2026

Alan Abbs

Legislative Officer

Legislative and Government Affairs Division



Abbreviations

- Assembly Bill (AB)
- Senate Bill (SB)
- California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- California Energy Commission (CEC)
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD)
- State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)

Recommended Action

Recommend to the Board of Directors that the Board adopt positions on pending state legislative bills where appropriate, including, but not limited to the following Air District staff recommendations:

SUPPORT	OPPOSE
AB 2313 (Berman)	AB 1791 (Sanchez)
SB 299 (Cabaldon)	AB 2752 (Ávila Farías)
SB 954 (Blakespear)	SB 1392 (Cortese)

2026 Legislative Session

Date/Deadline	Description
May 29, 2026	Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house
August 31, 2026	Last day for each house to pass bills
September 30, 2026	Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before September 1 and in the Governor's possession on or after September 1
November 3, 2026	General Election
November 30, 2026	Adjournment <i>sine die</i> at midnight
December 7, 2026	12 Noon convening of the 2027-28 Regular Session
January 1, 2027	Statutes take effect



Board-Approved-Position Bills

As of March 4, 2026

SB 222 (Wiener)

Heat Pump Access Act

This bill would make cost-saving, energy efficient heat pump water heater and HVAC installations faster, simpler and more affordable by streamlining the permitting process.

Position: Co-Sponsor (approved by the Board on February 4, 2026)

AB 907 (Chen)

State Air Resources Board: board members: compensation

The bill proposal would provide that CARB board members representing air districts receive the same level of compensation as other Governor-appointed voting CARB board members. Per current statute, Health and Safety Code Section 39512.5, air district CARB Board members only receive \$100 per meeting plus actual and necessary expenses.

Position: Support (approved by the Board on February 5, 2025)

AB 1777 (Garcia)

Air pollution: indirect sources

This bill would authorize CARB, if necessary to carry out that duty to achieve those ambient air quality standards, to adopt regulations to reduce or mitigate emissions from indirect sources of pollution.

Position: Support (approved by the Board on March 4, 2026)



Air District Staff Recommendations

AB 1791 (Sanchez)

State Air Resources Board: South Coast AQMD: regulations: prohibition: costs

This bill would prohibit the South Coast AQMD from adopting any regulation or rule that would add more than \$0.02 to the cost of a gallon of gasoline, add \$2,000 or more to the cost to build any home, or add \$5,000 or more to the cost to build a nonresidential building. The bill would require the South Coast AQMD to submit data to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature that demonstrates how a proposed regulation is compliant with this prohibition.

Staff Recommendation: Oppose

AB 2313 (Berman)

Gas corporations: gas distribution service line replacements: alternatives

This bill, the Home Energy Choice Act, would require the CPUC in a new or existing proceeding, to require each gas corporation to offer a Gas Distribution Service Line Replacement Alternatives Program, on or before January 1, 2028, to provide gas customers served by a gas distribution service line, planned or forecasted for replacement over the next 5 years, or prioritized for replacement by the commission, with a monetary incentive to deploy gas distribution service line replacement alternatives, as defined, and cease gas service to avoid the gas distribution service line replacement, as specified.

Staff Recommendation: Support

AB 2752 (Ávila Farías)

Air quality management districts: oversight

This bill states the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation to ensure accountability and oversight of the Bay Area Air District and the South Coast AQMD to ensure the rules and regulations they adopt are cost effective, affordable, and achievable. This bill is currently an “intent bill” that will be amended in the future, however, whether a rule is “cost effective, affordable, and achievable” is currently covered by Health and Safety Code Section 40728.5 Required Assessment. Staff of the Assemblymember has indicated this is an industry-supported bill.

Staff Recommendation: Oppose

SB 299 (Cabaldon)

CEQA: exemption: day care center: family daycare home: zoning

This bill would provide that an exemption from CEQA applies to a day care center on a parcel of land zoned exclusively for residential use. This is another bill seeking to fix problems with the SB 131 trailer bill from 2025, which in this case provided a CEQA exemption for day care centers proposed on a parcel of land zoned as industrial, which ultimately made it easier to zone day care centers in industrial areas rather than residential areas.

Staff Recommendation: Support

SB 954 (Blakespear)

CEQA : exemptions: natural and protected lands: advanced manufacturing: childcare facilities

This spot bill will seek to amend SB 131 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2025) – a budget trailer bill from 2025 – that provided broad CEQA exemptions for “advanced manufacturing facilities” which ended up including a long list of potential industrial activities.

Staff Recommendation: Support

SB 1392 (Cortese)

Smog check: exemption: collector motor vehicles

This bill would redefine “collector motor vehicle” in state law and further exempt a collector motor vehicle manufactured before the 1981 model year from the requirement to pass biennial smog check. The bill would extend the applicability of this exemption by one model year each year, beginning on and after January 1, 2028, until the final extension takes effect on and after January 1, 2032, that would exempt a collector motor vehicle manufactured before the 1986 model year from the requirement to obtain the certificate of compliance or noncompliance.

Staff Recommendation: Oppose



Additional Bills for Discussion

AB 2046 (Ransom)

Vehicles: pollution control devices

This bill would exempt alternative fuel retrofit system for a light-duty or medium-duty gasoline-fueled vehicle that converts the vehicle to a dual-fueled vehicle that can utilize gasoline or E85 fuel if the alternative fuel retrofit system has been certified by the US EPA as a clean alternative fuel conversion system, as specified, and would prohibit CARB from requiring state certification, executive order approval, or any additional testing or demonstration for such an alternative fuel retrofit device.

AB 2102 (DeMaio)

Wildfire: vegetation management: fuel reduction activities

The bill would make several changes to existing fuel reduction activities, including:

- Require all public lands, on or before January 1, 2028, to have 200-foot firebreaks on all borders with private property
- Wildfire fuel reduction activities pursuant to this section shall be exempt from CEQA
- A state agency, including, but not limited to, CARB or its successor entity, shall not impose additional permitting, emissions limitation, or regulatory requirements on activities conducted pursuant to this section
- A city, county, or special district shall not impose discretionary review, conditional use permits, or additional environmental review requirements for activities authorized by this part

AB 2635 (C. Rodriguez)

Air pollution: small off-road engines: rebate programs: local regulation

This bill would require each air pollution control and air quality management district, no later than January 1, 2028, to implement and maintain a commercial rebate program to support the transition to zero-emission small off-road equipment consistent with specified requirements. By requiring districts to establish a new program, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

SB 875 (Wiener)

Public utilities: eminent domain

This bill would specify that if property that has been appropriated to a public use is electrical, gas, or water public utility property that a public entity within the Pacific Gas and Electric Company service area intends to put to the same use, the presumption of a more necessary use is conclusive and not rebuttable.

SB 1075 (Reyes)

Air resources: toxic air contaminants: criteria air pollutants: community emissions reduction programs

Spot Bill – No substantive language.

SB 1097 (Wiener)

Energy: permit streamlining

Intent Bill – No substantive language.

“This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to streamline the permitting of energy generation, storage, and transmission projects given the increasing cost of energy and the need to quickly electrify to mitigate the impacts of climate change.”

SB 1259 (Blakespear)

Refineries: decommissioning and remediation: cost estimate

The bill would require, on or before an unspecified date, each refiner, as defined, with an operating refinery to submit a report, including an estimate of the refinery's asset retirement obligations and a plan for meeting those obligations, to the State Water Board in accordance with those guidelines. The bill would require the CEC to incorporate the information contained in the reports in its ongoing work to develop a comprehensive transportation fuels transition strategy. The bill would require the State Water Board to provide a copy of the report to the CEC for that purpose. This bill contains other existing laws.

Recap: Recommended Action

Recommend to the Board of Directors that the Board adopt positions on pending state legislative bills where appropriate, including, but not limited to the following Air District staff recommendations:

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Questions & Discussion

For more information:

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Update on Bay Area Regional Climate Action Plan

Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee

March 18, 2026

Jamesine Rogers Gibson
Senior Advanced Projects Advisor
Planning and Climate Protection Division



Bay Area Regional Climate Action Plan (BARCAP) Overview



- Bay Area's first regional climate action plan
- Consistent with commitments in the Air District Strategic Plan Strategy 1.7, New Climate Solutions
- Funded in part by United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)

Goals of the BARCAP

GOAL 1

Reduce Bay Area's contributions to climate change to help achieve carbon neutrality by 2045

GOAL 2

Create a healthier breathing environment and provide benefits to frontline communities

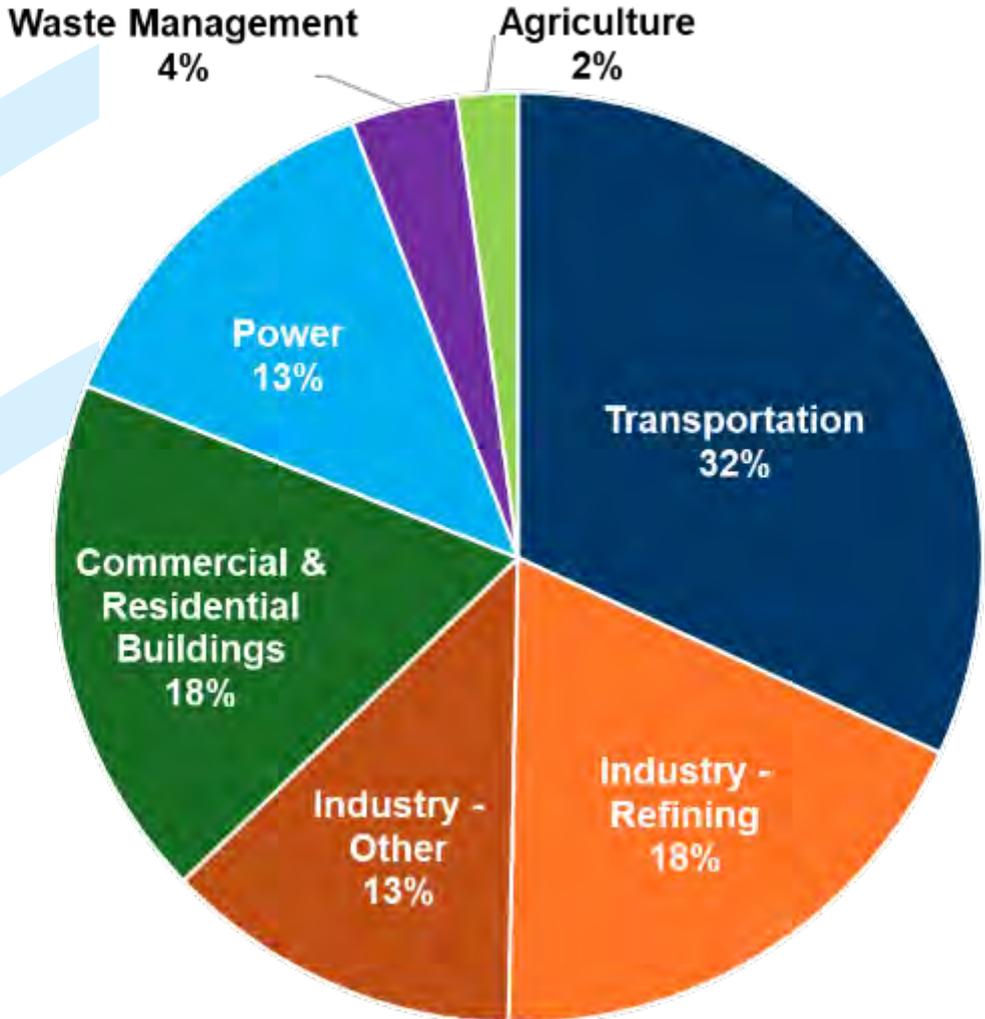
GOAL 3

Take regional action to complement and build upon State and local climate action plans

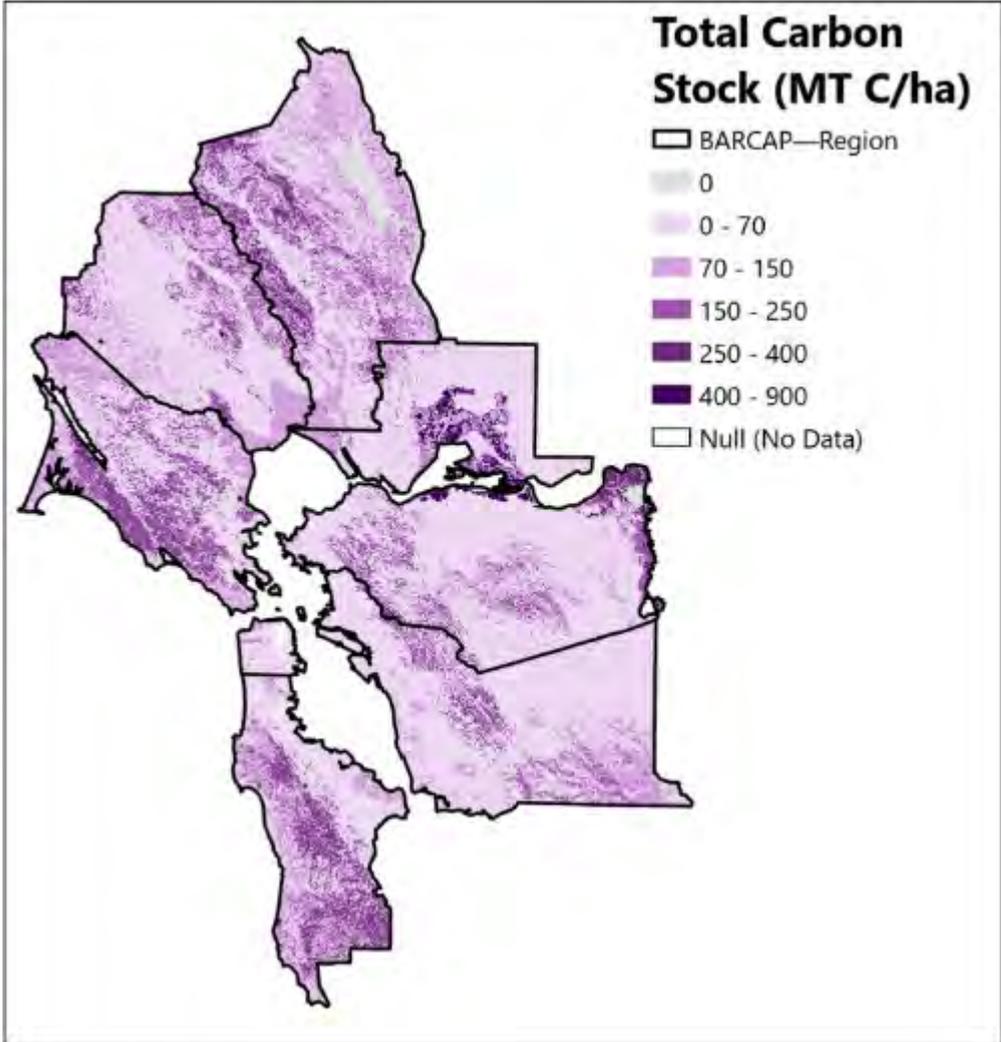
GOAL 4

Address important cross-cutting issues that extend across multiple components of the plan

BARCAP Greenhouse Gas and Carbon Stock Inventories



2022 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory for the BARCAP Region
 Total of 54 Million Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalents (MMTCO_{2e})



2022 Carbon Stock Inventory for the BARCAP Region
 Total 92 Million Metric Tons of Carbon (MT C) Held in Plants & Soils

BARCAP Snapshot

16 Measures

57 Actions

>35 Implementers Identified



Transportation



**Residential &
Commercial
Buildings**



**Electricity
Generation
(Power)**



**Waste &
Materials
Management**



**Agriculture/
Natural &
Working Lands**

Transportation



An individual charging an electric vehicle.

Measures:

- Accelerate light-duty electric vehicle adoption
- Accelerate medium- and heavy-duty vehicle and equipment decarbonization
- Accelerate decarbonization of goods movement
- Support implementation of Plan Bay Area 2050+

Buildings



A heat pump water heater.

Measures:

- Develop solutions for key challenges of zero-nitrogen oxides (NO_x) appliance rules
- Promote healthy home retrofits by combining electrification, energy efficiency, and home repair programs
- Grow and diversify building decarbonization workforce through new initiatives and partnerships

Power



A field of solar panels.

Measures:

- Increase development of local small to medium scale clean energy and storage projects
- Expand customer programs and deploy power system and grid technologies (flexibility, resilience, and efficiency)

Waste and Materials Management



Community members at a composting workshop.

Measures:

- Enable food access and clean compost
- Advance low-carbon building materials and reuse
- Reduce methane emissions from waste management facilities

Natural and Working Lands



A redwood forest.

Measures:

- Support Nature-Based Solution Funding and Data
- Advance Conservation, Wildfire Management, and Restoration
- Accelerate Climate-Beneficial Agriculture
- Advance Environmental Justice-Centered Urban Greening

Advisory Work Group for BARCAP



Logos of public agencies and community organizations
Logos courtesy of agency websites



BARCAP Engagement Highlights

168

frontline community members engaged during 4 multilingual subregional workshops, designed and led in partnership with 8 CBO partnerships



76 Spanish speakers engaged

18 Cantonese speakers engaged

675

Survey responses from community members

10%

Of responses from Spanish speakers

409

Public comments on draft measures

78

Commenters in English and Spanish

63

Cities and counties engaged

20

Technical Working Group meetings across 5 sectors

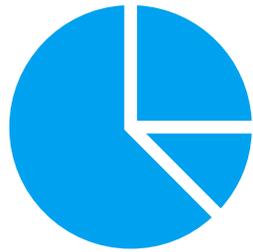
9

Presentations at local government standing meetings

293

Attendees in 3 public workshops

BARCAP Deliverables Benefit the Region



Regional GHG Inventory
(Dashboard)



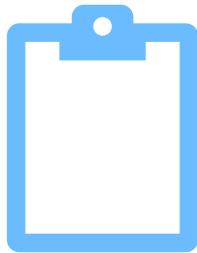
Regional Carbon
Stock Inventory



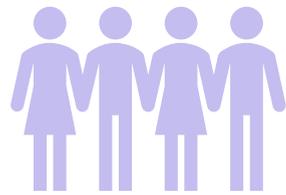
Funding
Roadmaps



Workforce Planning
Analysis

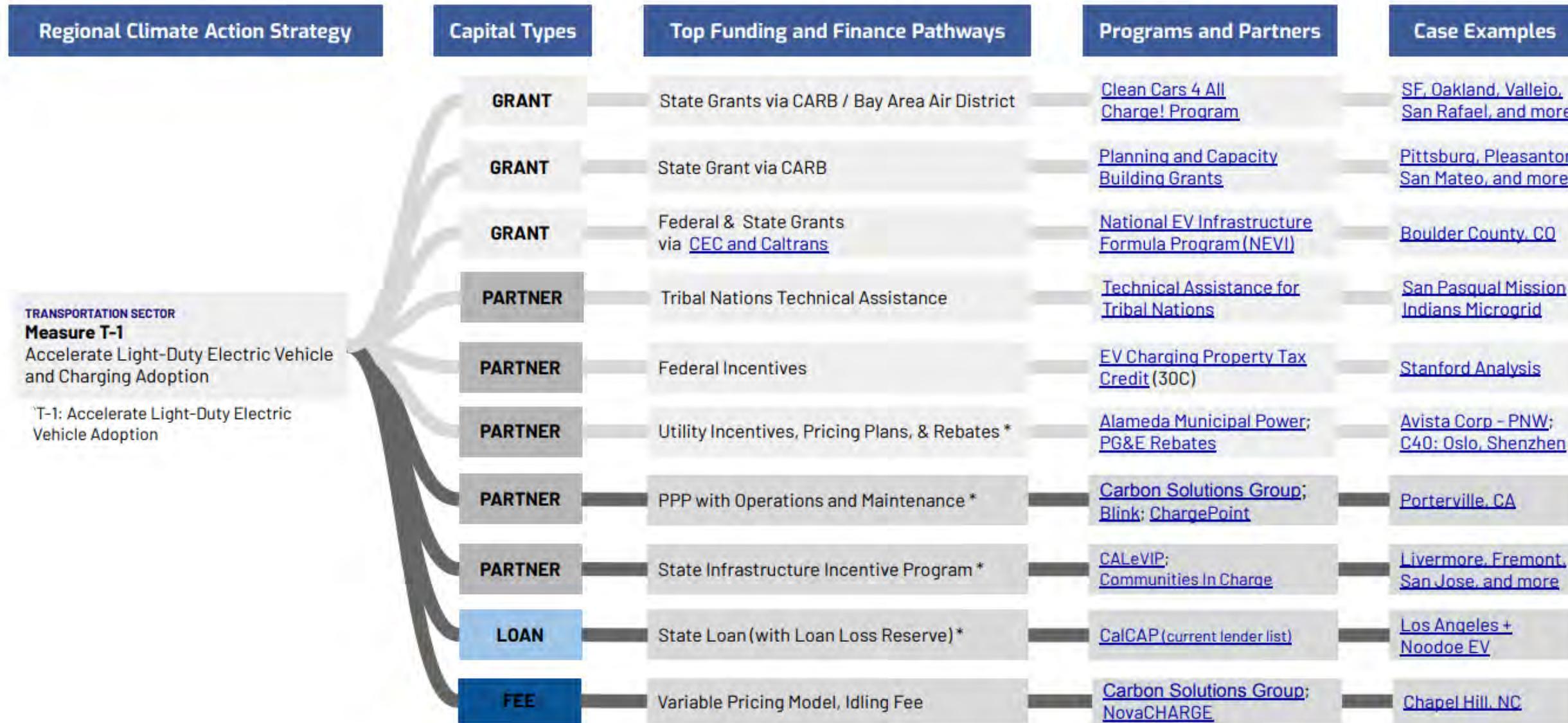


Public Survey
Results



Frontline
Communities
Impacts Analysis

Sample Funding Roadmap



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HIP: INVESTOR
 Human Impact - Prolif

Bay Area Air District

Pathways highlighted in darker gray are particularly applicable and/or accessible to the Bay Area Community

* Indicates a pathway may involve Residential & Commercial Costs

** Pathway cancellation currently under dispute or may not have future funding

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Air District Role in Implementation

- Serve as lead or supporting implementer for specific actions
 - *Regulations, funding, other*
- Track progress
- Play key overarching role in support of implementation



Puzzle pieces joining together in a circle

Next Steps



Hand holding a magnifying glass showing city lights

- Meet with other lead implementers
- Set up framework for tracking progress
- Update Board on implementation periodically

Santa Clara County

- Santa Clara County received a \$1 million grant from the US EPA to develop a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan with San Benito County
- Santa Clara County and the Air District have been coordinating throughout the development of their climate plans



County of
Santa Clara

Santa Clara County logo

Questions & Discussion

For more information:

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