

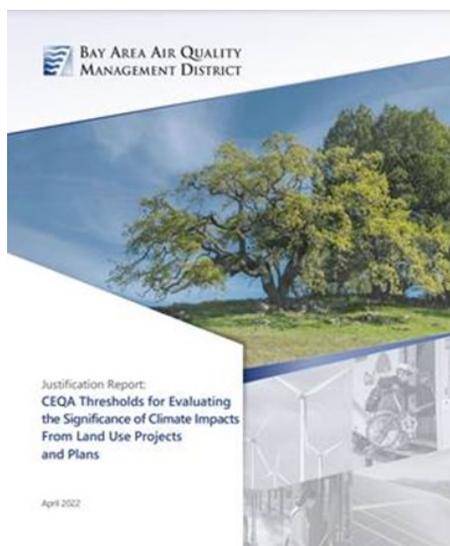
The Bay Area Air Quality Management District

# Local Government Climate Newsletter

September 2022

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## Air District Holds CEQA Office Hours!



On April 20, 2022, the Air District Board of Directors adopted new Thresholds of Significance for Climate Impacts. To support local planners in using these thresholds, Air District staff will hold “CEQA Office Hours” from 10:00am to

noon on Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions about how to apply these thresholds to a new development project or plan update, or just want to chat with staff about the new thresholds, email [ceqa@baaqmd.gov](mailto:ceqa@baaqmd.gov) with a requested 30 minute timeslot during that timeframe to set up a one-on-one meeting with Air District CEQA staff. (For more information on the thresholds, see the [CEQA Thresholds Justification Report](#).)

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## Air District and MTC Release Updated VMT Data for GHG Inventories



To assist Bay Area local governments in developing and updating community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventories, the Air District has partnered with the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) to create the second update to the Vehicle Miles Traveled Data Portal. Jurisdictions in the Bay Area will find this site useful for developing and updating their GHG inventories, supporting climate planning activities, tracking progress, and understanding their community's transportation emissions within the broader context of the region. The data provided in this portal is consistent with the travel outcomes associated with MTC's Plan Bay Area 2050 and has an anticipated release date of September 26, 2022 (at [capvmt.baaqmd.gov](http://capvmt.baaqmd.gov)).

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## Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program



[The Bay Area Commuter Benefits Program](#) – an Air District regulation administered by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) – requires employers with 50 or more full-time employees to reduce traffic-related air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Employers must offer one of five different commuter benefit options to their employees. Options range from allowing teleworking or pre-tax commute benefits, to offering shuttle buses for workers. This program may complement your local transportation planning and GHG reduction efforts. Please include information about the Commuter Benefits Program in your permitting and planning process to notify employers of the registration requirements. Employers can go to [511.org](http://511.org) or email [commuterbenefits@511.org](mailto:commuterbenefits@511.org) to register and access

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## Air District Climate Tech Finance: King Solarman Project



The Air District's Climate Tech Finance Program has awarded a loan guarantee to King Solarman, a provider of smart solar generators that replace diesel

generators used for mobile light towers and surveillance stations. The units are often used on construction sites and other locations where there is not access to electricity. These projects are estimated to reduce 688 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions per year. Read the full press release [here](#).

The core value of the Climate Tech Finance program is to support innovative climate projects and the Air District's greenhouse gas analysis ensures that new technology will reduce short- and long-term GHG emissions. Find more about the Climate Tech Finance Program [here](#).

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Have a question or comment?  
Contact one of our Climate Protection staff.

#### Contact Us



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