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Attn: Local news, health and assignment editors

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EV car sharing program launches in rural Valley communities

Public officials and community partners gathered today in Wasco with the Valley Air District and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to unveil one of many electric vehicle car-sharing locations being made available to the public in disadvantaged communities throughout the San Joaquin Valley, thanks in part to funding from California Climate Investments (CCI).

Sunrise Villa Apartments was the site of today's event, where the public learned how residents of this affordable housing complex and the community can sign-up to use *Miocar*, a 24-hour electric vehicle car sharing service which is a product of CARB's Ecosystem of Shared Mobility in the San Joaquin Valley project.

"In many Valley communities, long travel distances and small populations contribute to transit service that is often infrequent and hard to access," said Steve Cliff, Ph.D., California Air Resources Board Deputy Executive Officer. "This project provides a convenient, inexpensive, emission-free option for residents to take care of routine errands that would otherwise be a challenge."

Similar resources will be located in affordable housing complexes in Oroshi, Dinuba, Visalia, Lamont and Arvin, where transportation-challenged participants who live in these communities can sign up online at <https://miocar.org/>, pay a low hourly or daily fee through the Miocar app and use the zero-emission vehicles for errands, appointments, shopping and more. Overall, at least 24 battery electric vehicles (BEVs) and 17 level 2 EV chargers will be deployed.

CCI is providing \$2,250,000 for the project with matching and in-kind funds from partnering agencies totaling \$3,811,426. Project partners include Sigala Inc, UC Davis, Miocar, Kern County Council of Governments, Tulare County Association of Governments, Self-Help Enterprises, Cal Vans, Mobility Development, the Valley Air District and CARB.

CCI is a statewide initiative that puts cap-and-trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy and improving public health and the environment, with a focus on disadvantaged communities.

For more information on California Climate Investments, visit www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov.

