

**Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Community Air Protection Program
Annual Report – Grant #21-CAPP-3
September 19, 2023**

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is submitting this Annual Report in compliance with requirements of the agreement governing the use of the funds provided through the Community Air Protection Grant #21-CAPP-3. The Air District has expended the \$1,831,451 of the Community Protection Grant, and \$928,506 is encumbered, for a remaining balance of \$6,387,285. The remaining balance includes earned interest, in the amount of \$147,242. **This annual report covers activities and expenditures for the period April 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023.**

A breakdown of expenditures by program element is provided in Table A.¹

The Air District’s AB 617 program builds on a near twenty year “focus-shift” from regional air quality attainment to improving local air quality. The Air District has had much success in improving regionwide air pollution. However, in some areas, local air quality has been slower to improve. There continue to be communities in the Bay Area that experience relatively higher levels of air pollution than the regional average. This is especially true in communities near freeways, busy roadways, distribution centers, and large industrial facilities. These same communities are also often low-income, communities of color.

The Air District began its focal shift from regional to local air pollution in 2004. In 2004, the Air District developed the Community Air Risk Evaluation, or CARE program, to better understand local air pollution and health disparities in the Bay Area. Through the CARE program, staff confirmed that communities near significant air pollution sources consistently have relatively higher levels of air pollution and corresponding health impacts than the regional average. The CARE program was a critical first step for the Air District in reducing community health disparities associated with local air pollution.

Since the passage of AB 617, the Air District has elevated its focus on improving local air quality. AB 617 provides the Air District with the opportunity to build and grow a comprehensive community-centered program to reduce air pollution from sources that most impact the Bay Area’s most vulnerable communities. The Air District’s AB 617 program is designed to benefit all communities most impacted by air pollution.

Via the AB 617 Program, the Air District accomplished the following during the reporting period:

- [Monthly Steering Committees \(remote via Zoom\) and supporting contracts with professional facilitators](#) in West Oakland. The co-leads continued meeting weekly to guide plan implementation and to plan monthly Steering Committee meetings. All meetings were remote with logistical support from the co-leads and professional facilitators. In April 2023, the Community Steering Committee held its first semi-annual enforcement-focused meeting to discuss enforcement complaint data related to odors, trucking, and illegal land uses. This meeting stems from the 2023 workplan to discuss enforcement issues and strategy tracking

¹ The program element expenditure categories presented in Table A differ from those in the Air District’s 19CAPP spending plan.

updates twice per year. The other notable addition to the 2023 workplan includes regularly evaluating both the internal WOCAP implementation process and the external CSC meetings.

- Continued implementation of West Oakland Enforcement Strategies, including updating the online complaint reporting system, increased inspection frequency of permitted sources, development of outreach regarding open burning, and enhanced referral of enforcement for unpermitted operations such as emissions from generators used at cannabis grow operations.
- Completed a [new online Air Quality Complaint Reporting System](#) to improve the complaint reporting process, updating information on the Air Quality Complaint webpage and complaint brochure, and producing short videos to provide an overview of the complaint investigation process. Collectively, these enhancements will help address community concerns over confidentiality, equity, language interpretation needs for non-English speakers, and provide clarity and transparency to our investigation and enforcement processes.
- Implementing the [Path to Clean Air: Richmond-San Pablo Community Air Monitoring Plan](#). The plan summarizes community outreach, capacity building, and decision making undertaken to date and to guide additional air monitoring in the Richmond-San Pablo area. For the air toxics study that was mapped out in the CAMP, data collection and quality assurance were ongoing through this period and data analysis began.
- Monthly meetings of the [Path to Clean Air, Richmond-North-Richmond-San Pablo, CERP Community Steering Committee](#) continue as the CSC develops the community emission reduction plan. Two Ad Hoc Committees of the CSC met monthly during the April through July 2023 reporting period. A Problems to Solutions (P2S) Ad Hoc, which began meeting biweekly in July 2022, continues to work on developing strategies and actions for key community concerns. On March 29, 2023, [the CEHJ approved the dissolution](#) of the Community Steering Committee's Brown Act status, thus paving the way to the CSC's self-governance. The Governance Ad Hoc continues to provide support to the new Community Steering Committee to ensure its success in its transition and to foster a strong and inclusive civic space. April 2023 marked the first community-led monthly steering committee meeting under the new governance structure, held at Supervisor John Gioia's office and over video conferencing. In June the CSC approved the new Charter to reflect community governed status. The CSC voted in three new government representatives as non-voting members. These new members represent local government in Contra Costa County, City of Richmond, and the City of San Pablo. District Staff in partnership with 21 community members that represent Richmond, North Richmond and San Pablo continue to work to development a community emission reduction plan, e.g., strategies, targets, and goals. In July the Steering Committee established review teams comprised of one Air District Staff and a CSC lead to begin the first phase of review of strategies and actions that make up Chapter 7 of the CERP Plan. The CSC also began developing plan-level goals beginning with a staff presentation at the [May 2023 meeting](#), an alignment activity at the [June 2023 meeting](#), and the formation of a small work group. The work group met twice in July 2023, have a final

meeting planned for August 2023, and will present the plan-level goals and request approval at the September 2023 CSC meeting.

- Additionally, in Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo, on July 27, 2023, the lead attorney on the Chemtrade case gave a presentation on the Chemtrade settlement to the CSC's Problems to Solutions Ad Hoc.
- [The East Oakland Community Steering Committee \(CSC\) met 4 times](#). In those meetings, they adopted a Charter and developed their community vision and guiding principles for the CERP. The Air District, CBE and Co-Chairs sent a timeline extension letter request to CARB after approval from the CSC. The Community Steering Committee also approved the East Oakland CERP Community Boundary. Subsequently, the Air District's Assessment, Inventory and Modeling department began drafting the East Oakland Community Emissions Inventory to present to the Community Steering Committee in August. The CSC also selected a Youth Co-Chair, to join the community co-leads. On July 31, the Air District launched a grant program to solicit partnership with eligible nonprofit organizations located in or serving communities within the East Oakland CERP project area to conduct outreach for a community mapping project. The community mapping project aims to leverage community knowledge to identify air pollution concerns and community assets in East Oakland to support the Community Emission Reduction Plan. The Community Steering Committee also received presentations from Communities for a Better Environment on their "Strategies Focused Approach" to include long-standing, local community concerns into the process.
- In [Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco](#), after being selected in CARB's 5th cycle of CERP designations in February 2023, the Air District and two Community Co-Leads (Marie Harrison Community Foundation and Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates) began to seat a 22-member representative Bayview Hunters Point/Southeast San Francisco Community Steering Committee (BVHP-SESF CSC) through an application process for community members. Air District and Community Co-Leads held two orientation sessions for the initial cohort of selected steering committee members. Air District staff continue to meet weekly with Co-Leads to plan for a formal CSC kick-off in September 2023.
- Released regionwide [mobile air monitoring data](#). Data was created via a mobile monitoring data collection project through a contract with Aclima, Inc. More information on the project may be found [here](#).
- Continued evaluation of the regulations listed on the Air District's [AB 617 Expedited BARCT Implementation Schedule](#), and pursual of regulatory amendments where additional emissions reductions are feasible.
- Ongoing [improvements to methods and techniques used in community-scale emissions inventories and modeling](#) of pollutant concentrations and health risks. During this period, the Air District developed detailed emissions estimates for all Bay Area roadways, rail lines, and rail yards and conducted dispersion modeling to develop maps of PM_{2.5}, cancer risk, and chronic

hazard index contributed by these sources. [These maps](#) were developed to aid new-project environmental review but will also serve as a starting point for assessments in any current or future AB 617 communities in the Bay Area.

- Draft community-scale modeling of toxic air contaminants and fine particulate matter contributing to exposures in the community as [presented to the Community Steering Committee](#).
- Developing a new search tool on the Air District's website for members of the public to view and access information on Notices of Violations issued in communities.

In addition to the links to specific reports and program activities provided above, the Air District has posted [online agendas, presentations and documents](#) developed with support from the Community Air Protection Grant.

Table A
Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Assembly Bill 617
Implementation Expenditures – April 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023
Grant #G21-CAPP-3

Work Area & General Description	Specific Activities	Labor	Professional Services and Supplies
<p>Overall Program Management/ Work in All AB 617 Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall program management • Grant and contract administration • Expenditure tracking and state reporting • Internal coordination • CARB and local air district statewide coordination • Technical, outreach and other work applicable to all designated and/or pending communities • Capacity building • Enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track and reporting of grant expenditures, data collection for state reporting. • Preparation of state reports. • Inter-divisional program management and coordination. • Inter-state coordination with CARB and other air districts. • Implementation of a regionwide annual average baseline, mobile air monitoring program through a contract with Acima, Inc. • Ongoing improvements to methods and techniques used in community-scale emissions inventories and modeling of pollutant concentrations and health risks. • Complete draft community-scale modeling of toxics and fine particulate matter. • Continued to develop and improve Mobile Lab’s monitoring capabilities and methodology. 	\$312,788	\$11,098
<p>West Oakland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-lead coordination • Monthly Community Steering Committee meetings • Strategy implementation • Tracking and reporting progress on implementation • Internal coordination • Contract administration and management • Enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Steering Committee meetings in West Oakland. • Work with partner agencies to implement strategies in the West Oakland Community Emission Reduction Plan, <i>Owning Our Air</i>, including finding new funding sources for strategy implementation and providing comments on the City of Oakland draft Environmental Justice Element. • Ongoing inter-agency coordination to support strategy implementation. • Continued tracking progress and reporting on strategy implementation. • Continued enforcement efforts, including following up on complaints, conducting 	\$134,438	\$119,085

	<p>inspections, and issuing notices of violations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform targeted inspections of sources. 		
<p>Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Steering Committee • CERP development • Community air monitoring • community air monitoring plan quarterly and/or annual progress reports. • Internal coordination • Contract management and administration • Enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosted three monthly Community Steering Committee (CSC) meetings. • Reformed CSC governance structure • Worked on development of plan strategies. • Began working on plan goals and targets. • Perform targeted inspections of sources. 	\$626,414	\$80,438
<p>East Oakland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Steering Committee • CERP development • Community air monitoring • Internal coordination • Contract management and administration • Enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted a formal request to CARB for an extension to the CERP timeline on behalf of the East Oakland Community Steering Committee, which was approved. • Voted in a Youth Co-chair. • Completed draft community-scale emissions inventory. • The East Oakland Community Steering Committee adopted its Charter. • Developed the community vision and principles for the East Oakland CERP. • Monthly Steering Committee meetings for East Oakland. • Perform targeted inspections of sources. 	\$327,419	\$51,690
<p>Bayview Hunters Point-Southeast San Francisco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Steering Committee • CERP development • Community air monitoring • Internal coordination • Contract management and administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted outreach and selected a 22-member Community Steering Committee. • Selected and contracted a short-term Community Steering Committee facilitator. Conducted an RFP for a long-term facilitation consultant. • Held “Meet and Greet” and initial orientation session with CSC members. • Developed a Health and Science Technical Advisory Group as part of steering committee process. • Continued monthly co-lead meetings and outreach/input events, including setting up peer-to-peer conversations with Portside Communities (National City/Barrio Logan San Diego) CERP leads. 	\$133,359	\$34,722
	TOTAL	\$1,534,418	\$297,033

