



NEWS

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Air District announces more than \$90 million for grant programs to reduce air pollution from mobile sources in 2016/2017

SAN FRANCISCO – As part of its efforts to reduce air pollution in the Bay Area, the Air District has allocated more than \$90 million towards grant programs that will provide funding in phases from July 2016 through June 2017.

Funding will be available for more than a dozen different types of projects including projects that replace or repower diesel engines in trucks, buses, locomotives, boats and agricultural equipment; install electric vehicle charging stations, deploy electric vehicles in public and private fleets, purchase lower-emission school buses, retire older highly polluting vehicles; and reduce single-occupancy motor vehicle trips - such as shuttles, bicycle parking and bikeways.

“Effective air pollution control requires a flexible ‘carrot and stick’ approach, with enforceable regulations on the one hand and financial incentives on the other,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Air District grant programs not only safeguard public health, but foster a variety of innovative approaches which can be modeled throughout the nation.”

In most urban areas, the majority of air pollution comes from the millions of automobiles, trucks and other mobile sources in daily use. The rest comes from industrial emissions from factories, refineries, dry cleaners, gas stations, auto body shops and other stationary sources, which are regulated by the Air District in the Bay Area. By being a conduit for clean air incentive funding, the Bay Area makes progress towards its clean air goals, fosters innovative solutions and focuses pollution reduction funding in areas which suffer the highest impacts.

In 2015, the Air District awarded approximately \$60 million to local projects and programs that will reduce diesel emissions from on- and off-road sources, help transition fleets to zero-emission fuels such as electricity and hydrogen, and encourage bicycling and transit use.

About half of the Air District’s funding comes from Proposition 1B, the Goods Movement Program which is a partnership between the State Air Resources Board and local agencies to reduce air pollution emissions and health risk from freight movement along California’s trade corridors. The remaining funds are from a combination of the Carl Moyer Program, which is a State of California engine retrofit and replacement program implemented through local air districts; and the Air District’s own Transportation Fund for Clean Air and Mobile Source Incentive Fund, which both utilize a surcharge on motor vehicles registered within the Bay Area to fund projects that reduce emissions.

The Air District provides funding to the public and private sector for projects that improve air quality in the region. The public can learn more about grant opportunities by visiting the grants page at <http://www.baaqmd.gov/grant-funding> or calling the grants programs' information line at 415 749-4994.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area.

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