

Actions by the Governing Board – November 19, 2020

Approve the Low-Dust Nut Harvester Incentive Program and Allocate \$12,866,995 in State and Federal Funding

The Valley Air District Governing Board approved \$12.8 million in state and federal funding for the implementation of a new Low-Dust Nut Harvester Incentive Program. The program is designed to replace older, higher-polluting conventional nut harvesters with new, low-dust harvesters operating in the District. Eligible equipment must achieve at least a 40% reducing in particulate matter emissions as demonstrated by available peer-reviewed information or District approved methodology and includes pull-behind harvesters, self-propelled harvesters, shakers/sweeper replacement technology and non-self-propelled equipment used in conjunction with a tier 3 tractor. Applications will be accepted on a first come, first served basis with funding available up to 50% of the cost of the eligible equipment up to a maximum of \$150,000 per unit. In addition, equipment operating in the South Central Fresno and Shafter AB617 communities may be eligible for additional funding through the Community Emission Reduction Programs for these areas.

Accept and Appropriate \$869,000 From the California Air Resources Board to Expand the Ecosystem of Shared Mobility in the San Joaquin Valley Pilot Project

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$869,000 in state funding for the expansion and continued implementation of the Ecosystem of Shared Mobility Pilot Project in the San Joaquin Valley. The project is aimed at deploying electric car sharing services and other mobility options in disadvantaged, rural communities in the Tulare, Kern, San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties where transit is often very costly and services can be limited. The project consists of “Valley Go” which is an app based car-sharing and ride-sourcing project serving affordable housing complexes in Tulare and Kern counties and “Valley Flex” which is a technology platform to integrate and improve the efficiency of transit option in San Joaquin and Stanislaus counties. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic implementation of these projects was suspended in March 2020 in adherence to public health recommendations. This additional funding will allow these programs to continue through August 2021 in order to rebuild and expand program participation, relaunch outreach, and marketing, and expand the time period for reporting and data analysis.

Approve up to \$4,000,000 in Additional Funding for the Continued Implementation of the Tune In Tune Up Vehicle Repair Program

The Valley Air District Governing Board approved an additional \$4 million in funding for the continued implementation of the District’s Tune In Tune Up vehicle repair program. While the program has historically operated through weekend events held throughout the Valley, in April a new program model was implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The new model allows for Valley residents to contact program partner Valley CAN in order to schedule an appointment with a participating STAR certified smog shop in order to have their vehicle emissions tested. High emitting vehicles which fail the emissions test are issued vouchers for up to \$850 in emissions related repairs, necessary smog checks, and diagnostics. The program has experienced high levels of participation by Valley residents with nearly 5,000 vehicles repaired since July. The additional program funds will allow the program to continue without interruption through the remainder of the fiscal year.

Receive the Government Finance Officers’ Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA) awarded the District the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the GFOA’s highest form of recognition in

governmental accounting and financial reporting. This award was for the latest District’s comprehensive Annual Financial Report (fiscal year 2018-19 CAFR) representing a significant achievement for the District and representing its commitment to meeting the highest principles of Governmental reporting and transparency to the public. To earn this award, an impartial panel judged the CAFR as meeting the high standards of the GFOA program, including demonstrating a constructive “spirit of full disclosure” to clearly communicate the District’s financial story and motivate the public to read the CAFR.

Annual Progress Reports for South Central Fresno and Shafter AB 617 Community Emission Reduction Programs

AB 617 and CARB’s Community Air Protection Program Blueprint require air districts to prepare, and submit to the District Governing Board and CARB, annual progress reports summarizing the results of implementing Community Emission Reduction Programs (CERPs). Through consultation with the Community Steering Committees (CSCs), District staff have developed progress reports for both South Central Fresno and Shafter following the legislation and CARB Blueprint guidelines. The District worked with residents, environmental justice advocates, local business representatives, and local governmental bodies in the affected communities in establishing CERPs for each two Year-1 CARB selected AB 617 communities, South Central Fresno and Shafter. In September of 2019 the Governing Board adopted the CERPs and staff returned to the Governing Board this month providing two annual reports outlining the significant work being done in each community.

October District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- In October, the District promoted Protect Public Health by Avoiding Residential Burning this Winter. The District highlighted the importance of reducing emissions from residential wood burning and explained how it’s a high priority for the District and critical to improving wintertime air quality and protecting public health. To read more on this topic please visit [Valley Air News](#).
- District staff also encouraged Valley residents to take advantage of the District’s Burn Cleaner Incentive Program which offers up to \$3,000 toward the change out of older wood stoves and fireplaces to cleaner devices such as natural gas fireplaces and EPA Certified wood/pellet stoves and inserts.
- In October, District staff responded to 15 media calls, 70 public calls, and 38 emails, and attended five event/presentations.

Grants and Incentive Programs

- In October, the District received 1414 incentive program applications. 409 were for the Burn Cleaner Wood Stove Change-Out Program and 396 were for the Heavy Duty Engine Program.
- In October, \$14,044,292.91 was placed under contract in the Heavy Duty Engine Program and \$8,091,629.62 in claims was paid.
- In October, \$2,546,705.78 was paid out in Light Duty and REMOVE II program claims.
- In October, \$496,275.00 was paid out in Burn Cleaner program claims.

	October 2020	Applications	Grants Offered	Grants Executed	Amount Paid
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Key	Program	Number Received & Entered	Number of Contracts Sent Out	Sum of Grant Funding	Number of Contracts Executed	Sum of Grant Funding	Sum of Grant Funding
Burn Cleaner	Burn Cleaner – Wood Stove Change Out	409	397	\$921,000.00	397	\$921,000.00	\$496,275.00
CAP & Trade	Demonstration - Cargo Handling	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$1,800,607.00
Heavy Duty	Ag Burn Alternative Voucher	76	71	\$2,052,186.00	71	\$2,052,186.00	\$351,900.00
	Ag Engine Alt Fuel to Electric	0	1	\$13,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Ag Engine Diesel to Diesel	1	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$20,250.00
	Ag Engine Diesel to Electric	2	1	\$3,750.00	2	\$53,250.00	\$44,250.00
	Ag-UTV Vehicle Replacement	116	13	\$175,500.00	13	\$175,500.00	\$0.00
	Infrastructure Alternative Fuel	0	0	\$0.00	1	\$669,941.00	\$0.00
	Off-Road Ag Vehicle Replacement	162	151	\$10,001,525.98	189	\$11,096,931.75	\$5,798,344.93
	Off-Road Ag Vehicle Replacement 2 for 1	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$728,000.00
	Off-Road Engine Repower	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$370,503.69
	Off-Road Tractor Trade-Up	0	10	\$408,855.81	14	\$780,994.27	\$0.00
	On-Road Ag Truck Replacement	2	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$535,692.12
	On-Road New Purchase	28	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$193,000.00
	On-Road New Vehicle	0	0	\$0.00	8	\$80,000.00	\$0.00
	On-Road Trade-Up	0	0	\$0.00	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
	On-Road Truck Replacement	9	21	\$1,129,323.65	25	\$1,340,449.22	\$0.00
	On-Road TVP Vehicle Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$49,688.88
	School Bus Vehicle Replacement	0	0	\$0.00	4	\$1,560,723.79	\$0.00
	Yard Truck Replacement	0	2	\$260,151.47	1	\$128,644.69	\$0.00
Lawn & Garden	Commercial Replacement	6	14	\$38,169.88	14	\$38,169.88	\$61,154.47
	Residential New Purchase	66	56	\$2,674.50	56	\$2,674.50	\$3,249.50
	Residential Replacement	93	105	\$21,759.49	105	\$21,759.49	\$24,344.54

Light Duty	Charge Up - Private	1	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Charge Up - Public	8	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$95,000.00
	Drive Clean – EV Vehicle Rebate	288	364	\$1,049,000.00	364	\$1,049,000.00	\$870,000.00
	EFMP Replacement	17	131	\$1,153,500.00	131	\$1,153,500.00	\$893,500.00
	TITU Admin/Events	4	4	\$33,567.85	4	\$33,567.85	\$56,719.93
	TITU Payroll	8	6	\$99,120.54	6	\$99,120.54	\$159,647.00
	TITU Repairs	85	98	\$441,039.69	98	\$441,039.69	\$443,038.85
	Van Pool Agency CFP	5	4	\$14,490.00	4	\$14,490.00	\$28,800.00
Public Benefit	Alternative Fuel New Vehicle	18	36	\$678,971.38	56	\$989,583.73	\$479,724.28
	Alternative Fuel Training	1	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
VW NOx Mitigation	Replacement School Bus	0	4	\$1,600,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Replacement Shuttle Bus	1	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Replacement Transit Bus	8	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
Totals		1414	1489	\$20,097,586.24	1564	\$22,702,526.40	\$13,503,690.19

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
NOx	PM	ROG	Total
1,336	615	419	2,370

Smoking Vehicles	2
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Operations Overview

- Completed 2,484 inspections in October and 198 NOVs were issued. Mutual settlement case completions totaled 112.
- Received 192 permit applications in October, and 114 permits were issued.
- Received 170 environmental documents in October.

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*

9:00 AM, Dec. 17

Citizens Advisory Committee*

10:00 AM, Jan. 5

Environmental Justice Advisory Group

5:30 PM, Jan. 28

Meetings are held in the Fresno office Governing Board Room, Modesto VTC room and Bakersfield VTC room.

Details: www.valleyair.org

*Webcast