

Community Air Protection Program Progress Update

March 2026

This [Community Air Protection Program](#) (CAPP) update summarizes implementation of [16 board approved](#) Community Emissions Reduction Programs (CERPs), status of CERP adoption for 2 selected communities, status of 1 CERP in development, support for 64 [Consistently Nominated Communities](#), highlights from Community Air Grants (CAGs) Cycles 4 and 5, and progress towards [Blueprint 2.0](#) commitments.

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Progress Across the 19 Selected Communities

As required by AB 617, air districts and Communities Steering Communities are reducing emissions across the state by implementing actions in board-approved CERPs that rely on rule making, enhanced enforcement and the use of locally targeted Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives. As of November 2025, Districts have spent \$837 million in CAPP incentives statewide, including \$780 million in Disadvantaged Communities and \$342 million in the 19 selected communities. [These funds support over 13,840 projects](#), achieving lifetime reductions of 24,500 tons of NOx, 1,700 tons of ROG, 1000 tons of PM, and 290,000 metric tons of GHGs. **Among 86 California Climate Investment Programs, CAP incentives rank third in NOx and fifth in PM2.5 reductions per \$million spent**, making them some of the most cost-effective programs available.

Sixteen of the 19 CAPP communities are implementing CARB Board-approved CERPs, two communities recently released their draft CERPs for public comments, and one community is developing its CERP. 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 Late-Phase CAPP Communities (Began implementation in 2019-2020)

- **High completion:** over 62% of strategies 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:** Completed two projects EV infrastructure for Meadows USD and Children’s Park Greening Project for Hever Public Utility District.

- **East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce:** The Residential Air Filtration System Program awarded a total of 3,644 units to 2,632 households.
- **Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach:** South Coast AQMD adopted amendments to Rules 1148.1 - Oil and Gas Production Wells to address emissions of volatile organic compounds from oil and gas wells.

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:

- **Arvin/Lamont:** An estimated 50 additional residents will be able to replace their older vehicles with cleaner options as a result of the CSC reallocating \$1,000,000 from the Heavy-Duty Trucks measure.
- **Stockton:** CSC supported moving forward project to replace two Tier 0 locomotives and install necessary infrastructure at the Port of Stockton. This project is estimated to reduce 232 tons of emissions in the Stockton community.

Three Early-Phase 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 to upgrade school air filtration in public elementary schools](#) in Richmond and San Pablo. 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, the SDAPCD issued Notices of Violation, deployed hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) air quality monitors along the Tijuana River Valley, and an H₂S dashboard was implemented to provide real time hourly data and distributed 5,410 indoor air purifiers to residents.

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

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

Significant Accomplishments:

- **South Sacramento Florin:** On January 16, 2026, Sacramento Metro AQMD released the draft CERP for public comments. 28 actions and strategies cited within the CERP focus on urban planning and mobile sources, residential, commercial and outreach. The air district Board plans to consider CERP adoption at its May 28, 2026, hearing. In June of 2025, the CSC proposed a new site for the Portable Monitoring Laboratory. The district is working

with its Board of Directors on the proposed monitoring location and expects to start monitoring in 2026.

Table 1. Community Air Protection CERP Implementation and Development

The table below offers a high-level summary, recognizing that each air district structures CERPs differently. Some include multiple actions per strategy and use different 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, some of which contain more detailed CERP “trackers” and each community’s StoryMap highlight, linked below.

Selected Communities with Board or CARB EO Approved CERPs								
Community		Date CERP Approval	Actions Status				CERP Tracker	Annual Progress
			Total Actions	Complete	In Progress	Not Started		
1	West Oakland	December 2019	91	29	58	4	link	link
2	Calexico Heber El Centro (South End)	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	30	12	1	link	link
6	San Bernardino, Muscoy	September 2020	37	33	4	–	link	link
7	Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach	September 2020	48	35	13	–	link	link
8	Southeast Los Angeles	May 2021	43	34	9	–	link	link
9	Stockton	July 2021	30	14	16	–	link	link
10	Eastern Coachella Valley	September 2021	74	49	25	–	link	link
11	Portside Communities, San Diego	October 2021	53	16	27	10	–	link
12	South Los Angeles	August 2022	53	15	34	4	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	Brawley Westmorland Calipatria (North End)	June 2025	25	1	7	17	–	link
Selected Communities Developing CERPs		Year Selected	Status					
17	East Oakland	February 2022	Draft CERP (link) approved by CSC in February 2026. Bay Area Board will consider in April 2026.					
18	Bayview Hunters Point Southeast San Francisco	February 2023	Strategy development phase					
19	South Sacramento Florin	July 2024 (transition to CAMP + CERP)	Draft CERP (link) released January 16, 2026. Sacramento Metro AQMD Board to consider CERP adoption on May 28, 2026.					

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. SMMI is performing nine months of mobile monitoring (July 2025 - March 2026) informed by community concerns. The study monitors criteria pollutants and greenhouse gases for the nine-month study period and includes a more targeted, one week, air toxics survey. 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 after a 14-day public comment period, CARB granted approval of specific Aclima broad area monitoring components in each of the 62 CAMPs. Mobile air monitoring is currently 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, 2025. 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 better understanding local air quality 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 is completed and resident-led pesticide sampling and analysis, in partnership with UC Merced, began in early March 2026. 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

To date, CARB has awarded \$56 million to fund 187 grants, supporting 85 nonprofits and 10 tribes in air monitoring, capacity building, and partnerships. CARB is currently supporting 92 active grantees, including 50 technical projects, 28 educational projects and 14 L-CERPs across Cycles 4 and 5.

In April 2025, CARB awarded a record \$20.7 million in Community Air Grants (CAGs) to 50 community-based organizations and California Native American Tribes across some of the state’s most pollution-burdened regions—doubling previous funding levels. 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 local emissions reduction plans in partnership with their communities. In Cycle 5, CARB enhanced Community Air Grants through:

- 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
- Increased CARB staff support, including technical assistance, to CAG technical monitoring and L-CERP recipients

These strategic improvements demonstrate CARB's commitment in Blueprint 2.0 to support community and tribal grantees through CAGs and meet the AB 617 statutory requirement to administer CAGs.

Table 2. Overview of Community Air Grants

Category	Cycle 3	Cycle 4	Cycle 5	Total
Funding (\$ in Millions)	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 Pala Reservation Rio Vista San Leandro	Los Banos Madera McFarland San Leandro Sun Valley	–

Category	Cycle 3	Cycle 4	Cycle 5	Total
		Soboba Reservation Stanislaus		

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 an interactive panel with Consultation Group member Dr. Jonathan London, highlighting recent research he and Peter Nguyen conducted on the Program and insights from CSC and air district advisors.
- **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. The evaluation is guided by a design team of CSC members and air district representatives, 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.