

## Actions by the Governing Board – Feb 15, 2024

### Accept and Appropriate \$56 Million in Federal Funding for the Development of an Electric Vehicle Charging Network in the San Joaquin Valley

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$56,008,096 in funding from the Federal Highway Administration for the development of an electric vehicle charging network in the San Joaquin Valley. In June, 2023 the District submitted a proposal in response to the highly-competitive nationwide Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program. On January 11, 2024, the FHWA announced that our proposal was among 47 applicants across 22 states and Puerto Rico to receive funding under this solicitation. This grant represents the largest amount awarded to any project in California and the third largest in the United States under this solicitation. The District is partnering with WattEV to develop two state-of-the-art electric vehicle charging sites in the Valley along the National Freight Corridor on Interstate 5 (I-5). The two sites will be located at the Intersection of Highway 119 and I-5, near the City of Taft in Kern County and at the Intersection of Highway 140 and I-5, near the City of Gustine in Merced County. Each site will consist of a combination of light-duty passenger vehicle chargers, heavy-duty truck chargers, parking and other amenities for travelers. In addition, the sites will integrate a total of 63 acres of solar panels to provide for power integration and grid stability.

### Receive Update on Attainment Planning Efforts to Address Federal Standards

The District Governing Board received an update on current air quality planning efforts, including progress on developing the revised plan for the 2012 PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard, contingency measure updates for the PM<sub>2.5</sub> and ozone standards, and current maintenance plans being developed. In addition, the Board heard an update on the recently issued final EPA rule on revising the annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard from 12 µg/m<sup>3</sup> to 9 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. With this new standard established, a number of planning milestones will occur over the coming years, including initial designations and satisfying moderate plan requirements. While the Valley is making good progress toward lowering annual PM<sub>2.5</sub> values, this new standard will be a challenge for the region, as well as many other areas of the nation. Meeting this standard in the Valley will require ongoing partnership from its state and federal partners to reduce emissions from mobile sources.

## January District Activities

### Outreach and Communications

- In January, state and local leaders gathered during the Smog Repair event at the fairgrounds in Madera to highlight the Valley Air District's Drive Clean in the San Joaquin repair and Replace programs. These programs help minimize Valley residents' exposure to harmful vehicle emissions by repairing high-polluting vehicles or completely replacing them with a cleaner hybrid or electric vehicle.
- The District spent January promoting free air purifiers to qualified residents that reside within Community Air Protection communities. To learn more about the Clean Air Rooms Program, please visit [valleyair.org/roompurifier](http://valleyair.org/roompurifier).
- In January, District staff responded to 5 media calls, 34 public calls, 52 emails, and participated in twelve events/presentations.

## Grants and Incentive Programs

	January 2024	Grants Offered		Amount Paid
Key	Program	Number of Contracts Sent Out	Sum of Grant Funding	Sum of Grant Funding
<b>AB617</b>	Urban Greening	1	\$50,000.00	\$13,097.45
<b>Burn Cleaner</b>	Wood Stove Change Out	384	\$1,448,350.00	\$586,480.00
<b>Community Benefit</b>	Residential	278	\$54,285.06	\$54,284.70
<b>Heavy-Duty</b>	Ag Burn Alternative	120	\$5,836,125.14	\$1,735,310.00
	Ag-UTV	40	\$540,000.00	\$630,262.13
	Dairy Feed Mixer	0	\$0.00	\$1,567,319.70
	Infrastructure	1	\$500,000.00	\$0.00
	Off-Road	145	\$13,148,900.99	\$18,715,318.68
	On-Road	0	\$0.00	\$1,372,403.75
<b>Lawn &amp; Garden</b>	Commercial	113	\$567,100.00	\$47,492.42
	Residential	117	\$10,562.62	\$19,090.21
<b>Light Duty</b>	Charge Up	2	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
	Drive Clean	499	\$1,476,000.00	\$1,743,000.00
	EFMP	299	\$3,434,500.00	\$1,417,550.00
	TITU	265	\$1,646,399.01	\$1,470,990.52
<b>Public Benefit</b>	Alternative Fuel	39	\$722,355.90	\$729,238.29
<b>REMOVE II</b>	Alternative Fuel Training	0	\$0.00	\$8,320.00
<b>Special Projects</b>	Raisin Tray Rebate	7	\$4,124.62	\$1,419.02
<b>VW NOx Mitigation</b>	Replacement	66	\$29,774,280.52	\$0.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,376</b>	<b>\$59,232,983.86</b>	<b>\$30,111,576.87</b>

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
NOx	PM	ROG	Total
868	972	791	2,631

## Upcoming Meetings

**Governing Board\***

9:00 AM, Mar. 21

**Citizens Advisory Committee\***

10:00 AM, Apr. 2

**Environmental Justice Advisory Group**

5:30 PM, Apr. 25

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

*Details: [www.valleyair.org](http://www.valleyair.org)*

*\*Webcast*