



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** April 24, 2018

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### **Air District offering \$50 million in grant funds to reduce air pollution from heavy duty engines**

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is accepting applications for grant funding for projects that reduce toxic air emissions and ozone-forming pollutants from older, polluting diesel engines through the Community Health Protection Grant Program.

Eligible equipment includes medium and heavy-duty trucks and buses, mobile construction and industrial equipment, marine vessels, locomotives and school buses. Funding is available for projects that:

- Replace older equipment with newer, cleaner equipment
- Replace older engines with newer, cleaner engines or convert to zero-emissions power system
- Install electric charging or fueling infrastructure in support of new zero- or near-zero emissions equipment

“Diesel air pollution is the most significant toxic air pollutant in the Bay Area and a major driver of air borne related health issues in certain Bay Area communities,” said Jack P. Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. “This grant funding provides an additional tool to help reduce diesel exhaust and improve air quality in our most impacted neighborhoods.”

Authorized by AB 617, the Air District is working with local community residents through the Community Health Protection Program to employ proven and innovative strategies to improve community health by reducing exposure to air pollutants in neighborhoods most impacted by air pollution. As an early action component of the Community Health Protection Program, the Air District has been allocated \$50 million for eligible projects that get immediate emission reductions in communities most affected by air pollution.

Grant funding must be awarded to owners of eligible equipment and vehicles by June 2019. For the initial year of this program the Air District will accept applications for projects that reduce emissions in communities along the 80/880 freeways from Hayward to Richmond, and from Vallejo to Pittsburg. Community input will play an important role by informing the Air District’s project outreach and project identification processes.

Air District staff are available to answer questions about the application process and grant requirements. For more information about the grant program or to start an application online, visit the Air District website at [www.baaqmd.gov/AB617grants](http://www.baaqmd.gov/AB617grants) or call 415-749-4994.

The Community Health Protection Program has been developed to be a community-driven, transparent process that builds capacity in communities to reduce emissions and exposure to air pollution. Insights from communities in the Bay Area are important to this process, so the Air District is seeking recommendations via a [survey](#) to assist with the implementation of AB 617.

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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