



Request for Proposals

Issued by the Butte County Air Quality Management District

2026 Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentives

Request Issue Date: Thursday, January 8, 2026

CAP Online Informational Meeting: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at 10:00AM

Register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/spyoJluRRL-xRn-58gQxGw>

Proposal Due Date: Monday, February 9, 2026 by 4:30pm

Proposed Board Approval Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026

The Butte County Air Quality Management District (District) has \$770,866 in funds available for projects that meet the goals of AB 617 and the statewide Community Air Protection (CAP) Program - a community focused action framework to improve air quality and reduce exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants, particularly in the most burdened communities.

The District is requesting project proposals that meet the criteria in the State CAP Incentives 2024 Guidelines and the District's CAP Incentives Policies and Procedures Manual. See Pages 2 through 4 of this Request for a summary of funding priorities and eligible projects. Additional information is also available at <https://www.bcaqmd.org/community-air-protection-program>. The District is not taking new applications for the smaller Community Air Protection (CAP) Support Grants at this time.

To Apply

If your organization is applying for an on-road or off-road vehicle replacement project, or a charging infrastructure project, please complete the corresponding Carl Moyer Program application available on the District's website at <https://www.bcaqmd.org/carl-moyer-farmer-program> or at the District's office.

If your organization is applying for any other project category (such as air filtration, paving, and composite wood product projects), please complete the District's Community Air Protection Incentives **General Application** and submit all requested information by the proposal due date.

Completed applications and inquiries can be submitted to:

Jason Mandly, Senior Air Quality Planner
Address: 629 Entler Avenue, Suite 15 Chico, CA 95928
Email: jmandly@bcaqmd.org
Fax: 530-332-9417
Phone: (530) 332-9400, Extension 108

This project was supported by the "California Climate Investments" (CCI) program.



Funding Priorities

The District will use the following Guiding Principles to help select projects that meet the goals of the Community Air Protection Program and AB 617:

- Reduce emissions in disadvantaged and low-income communities, with a goal of **60% of funds benefitting Disadvantaged Communities and 70% of funds benefitting Low-Income Communities**;
- Consider toxic air contaminant, criteria air pollutant, and greenhouse gas benefits;
- Engage communities and provide support;
- Provide emission reductions in excess of laws or regulations;
- Prioritize zero-emission technology and infrastructure;
- Consider special projects that protect sensitive receptors;
- Ensure transparency in project selection and reporting;
- Consider both cost-effectiveness and relative exposure reduction in funding decisions.

A map of Disadvantaged Communities (SB 535) and Low-income Communities (AB 1550) is [available at this link](#).

Projects will be prioritized in the following manner:

1. Eligible projects in disadvantaged communities progressing zero-emission technologies and benefitting sensitive receptors.
2. Eligible projects in disadvantaged communities progressing zero-emission technology.
3. Eligible projects in disadvantaged communities benefitting sensitive receptors.
4. Eligible projects in disadvantaged communities.
5. Eligible projects in low income communities progressing zero-emission technologies and benefitting sensitive receptors.
6. Eligible projects in low income communities progressing zero-emission technology.
7. Eligible projects in low income communities benefitting sensitive receptors.
8. Eligible projects in low income communities.
9. Projects located outside of disadvantaged communities and low income communities that may benefit these communities.
10. Eligible projects located outside of disadvantaged communities and low income communities progressing zero-emission technologies and benefitting sensitive receptors.
11. Eligible projects located outside of disadvantaged communities and low income communities progressing zero-emission technologies.
12. Eligible projects located outside of disadvantaged communities and low income communities benefitting sensitive receptors.
13. All other eligible projects.

Guiding Documents and Additional Information

- The District's CAP Incentives Program is governed by the California Air Resources Board's CAP Incentives 2024 Guidelines Document located here: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/capp/resources/community-air-protection-incentives-guidelines>
- More information about how the District is implementing CAP Incentives can be found in the District's CAP Incentives Policies and Procedures Manual located here: <https://bcaqmd.org/cap/>

Eligible Projects

A. Heavy Duty Equipment Replacement and Infrastructure Projects (Using Carl Moyer Program Applications)

a. Heavy Duty Equipment Replacement (must be prior to any state-mandated compliance deadlines)

- Diesel or CNG on-road heavy-duty (>14,000lb GVWR) vehicle replacement;
- Diesel or spark ignited off-road heavy-duty equipment replacement.

b. Zero Emission Infrastructure

- Battery charging infrastructure associated with an equipment replacement project;

| Category | Project Type | Maximum Eligible Grant | |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| On-Road | Zero-Emission Replacements or Conversions | School Buses | 100% |
| | | Transit Buses | 95%/90%/60%* |
| | | HHD Vehicles | 95%/90%/60%* |
| | | MHD Vehicles | 95%/90%/60%* |
| | | LHD Vehicles | 95%/90%/60%* |
| | Conventional Fuel (Exempt Vehicles Only) / 0.10 g/bhp-hr. or Cleaner | School Buses | \$165,000 |
| | | Transit Buses | \$25,000 |
| | | HHD Vehicles | \$60,000 / \$70,000 |
| | | MHD Vehicles | \$40,000 / \$50,000 |
| | | LHD Vehicles | \$30,000 / \$40,000 |
| Emergency Vehicles | 80% | | |
| Off-Road | Repower (conventional or zero-emission) | 95% | |
| | Mobile Equipment Replacement (conventional or zero-emission) | 90% | |
| | Portable Equipment Replacement (conventional or zero-emission) | 90% | |
| | Utility Terrain Vehicle (to zero-emission) | \$13,500 or 75%, whichever is less | |
| Infrastructure | Any Infrastructure Project (base amount) | 60% | |
| | Projects with solar/wind power systems | +10% | |
| | Any Infrastructure Project Located at a Sensitive Receptor | +10% | |
| | Publicly Accessible Projects | +15% | |
| | Public School Bus Battery Charging and Alternative Fueling | 100% | |

*Except for emergency vehicles, no more than 95% of vehicle cost for fleets with 3 or fewer vehicles, no more than 90% for fleets with more than 3 and 10 or fewer vehicles, no more than 80% for fleets with more than 10 and 20 or fewer vehicles, and no more than 60% of vehicle cost for fleets with greater than 20 vehicles.

B. Air Filtration Projects for Sensitive Populations

Air filtration reduces the concentration of particulate contaminants from indoor air and is an important component of a building’s Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. This category is available for schools, daycares, preschools, nursing homes, senior living facilities, and community gathering spaces such as community centers and libraries. Reducing airborne particles (such as PM2.5) is important because particulate matter negatively impacts human health, especially for sensitive populations.

a. Air Filter Panels

- Air filter panels with at least a MERV of 14 or the best available filter as determined by a current HVAC assessment.
- New filters can also filter other pollutants such as VOCs or odors;
- Applicants can request funding for up to 5 years of replacement filters;
- If the current HVAC system cannot accept MERV 14+ filters, upgrades to the HVAC system are acceptable project costs.

b. Standalone Air Ventilation Units

- Must be rated MERV 14 or higher, or be certified HEPA;
- Must have a noise threshold at or below 45 decibels;
- Portable air cleaning units must include a clean air delivery rate for tobacco smoke (0.09-1.0 µM) that is appropriate for the room size.

| Type of Equipment | Funding Amount |
|---|----------------|
| Air Filters (MERV 14 or best available per HVAC assessment) | Up to 100% |
| Standalone Systems (MERV 14+) | Up to 100% |

C. Composite Wood Product Projects for Schools

This project type pays a portion of the cost to replace damaged school furniture with furniture that contains composite wood made with no-added formaldehyde (NAF) glue or ultra-low emitting formaldehyde (ULEF) glue, thus decreasing the potential for formaldehyde emissions in classrooms.

| Type of Equipment Funded | NAF Funding Percentage | ULEF Funding Percentage |
|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Tables/Desks/Countertops | 100 % | 90 % |
| Chairs | 100 % | 90 % |
| Cabinets | 100 % | 90 % |

D. Paving, Sidewalk, and Bike Path Projects Near Sensitive Receptors

This project category aims to reduce dust from paved and unpaved roads in the community through road paving improvements, as well as to reduce motor vehicle emissions by improving walkability and bicycle infrastructure for the community through sidewalk and bicycle infrastructure improvement and construction. Eligible projects include providing road paving, sidewalk improvements and/or bicycle infrastructure to well-traveled unpaved roads, parking lots, and other unpaved areas located near sensitive receptors

| Type of Equipment | Equipment Funding Amount |
|---|--------------------------|
| Eligible costs towards paving, sidewalk improvement, and bike infrastructure activities near sensitive receptors. | Up to 100% |

E. Emergency Stationary Diesel Generator Replacement Projects

This project category funds the replacement of uncontrolled, Tier 1, and Tier 2 diesel-fueled emergency generators with cleaner technology beyond what is currently required. Replacement generators can be Final Tier 4 or cleaner, or zero-emission.

| Type of Equipment | Equipment Funding Amount |
|---|--------------------------|
| New internal combustion emergency generator (Final Tier 4 or cleaner) | Up to 85% |
| New zero-emission emergency generator | Up to 95% |

F. Community-Identified Projects

The District on a case by case basis can seek approval for Community-Identified Projects. Examples of Community-Identified Projects approved by the California Air Resources Board can be found here: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/community-air-protection-incentives/stationary-source-and-community-identified>. Additional documentation and a project plan will be required prior to approval.