

BAY AREA AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 7, 2020 CONTACT: Erin DeMerritt - 415.517.4147

Air District offers \$40 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 projects that reduce toxic air emissions and ozone-forming pollutants from older, polluting diesel engines.

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

- Replace an old vehicle or piece of equipment with the cleanest available technology
- Replace an old engine with a new, emission-certified engine
- Convert existing equipment to operate on electric or hybrid power
- Install infrastructure to charge or fuel new, funded equipment. Infrastructure-only projects • may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

"Diesel exhaust is a significant public health threat, and its impacts fall heaviest on communities already burdened by air pollution," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "These grants invest in cleaner-than-required equipment to improve air guality in neighborhoods that need our help most."

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. The Air District is offering over \$40 million in grant funding from the Carl Moyer Program and Community Health Protection Program to help improve air quality in the Bay Area. Applications are currently being accepted and evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis until funds run out. The Air District will prioritize applications for projects that reduce emissions in the following AB 617 communities:

- West Oakland
- Richmond-San Pablo
- East Oakland/ San Leandro
- Eastern San Francisco

- Pittsburg-Bay Point area
- San Jose
- Tri-Valley area
- Vallejo

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's website at <u>www.baaqmd.gov/moyer</u> and <u>www.baaqmd.gov/AB617grants</u> or call 415-749-4994.

The Community Health Protection Program was developed to be a community-driven, transparent process that builds capacity in communities to reduce emissions and exposure to air pollution.

The <u>Bay Area Air Quality Management District</u> is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.