

Actions by the Governing Board – Aug. 20, 2026

Accept and Appropriate \$7 Million in Additional Funding From the California Energy Commission for Depot Charging Infrastructure for Medium and Heavy-Duty On-Road Zero-Emission Vehicles

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$7,465,741 in funding from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to deploy high-power publicly accessible MDHD charging hubs at 635 Aurora Street in Stockton and 5920 State Road in Bakersfield. The charging hubs will allow multi-fleet access with no exclusivity restrictions, serving commercial and public agency vehicles operating regionally across goods movement and municipal operations. The project is designed to serve multiple fleets and operators without requiring membership, exclusivity agreements, or depot-only access. Intended users include class 6-8 commercial fleets supporting regional distribution, middle-mile logistics, and last-mile delivery; goods movement operators serving freight nodes and corridor movements throughout the Valley and adjacent regions; public agency and municipal fleets adopting Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) trucks and support vehicles; and independent operators/owner-operators requiring reliable opportunity charging. Both hubs are targeted to reach initial public operations in Q2, 2028, with utilization ramping over the first six to eighteen months as regional MDHD ZEV adoption continues to scale.

Accept and Appropriate \$152,214 in Funding From the California Air Resources Board Supplemental Environmental Project Program for Residential Lawnmower Replacements

The Valley Air District Governing Board accepted \$152,214 from the California Air Resources Board Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Program to fund residential lawnmower replacements. The CARB SEP Program allows community-based projects to be funded from a portion of the penalties received during settlement of CARB enforcement actions. This SEP project will provide a financial incentive in the form of a rebate to Valley residents who turn in their old, gas-powered lawnmower to a District approved and contracted dismantling facility and purchase a new, zero-emission lawnmower. This funding will be administered through the District's Clean Green Yard Machine program.

Update on 2026 Wildfire Prevention and Response Efforts

The Governing Board received an update on the 2026 wildfire season including details on how wildfire emissions can overwhelm all other air pollution emissions in the Valley, analysis of the 2026 wildfire season activity compared to past years, and efforts to address wildfire impacts under the District's wildfire prevention and response program. As part of this ongoing effort, the Governing Board heard information regarding the District's public communication efforts during air quality episodes through issuing health cautionary statements and Air Quality Alerts issued through the National Weather Service. Staff also conveyed that real-time air quality data is available through EPA AirNow and the District's Real-time Air Advisory Network (RAAN). Staff highlighted the District's dedicated dynamic wildfire webpage and the numerous public calls and media requests to which staff quickly respond. An overview of the District's Clean Air Centers and Clean Air Rooms grant programs was also provided, detailing how Valley residents can participate in these programs to improve indoor air quality during wildfire episodes.

Update on District's Public Education Campaigns

The District provided an update on its comprehensive public education and outreach efforts, highlighting the launch of the 2026 Summer Public Education Campaign and continued efforts to engage Valley residents with timely, accurate and actionable air quality information. This year's campaign includes expanded school outreach, wildfire preparedness messaging, media relations, social media, grant program promotion, and increased visibility for the District's award-winning bilingual Annual Report to the Community and interactive story map. A new *Kids Care About Our Air*

initiative is also using student-created artwork and a strategic bilingual digital media campaign to deliver clean-air messages across the Valley, supported by targeted Spanish-language broadcast outreach. Looking ahead, the District will continue evaluating opportunities to strengthen public engagement while preparing for the upcoming Winter Residential Woodsmoke Reduction Strategy

July District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- During the month of July, the District visited multiple libraries to engage with parents, residents, and families to provide valuable information and resources related to air quality. These outreach efforts created opportunities for community members to ask questions, learn more about local air quality conditions, and sign up for resources that were available.
- Throughout the month of July, the Outreach team connected with multiple fire agencies to coordinate, share information, and prepare for the upcoming fire season. These conversations focused on strengthening communication, aligning response efforts, and proactively planning for potential air quality impacts associated with wildfire activity.
- In July, District staff responded to 4 media calls, 30 public calls, 11 emails, and participated in seven events/presentations.

Grants and Incentive Programs

	July 2026	Grants Offered		Amount Paid
Key	Program	Number of Contracts Sent Out	Sum of Grant Funding	Sum of Grant Funding
AB617	Urban Greening	0	\$0.00	\$14,633.72
Burn Cleaner	Wood Stove Change Out	78	\$293,150.00	\$158,000.00
CAP & Trade	Demonstration	0	\$0.00	1,121,585.41
Community Benefit	Residential	451	\$97,244.62	\$187,373.78
Heavy-Duty	Ag Burn Alternative	92	\$1,400,282.00	\$6,108,039.00
	Ag-UTV	0	\$0.00	\$385,240.15
	Dairy Feed Mixer	0	\$0.00	\$1,346,713.32
	Infrastructure	0	\$0.00	\$1,700,200.19
	Low-Dust Harvester	2	\$306,285.29	\$0.00
	Off-Road	50	\$4,933,837.74	\$6,020,312.70
	On-Road	0	\$0.00	\$329,441.00
	Yard Truck	0	\$0.00	\$419,937.69
Lawn & Garden	Residential	143	\$38,630.15	\$42,710.47
Legal Entity	SubContractor/Partner	2	\$0.00	\$0.00
Light Duty	Charge Up	1	\$10,000.00	\$169,800.00
	EFMP	88	\$1,402,589.49	\$1,246,948.29
	TITU	299	\$991,059.78	\$730,440.16
Public Benefits	Alternative Fuel	49	\$861,185.29	\$20,000.00

	Clean Air Centers	1	\$7,061.46	\$0.00
Remove II	Alternate Fuel Training	1	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
Technology	Technology Advancement	1	\$317,723.00	\$0.00
VW Nox Mitigation	Replacement	0	\$0.00	\$480,000.00
	Totals	1,258	\$10,674,048.82	\$20,481,375.88

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
NOx	PM	ROG	Total
286	252	213	753

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*

Citizens Advisory Committee*

Environmental Justice Advisory Group

9:00 AM, Sept. 10

10:00 AM, Oct. 6

5:30 PM, Oct. 22

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

Details: www.valleyair.org

**Webcast*