# California Air Resources Board
# Community Air Protection Program

*Reporting Period: 11/01/24 through 10/31/25*
*Community Air Protection Implementation Year 7*

The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (District) received a grant in fiscal year 2024-2025 from the California Air Resources Board (CARB) for $110,949.00. The grant is to support the District's implementation efforts of California Assembly Bill 617 goals and objectives. This report describes the District's efforts in accomplishing those goals during the reporting period of November 01, 2024 through October 31, 2025. In accordance with Grant Agreement G23-CAPP-28, the below report includes the following sections: I. Grant Information, II. Associated Costs, III. Grant Utilization, IV. Summary of Work, V. Funds Remaining and Expended, and VI. Expenditure Summary.

## I. Grant Information

a. Report number: Report 1
b. Title: Community Air Protection Implementation Year 7
c. Grantee: Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District
d. Date of submission: 11/30/25
e. Grant number: G23-CAPP-28

## II. Associated Costs (Costs associated with specific tasks)

Below is a table showing all District costs associated with the AB 617 implementation grant during the Fiscal Grant Term.

| Description | Cost |
|---|---|
| **Community Programs, Events, Outreach**<br>• Bilingual outreach materials<br>• Outreach & community group meetings and events<br>• Public meetings to discuss goals and implementation efforts<br>• Clean Air Rooms (Air Purifier Program)<br>• Community Air Monitoring<br>• Lompoc Clean Air Fund<br>• Buellton Clean Air Fund | $66,669 |
| **Rules (BARCT)**<br>• Outreach to sources related to BARCT implementation<br>• Engineering support on BARCT implementation | $18,730 |
| **Criteria Pollutant and Toxics Emissions Reporting (CTR) Regulation** | $52,602 |
| **Other Community Air Protection Implementation Efforts**<br>• Grant program parameters and preparation<br>• Clean Air Grants Map<br>• Permitted Facilities Map<br>• "Keep Our Air Clean" Student Art Contest<br>• Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Awareness, and Accountability (IDEAA) Committee Activities | $33,147 |
| **TOTAL** | **$171,148** |

**III.** **Grant Utilization** (Report how grant is being utilized to meet the goals of Assembly Bill 617. If applicable, include emission reductions being achieved)

AB 617 directs CARB to establish the Community Air Protection Program to reduce exposure in communities most affected by air pollution. The goal is to prioritize air quality improvements in California's most polluted communities through enhanced monitoring and targeted deployment of cleaner technologies, with expanded community participation. We focused our efforts on Disadvantaged Communities as identified in CalEnviroScreen 4.0 and AB 1550 Low-Income Communities, since they experience a higher pollution burden.

The District has used a variety of strategies to meet the goals of AB 617 since its inception. During this reporting period, we participated in several outreach events throughout Santa Barbara County, provided information in both English and Spanish, provided support on BARCT implementation, inventoried and reported criteria pollutant and toxic emissions from facilities subject to the CTR Regulation, installed and operated PurpleAir sensors throughout the District, and promoted the use of cleaner technology to support public health through our Clean Air Grants and other incentive programs. In addition, the District continued to focus AB 617 efforts in low-income and disadvantaged communities throughout Santa Barbara County. In the Disadvantaged Communities of Guadalupe and Old Town Goleta, we began the process to administer Clean Air Room programs to provide air purifiers to local residents. In addition, District staff also participated in the review of data, outreach materials, and community engagement efforts in support of the Community Air Grant in Guadalupe.

The District maintains a bilingual web page, www.ourair.org/community-air, for stakeholders and the public. It contains background information, key elements of AB 617, the District's efforts within our county, proposed grant projects and approved projects, details of our BARCT schedule, links to a bilingual survey, and survey results. The District performs regular updates on the website to ensure visitors receive up-to-date information.

Specific tasks and work products for the current reporting period are discussed in more detail in Section IV of this report.

**IV.** **Summary of Work** (Work completed and in progress since the last progress report)

Community Meetings, Events, and Outreach

During this reporting period, the District planned ways to connect with community groups and coordinated its participation with the following community events:

- Guadalupe Community Air Project Family Night: November 2024
- City of Goleta EV Chargers Ribbon Cutting event: January 2025
- Santa Maria EV Fleet Demo event: April 2025
- Guadalupe Dunes Beach Clean Up Day: April 2025
- Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival: April 2025
- Guadalupe-Lompoc Initiative Meetings and Presentations: May 2025
- Electric Off-Road Equipment Demo event: July 2025
- Lompoc Old Town Market event: August 2025

- County of Santa Barbara Public Health Back to School Fairs in Santa Maria, Lompoc, and Santa Barbara: August 2025
- County of Santa Barbara's Environmental Justice Element Planning Commission Hearings: August 2025, October 2025
- Santa Barbara County Regional Climate Collaborative Summer Networking Event: August 2025
- Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies 2025 Fall Business Meeting: September 2025
- Santa Maria Downtown Fridays EV Showcase: September 2025
- Clean Air Day Neighborhood Clean-Up Event: October 2025
- Central Coast Sustainability Summit Clean Transportation Showcase: October 2025
- Santa Barbara County Green Business Program Annual Event: October 2025

The District held public meetings, including District Board meetings, to discuss AB 617-related activities. At each District Board meeting, a summary update was provided on grant program activity that included the emission-reduction grant agreements approved by the Air Pollution Control Officer since the previous meeting; every Board meeting also includes a summary of recent outreach efforts, including those related to AB 617 activities. These reports included a focus on the Community Air Protection Program and specified the project type and location for grant funds awarded. Each of these Board meetings provides an opportunity for community members to follow Board deliberations, present public comments, and observe through livestreaming. District staff also tracks and posts potential CAP projects, as well as the projects that are funded, to our website for each funding year: www.ourair.org/community-air-protection-projects.

Clean Air Rooms (Air Purifier Program)

In the State-designated Disadvantaged Community of Guadalupe, we began the process to administer a second Clean Air Rooms program in the City of Guadalupe to provide air purifiers to local residents. In June 2025, the District executed an agreement with the Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara to provide air purifiers to approximately 80 residents at an affordable housing development called Escalante Meadows during Fall 2025. As part of this agreement, the District will also provide air purifiers to approximately 170 additional Guadalupe residents using bilingual outreach methods. During the reporting period, the District also began the planning process to distribute approximately 1,000 air purifiers to the State-designated Disadvantaged Community of Old Town Goleta during Winter 2026 using bilingual outreach methods. Spanish speakers represent a significant portion of the populations of these communities, so we utilized bilingual District staff to provide bilingual outreach materials as much as possible. Some of the bilingual materials we plan to provide include outreach advertisements and flyers, air quality news and alerts, and Spanish resources on our website.

Community Air Monitoring

To help address community-level air monitoring concerns in impacted communities, the District maintains and operates a network of over 50 low-cost air quality sensors throughout the county, with locations available here: www.purpleair.com/map#9.68/34.7356/-120.2016. During the last reporting period, the District was awarded two grants to greatly expand its network of air quality sensors throughout Santa Barbara County. The District has begun the process of implementing an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Inflation Reduction Act grant to purchase and install 40 low-cost air quality sensors. In addition, in June 2025, the District executed a contract with the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association for a pass-through EPA grant to purchase and

install over 100 PurpleAir sensors at schools throughout the county. The two grants will cover the cost to purchase the air quality sensors and CAP Implementation funds will be used to install and maintain the sensors as well as to conduct outreach and track the deployments.

The District owns and operates an Airpointer portable air monitoring system that was co-funded with AB 617 Year 1 Implementation Grant funds. The system is compact and sophisticated and is capable of being deployed quickly at secure locations that have a power source. The Airpointer is capable of simultaneously measuring hydrogen sulfide, $PM_{2.5}$, $PM_{10}$, and meteorological parameters, and has the ability to store and report that data to the web in real-time. In Spring 2020, the District purchased and installed additional instrumentation for the Airpointer, including an ozone analyzer and a BTEX mini-gas chromatograph capable of measuring Benzene, Ethylbenzene, Toluene, and Xylene (BTEX).

The District has five State and Local Air Monitoring Stations (SLAMS) throughout the County that measure the typical concentrations in areas of high population density and/or to monitor the impacts of regional pollution (Santa Maria, Lompoc, Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara, and Goleta). The Santa Barbara and Lompoc stations are located in low-income communities, as designated by AB 1550. These monitoring stations, as well as the District's other SLAMS and industrial monitors, report real-time monitoring data that is available on the District's website: https://www.ourair.org/todays-air-quality/. The monitoring data also gets reported to EPA and AirNow and is also available on AirNow's Fire and Smoke Map: https://fire.airnow.gov.

During this reporting period, the District also provided outreach resources and support to the Community Environmental Council (CEC) for their CARB Community Air Grant to implement the Guadalupe Community Air Project. The District participated in several meetings with CEC staff and reviewed and provided feedback on their Guadalupe Community Air Plan and Guadalupe Air Monitoring Project Annual Data Analysis Report. The District also attended the Guadalupe Community Air Monitoring Project Family Night in November 2024, and participated in a panel discussion at the event. Additionally, the District supported the CEC's community engagement work in Guadalupe and Lompoc through the Guadalupe-Lompoc Initiative. The District participated in several meetings with CEC to discuss the initiative, helped develop a presentation on the air quality and pollution topics, and presented the information to community groups at two meetings.

Lompoc Clean Air Fund

In June 2025, the District received Board approval to implement five Clean Air Fund projects to benefit the Lompoc community. During the reporting period, the District began the planning process and developing memorandums of agreement for the following projects, which will be implemented over the next few years:

- Dick DeWees Community and Senior Center: HVAC Air filtration upgrades to become a Clean Air Center.
- United Boys & Girls Club of Santa Barbara County – Lompoc Unit: New heat pump installations and HVAC Air filtration upgrades to become a Clean Air Center.
- Lompoc Family YMCA: HVAC Air filtration upgrades to become a Clean Air Center.
- Lompoc Unified School District: Classroom composite wood furniture replacements with ultra-low emitting formaldehyde composite wood furniture.
- Community Outreach and Engagement: Community partnerships related to understanding air quality data and preparing for wildfire smoke.

Buellton Clean Air Fund

In August 2025, the District received settlement funds for air quality violations in the Buellton community. As part of the settlement, the District is dedicating a portion of the monies to the District's Clean Air Fund to be used for air quality related projects in Buellton. During the reporting period, the District began the planning process for implementing two potential air quality projects:

- Maintaining Buellton Union School District's Oak Valley Elementary School's 28 HVAC systems and upgrading them to MERV-13 rated air filtration.
- Developing an educational display related to air quality at the Santa Ynez Valley Children's Museum in Buellton.

The District's goal is to discuss and seek Board approval at the January 2026 Board meeting to implement these two Clean Air Fund projects to benefit the Buellton community.

***Rules and BARCT:***

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 617, in December 2018 the District Board adopted an expedited rule development schedule for the implementation of BARCT (Best Available Retrofit Control Technology) at industrial facilities in our District that are subject to the California GHG Cap-and-Trade Program. There are six facilities in Santa Barbara County that were affected by the BARCT rule schedule. In prior years, District staff completed all six measures on the schedule that achieved emission reductions from boilers, process heaters, Particulate Matter (PM) control devices, reciprocating internal combustion engines, miscellaneous combustion units, and stationary gas turbines. For some of these BARCT assessments, District staff worked with the affected facilities to incorporate all BARCT requirements directly into the facility's operating permit. Hence, rule proceedings were no longer necessary since BARCT-level controls were incorporated through the permit process. For this reporting period, District staff actively performed outreach and provided Engineering support on the implementation of the BARCT assessments.

***CTR Regulation:***

Pursuant to Assembly Bill 617, CARB developed the Regulation for the Reporting of Criteria Air Pollutants and Toxics Air Contaminants (CTR), which requires annual reporting of criteria and toxic emissions data using a uniform statewide system. The emission data collected through this regulation will be an important resources for those in California affected by air pollution. Every year, the District collects annual reports from permitted facilities and submits the emission data from CTR applicable facilities to CARB by August 1. During the last reporting period, the District submitted its 2024 CTR data to CARB and began to collect and inventory the data for the 2025 CTR submittal.

***Other Community Air Protection Implementation Efforts:***

Clean Air Grant Program Activities

The District continues to develop and refine the Clean Air Grants program to solicit project ideas from the community, while remaining transparent on our project ranking and selection process. The District updated all grant program applications to incorporate ideas from prior year applicants as well as staff members, while also implementing recent updates to our standard grant agreement language, ensuring our language remains compliant with CARB requirements. We also have a newly streamlined digital signature element for grant applications and standard grant agreements to better assist our applicants. The District continues to work with members of the

public on outreach for our CAP program and continually develops and expands upon our digital outreach list, which has grown to over 1,200 contacts. The District is currently in the process of developing a Clean Air Grants map, which will visually display all of the District's Clean Air Grants program projects that are funded by the CAP program, Carl Moyer program, FARMER program, and AB 923 program. Once finalized, the map will be made available on the District's website.

Permitted Facilities Map

The District launched our first Permitted Facilities Map in 2017, designed to make public information about permitted facilities easily available on our website. The first version of the map identified locations of District-permitted facilities and included links to each facility's main operating permit and most-recent annual report. After that first version of the map was launched, the District received suggestions from the community on how to make the map more visually appealing, user-friendly, and functional. In response to that feedback, the District hired a vendor in 2024 to revamp the map. In early 2025, the revamped version of the map went live on the District's website. The new map offers a full suite of unique and innovative features: comprehensive facility data (company history, source history, permit descriptions, and 10 years of criteria pollutant emissions data); robust document availability (all active permits and permit applications, plus 10 years of annual reports, inspection reports, and Notices of Violation); and real-time Air Quality Index data from each of the District's permanent air quality monitoring stations in Santa Barbara County. Other upgrades include mobile- and tablet-view functionality, real-time updates, enhanced search capabilities, reduced load times, and modernized graphics. The District is proud to be one of the only air districts in California to provide such a transparent way for the public to access facility records. The District also created a video about the new features, with instructions for the public on how to use the map.

Additionally, the District's Permitted Facilities Map was recently designated as a 2025 Best Practice in Air Pollution Control by the Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies (AAPCA), a national, non-profit organization established in 2012 that assists state and local air quality agencies with technical and implementation issues related to the federal Clean Air Act. In September 2025, District staff attended the AAPCA 2025 Fall Business Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina to provide a presentation on the APCD's newly upgraded Permitted Facilities Map and to accept an award for being designated as a Best Practice in Air Pollution Control.

"Keep Our Air Clean" Student Art Contest

During this reporting period, the District launched our first "Keep Our Air Clean" Student Art Contest. We invited students from schools across Santa Barbara County to participate in the contest, offering students a platform to express their creativity and raise awareness about the importance of air quality and the actions that individuals and communities can take to maintain clean air. The District was pleased to receive many submissions from students all around Santa Barbara County, and the kids' art showcased their creativity, positivity, and understanding of the simple steps that everyone can take to keep our air clean now and into the future. The winning art pieces are displayed in each of the District's offices.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Awareness, and Accountability (IDEAA) Committee Activities

To support the goals of AB 617 and the Community Air Protection Program—particularly around equity and inclusive community engagement—the District's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Accountability (IDEAA) Committee met regularly throughout the reporting period. This work helps build internal capacity to engage effectively with disproportionately

impacted communities. Through a range of initiatives; including cultural awareness events, team-building activities, DEI training planning, and outreach strategy development; the Committee has helped foster a more inclusive, culturally competent workforce.

As part of these efforts, the IDEAA Committee coordinated a Clean Air Day neighborhood clean-up event in October 2025 in Santa Barbara's Eastside neighborhood, a community identified by CalEnviroScreen as disproportionately burdened by pollution. Staff volunteers spent the morning removing litter and engaging with residents, reinforcing our District's commitment to equitable, community-focused air quality work.

Additionally, the IDEAA Committee supported the planning of a staff visit to the newly opened Santa Ynez Chumash Museum and Cultural Center, scheduled for December 2025. This experience is intended to deepen understanding of the region's Indigenous history, the stewardship of the Chumash people, and the connection between their cultural resilience, sustainability practices and our District's mission.

These efforts are foundational to the District's long-term success in implementing AB 617 by ensuring that staff are prepared to communicate and collaborate with the communities most affected by air pollution.

**V.** **Grant Funds Remaining and Expended** (Grant funds remaining and expended)

a. Total Implementation Funds: $ 110,949
    i. Expended funds: $ 171,148
    ii. Remaining funds: $ 0

Through October 31, 2025 the District has expended more than 100% of the Implementation Grant with costs associated to AB 617.

VI. **Expenditure Summary** (showing all Community Air Protection Program Implementation Funds for which reimbursement is being requested)

Section II provides a breakdown of District expenditures.