

**Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Community Air Protection Program
Annual Report – Grant #19-CAPP-3
June 2, 2021**

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 #19-CAPP-3. **This Annual Report covers activities and expenditures for the period of January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021.**

The Air District has expended \$2,373,543 of the \$9,000,000 Community Protection Grant, plus the earned interest of \$82,575¹. An additional \$1,720,666 is committed to contracts and material purchases in support of the Air District’s Community Air Protection Program. The balance on April 30, 2021 of uncommitted grant funds, including \$82,575 in earned interest, was \$6,709,033. (Note: The remaining grant balance is based on expenditures plus committed funds.)

A breakdown of expenditures by program element is provided in Table A.²

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 continues 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 was an opportunity for the Air District to build 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. The program is built on a foundation of capacity building, community knowledge and understanding, community-decision making, planning, taking action, and monitoring success.

¹ Earned interest is for the January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021 period.

² The program element expenditure categories presented in Table A differ from those in the Air District’s 19CAPP spending plan.

More specifically, the Air District's AB 617 program includes seven core elements:

- **Build Shared Capacity:** Build community knowledge about air quality and improve Air District's staff ability to work effectively in community.
- **Understand Community:** Gather existing data about the community and assesses information gaps, including demographic, health, socio-economic, and air pollution data. Improve understanding of community health data and local air pollution.
- **Share the Community Story:** Work with community to tell and share their story.
- **Support Community Decision Making:** Foster and support community leadership and decision making.
- **Plan Solutions:** plan community emission and exposure reduction strategies and enforcement measures, as well as other strategies identified by the Air District or non-designated community.
- **Take Action:** Direct work to reduce air pollution and exposure in communities. Work includes implementing emission reduction strategies and enforcement measures identified in community emission reduction and community air monitoring plans, as well as other strategies identified by the Air District or community members to address concerns in non-designated communities.
- **Evaluate Progress:** Efforts to track and report progress on the implementation of emission reduction plans and progress on the entire program. It includes community emission reduction and community air monitoring plan quarterly and/or annual progress reports.

Major activities that occurred during the reporting period include:

- [Monthly Steering Committee and Implementation Subcommittee meetings in West Oakland](#); and supporting contracts with professional facilitators. The Co-leads continued meeting weekly to guide Plan implementation and to plan monthly Steering Committee meetings. In April 2020 the Steering Committee meetings transitioned to remote Zoom meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In January 2020 the Steering Committee implemented a subcommittee structure for further study and to advance the CERP strategies that require action(s) by an agency other than the Air District or CARB. The four implementation subcommittees meet remotely on a monthly basis with logistical support from the Co-leads, Subcommittee Co-chairs and professional facilitators.
- Development of 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.
- Monthly meetings of the Richmond-San Pablo community Monitoring Outreach Team as part of implementation of the Community Air Monitoring Plan. This team is helping to develop and communicate [updates on monitoring efforts](#), data, and findings.

- [Path to Clean Air, Richmond-North-Richmond-San Pablo, Steering Committee](#) for the community-led development of a community emission reduction plan. The Community Health Equity and Justice Board Committee reviewed Steering Committee applications and selected 31 members.
- [Kick-off and monthly meetings of the Path to Clean Air, Richmond-North-Richmond-San Pablo, Steering Committee](#) The Steering Committee held its first meeting on April 19, 2021. for the community-led development of a community emission reduction plan and will continue to meet monthly.
- Continued implementation of the [Bay Air Center program](#), which provides technical resources in support of community-led air monitoring programs.
- Implementation of [Community Readiness grants](#) (in link, see Attachment 4C, page 19) to seven community organizations as part of Region's efforts to build community capacity within the Air District Board-designated AB 617 High Priority communities: East Oakland/San Leandro, Eastern San Francisco, Pittsburg-Bay Point area, San Jose, the Tri-Valley, and Vallejo. On December 16, 2020 the Air District Board approved contract extensions for all grantees through December 31, 2021 and all grantees were awarded an additional \$50,000.
- Building capacity with residents, community organizations and public agencies within the Air District Board-designated AB 617 High Priority communities.
- Implementing a [regionwide baseline, mobile air monitoring program](#) through a contract with Aclima, Inc. More information on Aclima and the efforts in Richmond may be found [here](#) and via a [report to the Bay Area Air District Board](#). (See page 66 of report.)
- Developing [new and amended rules to implement Best Available Retrofit Control Technologies](#) for stationary sources subject to the requirements of the Cap and Trade Regulation.
- Continued collaboration with researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, to advance high-resolution air quality modeling capabilities using the Weather Research and Forecasting model. (See Attachment A)
- Ongoing [improvements to methods and techniques used in community-scale emissions inventories and modeling](#) of pollutant concentrations and health risks.

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 – January 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021
Grant #G19-CAPP-3

Program Element & Description	Specific Activities	Staff Costs	Material Costs, Expenses and Professional Services
<p>Build Shared Capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building grants to community groups to share air quality information with the community and build community leadership around air quality issues. • Direct community support to build community knowledge and leadership. • Air quality foundational information and best practices about air quality planning, monitoring, emissions inventories, and modeling of health disparities from air pollution. • Staff training on environmental justice, cultural sensitivity and awareness training and general skills on working in community. • Efforts to build relationships and to improve trust between staff and community members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract extensions for Community Readiness grants to seven (7) community organizations. • Support to community-based organizations who received Community Readiness grants. • Staff resources to work on building community capacity with residents and public agencies within the Air District Board-designated AB 617 High Priority communities. • Staff training on structural racism. • Continued implementation of the Bay Air Center program, which provides technical resources in support of community-led air monitoring programs. 	<p>\$113,255</p>	<p>\$70,000</p>
<p>Understand Community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect and analyze demographic, socio-economic, health, and land use data. • Collect and analyze air monitoring data, regional emissions inventory and modeling work, major pollution sources in the community. • Collect information on existing regional and local planning and other efforts that impact the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the Richmond-San Pablo Community Air Monitoring Plan, including monthly meetings of a community Monitoring Outreach Team. • Implementation of a regionwide baseline, mobile air monitoring program through a contract with Aclima, Inc. • Deployment of mobile and temporary air monitoring equipment. • Ongoing improvements to methods and techniques used in community-scale emissions 	<p>\$760,901</p>	<p>\$1,028,945</p>

<p>community, including Air District rules and regulations, distribution of incentives, compliance and enforcement history and local planning efforts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve understanding of community health data and local air pollution through community-level community monitoring, emissions inventory, emissions modeling, health assessments, and understanding which sources contribute most to air pollution and health impacts (i.e., source apportionment). • Work with community to better understand their concerns, perspectives and lived experiences. 	<p>inventories and modeling of pollutant concentrations and health risks.</p>		
<p>Share Community Story:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share all data and information gathered in the “understanding community” work element shared and relayed by and to community in an accessible way that resonates with community, i.e., speaks to their interests, perspectives, and concerns. • Root causes analysis of environmental injustices and inequities to ensure solutions address underlying causes of air pollution, including structural and institutional racism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop AB 617 program narrative. 	<p>\$2,919</p>	<p>\$ 0</p>
<p>Support Community Decision Making:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation and support of a formal community decision making body, i.e., a steering committee, subcommittees. • Develop and maintain other community partnerships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Steering Committee and implementation subcommittee meetings in West Oakland. • Ongoing inter-agency coordination to support implementation of <i>Owning Our Air</i>. • Monthly Steering Committee meetings in the Richmond and San Pablo communities 	<p>\$201,190</p>	<p>\$ 0</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of committee charters and a community engagement plan 	<p>as part of the development of a Community Emission Reduction Plan.</p>		
<p>Plan Solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore new rules/rule amendments that may reduce emissions and exposures in communities. Explore new funding sources to implement strategies, reduce air pollution and/or exposure. Determine additional compliance and enforcement measures necessary on sources identified as community concerns. Set community emission and exposure reduction goals and targets. Determine any potential environmental impacts from selected strategies and measures for inclusion in an emission reduction plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ealy work to identify sources of concern and potential strategies for the Richmond-North Richmond-San Pablo Community Emission Reduction Plan. Beginning and/or continued initial planning ideas for rules, i.e., initial concept ideas for rules, across a variety of sources including refineries, dust from concrete batch plants, construction dust, and residential appliances. Work to create new incentive and grant programs for mobile and stationary sources. 	<p>\$141,454</p>	<p>\$ 0</p>
<p>Take Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement emission reduction strategies and enforcement measures identified in community emission reduction and community air monitoring plans. Implement other strategies identified by the Air District or community members to address concerns in non-designated communities. Implement new and existing grant programs. Other rule-making for sources impacting local communities, including all BARCT rules. <p><i>Note: Most work under this element is charged to permitted facilities, not the CAPP grant. Non-</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 research on conflicting land uses in West Oakland. Continued enforcement efforts, including following up on complaints, conducting inspections, and issuing notices of violations. Developing new grant program for both mobile and stationary sources of pollution, as well as distributing existing incentives. Rule development, i.e., a new permitting rule, several BARCT rules, rules regarding dust sources impacting communities, a hydrogen plant rule and rules to reduce 	<p>\$29,051</p>	

<p><i>grant costs are not shown in this report and table.</i></p>	<p>toxic emissions from backup generators at data centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute incentives to reduce pollution from mobile sources within communities most impacted by air pollution. • Perform targeted inspections of sources in communities. 		
<p>Evaluate Progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community emission reduction and community air monitoring plan quarterly and/or annual progress reports. • Overall program evaluation and progress assessment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued tracking of progress on the implementation of strategies in the West Oakland Community Emission Reduction Plan, <i>Owning Our Air</i>. 	<p>25,828</p>	<p>\$ 0</p>
	<p>TOTAL</p>	<p>\$1,274,598</p>	<p>\$1,098,945</p>