

DRAFT – Community Air Protection Program Progress Update | December 2025

This [Community Air Protection Program](#) (CAPP) update summarizes progress for the [19 selected communities](#)’ Community Emissions Reduction Programs (CERPs), support for 64 [Consistently Nominated Communities](#), highlights from Community Air Grants (CAGs) Cycles 4 and 5, and progress towards [Blueprint 2.0](#) commitments.

CERP Progress (pages 1-3)	Community Air Grants (page 5)
Consistently Nominated Communities (page 4)	Blueprint 2.0 Progress (page 6)

Progress Across the 19 Community Emissions Reduction Programs

As required by AB 617, CERPs are reducing emissions across the state, including through use of locally targeted Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives. As of November 2024, Districts have spent \$632 million statewide, including \$537 million in Disadvantaged Communities and \$245 million in the 19 selected communities. [These funds support over 6,200 projects](#), achieving lifetime reductions of 10,200 tons of NO_x, 590 tons of ROG, 390 tons of PM, and 129,800 metric tons of GHGs. **Among 86 California Climate Investment Programs, CAP incentives rank third in NO_x and fifth in PM_{2.5} reductions per \$million spent**, because communities inform which investments are prioritized to address their important local issues.

Sixteen of the 19 CAPP communities are implementing CARB Board-approved CERPs while three communities are in the latter stages of developing their CERPs. All approved CERPs include commitments that rely on rulemaking, permitting, enforcement, land use, incentives, and robust community engagement. Many strategies require agencies to create new programs, coordinate differently, and go beyond “business as usual” to address community concerns. This section categorizes the 16 communities based on the first year of CERP implementation, and Table 1 below details the number of strategies in each CERP that have been ‘completed’, ‘in progress’ or ‘not started’.




Seven Year One CAPP Communities (Began implementation in 2019-2020)

- **High completion:** over 62% complete across all communities.
- **Under 3% not started**, with over 97% of strategies completed or in progress.

Significant Accomplishments:

- **West Oakland:** Bay Area District estimated a 31% reduction in diesel PM emissions and a 56% reduction in average residential exposures between 2017 and 2024.
- **Shafter:** Voluntary pesticide notification strategy led to a [\\$10M statewide pesticide notification system](#).
- **Imperial Valley:** New ag burning policy is annually reducing burning by 10,000 acres.
- **Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach:** South Coast District updated combustion rules, achieving 5,475 tons per year NO_x reductions—half from refinery sources.

Six Mid-phase CAPP Communities (Began implementation in 2021-2022)

-  **Over 42% of strategies completed.**
-  **51% in progress**, these communities are at different stages of CERP implementation.
-  **Under 7% not started**, indicating a substantial commitment to completing strategies.

Significant Accomplishments:

- **Stockton and Arvin/Lamont:** San Joaquin Valley APCD and community members developed an outreach model combining several District programs into one event, enabling residents in the CERP communities to replace over 1,400 lawnmowers, repair over 790 cars, and distribute thousands of air purifiers at these events.
- **Arvin/Lamont, Shafter, South LA:** Inspectors from the Methane Task Force from CalGEM, CARB, and local Air Districts enforcement staff inspected 232 wells and 9 tanks, issuing violations when applicable.
- **Portside Communities:** In March 2024, a tenant at the Port of San Diego received the [eWolf](#) - the country's first electric tugboat - through an incentives-based CERP strategy. The tugboat will displace 30,000 gallons of diesel per year.
- **Eastern Coachella Valley:** Residential Air Filtration Program approved 300+ applications and distributed 375+ units, protecting vulnerable residents from PM2.5.

Three Newer CAPP Communities (Began implementation in 2023-2025)

-  **65% of strategies are already in progress.**

Significant Accomplishments:

- **Richmond, North Richmond, San Pablo:** The Bay Area Air District has committed about \$7.3 million in incentives for projects to reduce local pollution exposure, including [\\$1.3 million for upgrades in public elementary schools](#) in Richmond and San Pablo through the School Air Filtration Program. Additionally, the Community Steering Committee established a Just Transition Standing Committee, developed a Committee Plan of Action, and hosted a successful community workshop in July 2025.
- **International Border Community:** Between mid-July and the end of September, the San Diego Air Pollution Control District (SDAPCD) received nearly 3,000 odor complaints from residents living near the Tijuana River Valley. In response, SDAPCD's issued Notices of Violation, deployed hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) air quality monitors along the Tijuana River Valley, and an H₂S was implemented to provide real time data.

Three CAPP Communities Developing CERPs (selected between 2022 - 2024)

-  **All three are in the CERP development or finalization stage.**

Significant Accomplishments:

- **South Sacramento/Florin:** In July 2024, the community transitioned to a CAMP and CERP community with strong support from residents and elected officials. CARB approved the transition, expanded the community boundary, and received a detailed emissions inventory in January 2025. The CERP is being developed with potential investments in clean vehicles, infrastructure, and technology through CAP incentives and the District's Supplemental Environmental Projects program.

Table 1. Community Air Protection CERP Implementation and Development

The table below offers a high-level summary, recognizing that each air district structures its CERP differently. Some include multiple actions per strategy and use varying terms to describe progress. For example, some ongoing actions may be listed as “in progress”, even though these are strategies without a clear end “complete” date or those adopted as standard practice, while some districts use a “near complete” status not shown here. This summary is not exhaustive and should be used alongside the air districts’ websites and each community’s Storymap highlight, linked below.

Selected Communities with Board-Approved CERPs								
Community <i>(Click to visit air district website)</i>			Strategy Status				CERP Tracker	Annual Progress
			Total Strategies	Complete	In Progress	Not Started		
1	West Oakland	December 2019	91	28	58	5	link	link
2	Calexico Heber El Centro	January 2020	47	41	2	4	–	link
3	Shafter	February 2020	52	35	17	–	link	link
4	South Central Fresno	February 2020	48	36	12	–	link	link
5	East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce	September 2020	42	27	14	1	link	link
6	San Bernardino, Muscoy	September 2020	37	28	9	–	link	link
7	Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach	September 2020	48	33	15	–	link	link
8	Southeast Los Angeles	May 2021	43	28	14	–	link	link
9	Stockton	July 2021	30	14	16	–	link	link
10	Eastern Coachella Valley	September 2021	74	44	30	–	–	link
11	Portside Communities, San Diego	October 2021	53	16	27	10	–	link
12	South Los Angeles	August 2022	53	10	36	7	link	link
13	Arvin, Lamont	October 2022	26	4	22	–	link	link
14	International Border Communities	July 2024	144	–	93	51	–	link
15	Richmond, North Richmond, San Pablo	November 2024	31	–	30	1	–	link
16	North End Community for the Brawley-Westmorland-Calipatria Corridor	June 2025	25	1	7	17	–	link
Selected Communities Developing CERPs		Year Selected	Status					
17	East Oakland	February 2022	Draft CERP released 11/03/2025					
18	Bayview Hunters Point	February 2023	Strategy development phase					
19	South Sacramento / Florin	July 2024	CSC is getting public input on draft strategies					

Supporting Consistently Nominated Communities

The ambitious goals in Blueprint 2.0 call on CARB and air districts to concurrently support the 19 selected communities while at the same time addressing air quality challenges in the many communities that have been nominated but not yet selected. CARB's early focus has been to support L-CERPs and air monitoring projects across these areas to better characterize local sources of air pollution, and to support the capacity of local partners to address them.

Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative (SMMI)

The [Statewide Mobile Monitoring Initiative \(SMMI\)](#) is a \$27 million legislative investment to generate the first ever block-by-block picture of air quality in 64 consistently nominated AB 617 communities across California. This initiative will provide measurements of criteria pollutants, greenhouse gases, and toxic air contaminants across all monitored communities. Community engagement and forming partnerships is integral to the SMMI, where over 40 community-based organizations were contracted with to hold more than 100 local meetings across the consistently nominated communities. This engagement ensured that mobile air monitoring plans account for lived experience, both in terms of what is monitored and how the results are presented.

On June 30, 2025, after a comprehensive review of the [62 SMMI Community Air Monitoring Plans \(CAMPs\)](#) and upon conclusion of a 14-day public comment period, CARB granted approval of specific Aclima broad area monitoring components in each of the 62 CAMPs. Currently mobile air monitoring is underway, with 40 Aclima mobile monitoring vehicles and three partner mobile laboratories covering close to one million miles over a 9-month period beginning on June 30th. Once SMMI data is collected and validated, it will be made available to the public and summarized through an interactive portal to support residents, researchers, and regulators in understanding local air quality better and informing future monitoring and air protection efforts.

Monitoring Projects in La Vina and Maywood

In 2022, CARB received a U.S. EPA grant to support resident-led monitoring in La Vina (Madera County) and Maywood (Los Angeles County), both Consistently Nominated Communities. CARB and the Department of Pesticide Regulation have been working with La Vina residents to identify pesticides of interest, select monitoring sites, and determine the sampling timeframe. Community training will begin soon, with resident-led pesticide sampling and analysis planned for late 2025 and 2026 in partnership with UC Merced. In a separate project, short-term mobile monitoring for ethylene oxide—a pollutant of concern—was conducted in late 2024 in the Maywood-Vernon-Bell-East Commerce area. The results will help inform future monitoring efforts.

Community Air Grants Progress

In April 2025, CARB awarded a record \$20.7 million to 50 projects through Cycle 5 of the Community Air Grants program—doubling previous funding levels. Grants went to 47 community-based organizations and three California Native American Tribes across some of the state's most pollution-burdened regions.

In 2022, the CAGs were retooled to support grantees in developing Local Community Emissions Reduction Plans (L-CERPs). L-CERPs represent a community-driven innovation, enabling Community Air Grantees to craft localized emissions reduction plans in partnership with their communities. In Cycle 5, CARB implemented enhancements to support further progress, including:

- Increased maximum funding for educational projects from \$100,000 to \$300,000
- Increased maximum funding for technical projects and L-CERPs from \$300,000 to \$500,000
- Extended implementation timelines to better support L-CERP projects

These strategic improvements demonstrate CARB's commitment to support community and tribal grantees in developing community-driven projects to reduce air pollution at the community level throughout the state. In its last three cycles, CARB has **awarded \$40.7 million to support 131 grants** and **CARB is currently supporting 92 active grants between cycle 4 and cycle 5.**

CARB and air districts are working to support L-CERP grantees by developing emissions inventories, community profiles, and sharing enforcement data, to help describe communities, sensitive receptor sites, and provide information to better understand sources of air pollution concern.

Table 2. Overview of Community Air Grants

Category	Cycle 3	Cycle 4	Cycle 5	Total
Funding (\$M)	10	10	20.7	40.7
Status	Closed	June 2024 - March 2026	June 2025 - Dec 2027	—
Number of Projects	39	42	50	131
Grants to Tribes	5	4	3	12
Grants to CBOs	34	38	47	119
Technical Projects	16	21	27	64
L-CERPs	1	9	5	15
L-CERPs In Consistently Nominated Communities	Fairmead Terra Bella	Delano Lost Hills Madera Oak Park Rio Vista San Leandro Stanislaus	Los Banos McFarland Sun Valley	—

Select Grantee Highlights:

- The **Cycle 5 CAG to La Posta Band of Mission Indians** will support the purchase and deployment of air quality monitors and training on air monitor maintenance.
- A **Cycle 5 L-CERP grant to Breathe Southern California** will support an air quality assessment of the Sun Valley community in Los Angeles County to develop an L-CERP. The project will rely on town halls, community meetings, surveys, and focus and feedback groups to identify actions to address local air pollution through education, empowerment, advocacy, and community-building.
- A **Cycle 4 grant to the Institute for Local Government (ILG)** will support three regional convenings to share experiences and lessons learned from collaboratively developing and implementing CERPs. These events have featured speaker panels, breakout group discussions, and other activities where all participants can share and learn from each other.

Blueprint 2.0 Goals and Actions Progress

The CARB Board adopted Blueprint 2.0 in October 2023. Part One of the Blueprint contains 45 actions nested under 8 goals. **As of June 2025, the majority of these actions are under implementation with 7 being fully completed and 3 awaiting to be initiated** as per the [Blueprint 2.0 Goals and Actions Tracker](#).

Highlights include:

- **Goal 1, Priority Action #4:** In June and December 2025, the Board appointed 28 members to the AB 617 [Consultation Group](#) to advise CARB on Blueprint 2.0 implementation and provide input on the program's future direction.
- **Goal 5, Priority Action #2:** In November 2025, CARB launched a virtual [Peer-to-Peer Learning Series](#) for CSC members, CAG recipients, and government partners. Planned by a design team of CSC members, the series creates space for community practitioners to share challenges and explore promising practices. The first session featured a panel with Consultation Group member Dr. Jonathan London, highlighting recent research he and Peter Nguyen conducted on the Program and insights from advisory committee members representing CSCs and air districts. Breakout groups followed for participant discussion and reflection.
- **Goal 5, Priority Action #4:** In 2024, CARB contracted a research team from UC Berkeley, USC Equity Research Institute, San Diego State, UC Santa Cruz, and Occidental College to conduct a comprehensive [program evaluation](#) of CERP implementation in five 'year-one' communities. Building on earlier qualitative studies, the evaluation will inform actionable recommendations for the program's future, including the next Blueprint update. A design team of CSC members and air district representatives is guiding the evaluation from the five year-one communities, with a final report due in June 2027.
- **Goal 6, Priority Action #8:** In April 2024, CARB updated the [CAP Incentives Guidelines](#) to include new project types modeled after Community-Identified Projects developed by air districts since 2020. This expansion allows benefits to reach additional impacted communities. A second update in May 2025 added a Woodsmoke Reduction project type and aligned administrative requirements with the Carl Moyer Incentive Program.