



NEWS

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Air District Board adopts bold climate plan ***Spare the Air, Cool the Climate*** ***Visionary plan an antidote to federal efforts dismantling*** ***air quality improvement & climate protections***

SAN FRANCISCO - Today the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board of Directors adopted a bold air quality and climate plan, the 2017 Clean Air Plan/Regional Climate Protection Strategy, titled *Spare the Air-Cool the Climate*, which addresses air quality improvement and greenhouse gas reduction for the nine-county Bay Area region.

Spare the Air-Cool the Climate is a blueprint for tackling regional air pollution and climate pollutants while improving the health of Bay Area residents for the next several decades. To support the plan, the Air District will dedicate \$4.5 million to this effort over the next several years and will look to further leverage these funds to spearhead larger air quality improvement and climate protection efforts.

“Spare the Air-Cool the Climate is a visionary plan outlining efforts we all must make to improve air quality regionally and join California’s efforts to reduce greenhouse gases statewide in this era of increasing resistance from Washington,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Reducing air pollution and greenhouse gases is everyone’s responsibility. How we live and travel, what we buy, how we heat our homes, and what we consume all impact air quality, our health and produce greenhouse gases that impact our planet and ultimately, our quality of life.”

The 2017 Clean Air Plan aims to lead the region into a post-carbon economy, continue progress toward attaining all state and federal air quality standards, and eliminate health risk disparities from air pollution exposure in Bay Area communities. The plan includes 85 distinct control measures to help the region reduce air pollutants and has a long-term strategic vision which forecasts what a clean air Bay Area will look like in the year 2050.

Spare the Air-Cool the Climate envisions a future where by the year 2050:

- Buildings will be energy efficient - heated, cooled and powered by renewable energy
- Transportation will be a combination of electric vehicles, both shared and privately-owned; autonomous public transit fleets; with a large share of trips by bicycling, walking and transit
- The Bay Area will be powered by clean, renewable electricity and will be a leading incubator and producer of clean energy technologies leading the world in the carbon-efficiency of our products
- Bay Area residents will have developed a low-carbon lifestyle by driving electric vehicles, living in zero net energy homes, eating low-carbon foods and purchasing goods and services with low carbon content
- Waste will be greatly reduced, waste products will be re-used or recycled and all organic waste will be composted and put to productive use

What does the plan propose? Actions to reduce combustion-related activities like:

- decrease fossil fuel combustion
- improve energy efficiency
- decrease emissions of potent greenhouse gases
- reduce smog, particulate matter, air toxics and greenhouse gases

Other measures focus on a single type of pollutant – super GHG's like methane and black carbon – or are progressive actions to remove harmful particles in the air.

The focus of control measures includes aggressively targeting the largest source of GHG, ozone pollutants and particulate matter emissions – transportation. This includes more incentives for electric vehicle infrastructure, off-road electrification projects such as Caltrain and shore power at ports, and reducing emissions from trucks, school buses, marine vessels, locomotives and off-road equipment. Additionally, the Air District will continue to work with regional and local governments to reduce vehicle miles traveled through the further funding of rideshare, bike and shuttle programs.

The Bay Area Air District has continued to fund clean air and climate protection programs providing millions each year to help initiate change. Previous financial incentives from the Air District have helped fund innovative programs such as the Property Assessed Clean Energy or PACE program, Marin Clean Energy, making clean energy more accessible for Bay Area residents and helped cities and counties develop local climate protection plans.

For more information about Spare the Air, Cool the Climate, see the new video about our bold vision at <https://youtu.be/p9BxhIrlqrl>.

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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