

NEWS RELEASE

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Air District's *Charge!* Program offers \$6 million for electric vehicle charging stations

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the availability of \$6 million through the Charge! program, which provides grant funding to offset the cost of purchasing and installing new publicly-accessible chargers for light-duty electric vehicles.

The program, which is now open for applications, will significantly increase electric vehicle charging stations at workplaces, destinations, transit parking locations, along transportation corridors and at multi-unit dwelling facilities across the Bay Area. Funding is available for governments, businesses and non-profits.

"As the Bay Area seeks to increase electric vehicle adoption, we must take steps to ensure frontline communities and residents most impacted by air pollution are not left behind," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "Through these Charge! investments, we are building the infrastructure to support electric vehicle adoption in all Bay Area communities."

To support the Air District's equity goals, the Charge! Program has been updated to increase investments at multi-family buildings in AB 617 communities. AB 617 establishes targeted incentive funding to implement cleaner technologies. It is the centerpiece of the state's efforts to reduce climate change and recognizes that while California has seen tremendous improvement in air quality, not all communities have benefited equally. Some communities located close to freeways, ports, industry or other large pollution sources need additional focus and resources to reduce exposure levels.

The minimum qualifying grant for each project proposal has been raised to \$1 million except for government-sponsored projects and projects exclusively located at multi-unit dwellings, which must qualify for a minimum grant of \$10,000. Project proposals in regions with low charger density will be prioritized.

For additional information, including program guidance documents and the online application, visit www.baaqmd.gov/charge.

Charge! Program funding comes from a surcharge on motor vehicles registered within the Bay Area, which since 1991, has also supported programs for clean air vehicles and infrastructure, ride sharing, shuttles and bicycle facilities.

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>.

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