



# NEWS

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## **BAY AREA LEADERS CONVENE IN SAN FRANCISCO TO TAKE ACTION LOCALLY FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION**

***Vice President Al Gore Keynote Speaker***

***Air District Announces New \$3 Million Grant Program to Fund Climate Protection Solutions***

**San Francisco, Calif.—** The Bay Area Air Quality Management District's (Air District) Summit on Climate Protection will focus on the importance of local action and innovative solutions to protect the climate. The event features **Vice President Al Gore**, **San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom**, and Bay Area business, community and government leaders. The Air District will announce a new \$3 million grant program – the first of its kind – to fund local climate protection projects and programs.

"The Bay Area leads the nation on climate protection. This Summit convenes leaders and stakeholders to build on previous efforts" said Air District Executive Officer **Jack P. Broadbent**. "We are especially excited about our new grant program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We are seeding the way to advance energy efficiency and create renewable energy sources. We challenge others to join us."

"The good news is that we can slow and reverse the trend of global warming if we take action now *and* we spread the word," explained former **Vice President Al Gore**, a keynote speaker at today's event. "Here we have a public agency taking the lead and providing the incentives, and we have the enthusiastic participation of private business and community-based nonprofit organizations that are working together, sharing ideas and implementing exciting solutions. From here, it spreads to the next area, and the next area – and collectively, our actions will make a big difference."

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District ([www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the Bay Area. The Summit will be held Friday, November 10, 2006, from 8:30 am to 4 pm at the Yerba Buena Center for the Performing Arts and is open by invitation only.

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