



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Air District expands Vehicle Buy Back Program**

*Vehicles 1996 or older now eligible for \$1000 offer*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – Today the Bay Area Air Quality Management District announced that the eligible model year for participating in the Vehicle Buy Back Program has been expanded to 1996 vehicles and older. Previously only 1994 and older vehicles were accepted.

Residents with vehicles registered to an address within the Air District’s nine-county jurisdiction that meet all program requirements are eligible to receive \$1,000 to voluntarily retire their older – highly polluting vehicles.

“The single largest source of air pollution in the region is from automobiles and small trucks,” said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “Older vehicles, even when they pass smog check, run dirtier than newer engines and contribute to unhealthy air quality in our neighborhoods.”

Eligibility requirements for the Vehicle Buy Back Program include:

- Vehicle must be 1996 model year or older
- Vehicle must be currently registered as operable and must be drivable
- Vehicle must have been registered in the Bay Area for the past 24 months
- Vehicles within 60 days of a required smog check must take and pass smog check

A complete list of program eligibility requirements is available at: [www.baaqmd.gov/vbb](http://www.baaqmd.gov/vbb). The program’s two approved auto dismantlers, listed below, can also help to determine a vehicle’s eligibility.

Since 1996, the Air District has retired more than 78,000 vehicles through the program. Vehicles registered in the Bay Area can be taken to any of the 17 program dismantler locations in the region that are currently operated by either Environmental Engineering Services or Pick-N-Pull.

<b>Dismantler</b>	Environmental Engineering Services	Pick-N-Pull
<b>Phone Number</b>	1-855-343-7314	1-800-727-2708

Among the air pollutants reduced by the Vehicle Buy Back Program are fine particles and ozone, the main ingredient in smog. These pollutants contribute to respiratory diseases and increased mortality

rates. This program also reduces greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide, the principal gas responsible for climate change.

The State of California also operates a related program for vehicles that do not pass smog check. Check for more details at:

[https://www.bar.ca.gov/Consumer/Consumer\\_Assistance\\_Program/index.html](https://www.bar.ca.gov/Consumer/Consumer_Assistance_Program/index.html)

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](#) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#).

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