

Actions by the Governing Board – Dec 18, 2025

Recognition of the 2026 Kids Calendar Winners

The Governing Board recognized fourteen students from around the San Joaquin Valley whose artwork is featured in the Valley Air District's 2026 Healthy Air Living Kids' Calendar. The District's annual calendar is a bilingual, full-color wall calendar, featuring clean-air messages and drawings, and is designed to educate and inspire the public to live a Healthy Air Life and reduce air pollution in the Valley. The calendars are free, and distributed to schools, community groups, healthcare facilities, churches, civic organizations, non-profits, and individuals upon request, while supplies last. To request calendars for yourself, your classroom, school or other organization, email public.education@valleyair.org or call (559) 230-6000. Calendars can also be picked up at any District office: in Fresno, at 1990 E. Gettysburg Ave., in Modesto, at 4800 Enterprise Way, and in Bakersfield, at 34936 Flyover Court.

Recognize Supervising Air Quality Inspector David Born for Receiving the 2025 Rodney Swartzendruber Outstanding Inspector Award

The California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA) is a nonprofit organization representing California's 35 local air pollution control districts and air quality management agencies. Each year, CAPCOA recognizes inspectors who demonstrate exceptional performance and make significant contributions to advancing air pollution control efforts statewide. One of its highest honors is the Rodney Swartzendruber Outstanding Inspector Award, established in 2003 in memory of a District inspector who tragically lost his life in the line of duty while assisting with air monitoring during the Westley tire fire in 1999. In October 2025, CAPCOA honored David Born with the 2025 Rodney Swartzendruber Outstanding Inspector Award in recognition of his outstanding leadership, technical expertise, and dedication to public service. Mr. Born's professionalism, integrity, and commitment to protecting public health have earned him respect across agencies, industry, and the communities he serves. His selection marks the seventh time a District inspector has received this prestigious award, reflecting the District's continued excellence in compliance and enforcement efforts.

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

The Governing Board received the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). GFOA is an internationally recognized organization that offers guidance and support to budget and finance professionals across local and state governments throughout the United States and Canada. The GFOA presented the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting," GFOA's highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, to the District for its Fiscal Year 2023-24 ACFR. Receiving this award represents a significant recognition by an expert independent authority of your Board's commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental reporting and transparency to the public, and excellence in exercising fiduciary responsibilities

Update on AB 617 Implementation

The Governing Board received an update on the implementation of Assembly Bill (AB) 617. The four Valley Community Emissions Reduction Programs (CERPs), developed in coordination with the communities of South Central Fresno, Shafter, Stockton, and Arvin/Lamont, have led to significant emissions and exposure reductions. This year, the District worked with the Community Steering Committees to advance infrastructure projects, such as bike lanes in Stockton and road paving in Shafter, while also implementing air monitoring and enforcement strategies to address community

concerns. High-priority measures, including vegetative barriers and lawn mower and vehicle replacements, were actively pursued in collaboration with state and local agencies across all four communities. As Fresno and Shafter reached their five-year mark and Stockton approaches it, the District is transitioning to a quarterly meeting schedule, maintaining engagement to complete remaining commitments while expanding efforts to support other disadvantaged communities in the Valley. The annual progress reports detail AB 617 progress across the Valley and were forwarded on to the California Air Resources Board as required by the program.

Allocate up to \$2 Million in Existing Incentive Funding for the District's Zero-Emission Landscaping Equipment Program

The Valley Air District Governing Board approved an additional \$2,000,000 in existing incentive funding for the District's highly popular Zero-Emission Landscaping Equipment Program. The District has long been a leader in promoting the development and demonstration of zero-emission landscaping equipment. In 2018, your Board authorized the creation of the Zero-Emission Landscaping Equipment (ZELE) Program, focused on reducing emissions and impacts from toxic air contaminants related to commercial landscape maintenance equipment. This program has facilitated the replacement of more than 2,700 pieces of older, high-polluting commercial landscape maintenance equipment with new, zero-emission equipment, reducing more than 66 tons of harmful pollutants in neighborhoods throughout the Valley. Based on the success of the District's program, current demand for program funding exceeds the District's initial allocation for this program in the District's Incentive Spending Plan for Fiscal Year 2025-26. This additional funding will accommodate the current queue of eligible projects and the forecasted needs of the program for the remainder of the fiscal year.

July-November District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- Over the past five months, the District's Outreach Team has been hard at work engaging with communities across the Valley. Staff participated in a wide range of events, including multiple EV Ride & Drive demonstrations, grant workshops for agricultural operators, and the ribbon-cutting ceremony of Love's newest CNG station. The team also supported Fresno's AB 617 Lawnmower Trade-In and a Tune-In Tune-Up event, attended numerous service club meetings and worked alongside Valley CAN to help connect residents with clean-air incentives.

In addition, the District partnered with land management agencies and California's fire service partners to prepare mountain communities for wildfire season, providing guidance on protecting both property and health during smoke events. Outreach staff also collaborated with local leaders across the Valley to host Town Hall meetings designed to share critical air quality information and resources. Most recently, the team wrapped up the Arvin/Lamont AB 617 Lawnmower Trade-In event, continuing efforts to bring clean air programs directly to the communities we serve.

- During this same period, the District also focused on strengthening connections with schools throughout the Valley. Outreach staff participated in Literacy Nights, Coffee Hours with parents, school assemblies, classroom presentations, and Back-to-School events sharing important air quality and grant information which allowed the team to engage with students, families, and educators. From school carnivals to community driven education nights, the District continued bringing air quality awareness directly to Valley campuses, helping empower students with tools to protect their health.
- In the span of five months, District staff responded to 31 media calls, 174 public calls, 76 emails, and participated in 76 events/presentations.

Grants and Incentive Programs

	July-November 2025	Grants Offered		Amount Paid
Key	Program	Number of Contracts Sent Out	Sum of Grant Funding	Sum of Grant Funding
AB617	School Air Filtration	0	\$0.00	\$78,553.51
	Urban Greening	0	\$0.00	\$80,684.01
	Vegetative Barriers	1	\$253,000.00	\$ 55,806.92
Burn Cleaner	Wood Stove Change Out	691	\$2,513,750.00	\$1,408,450.45
CAP & Trade	Demonstration	1	\$90,000.00	\$1,813,308.73
Community Benefit	Alt to Fireworks	6	\$87,475.00	\$93,825.00
	Residential	1,783	\$348,166.31	\$277,086.35
Heavy-Duty	Ag Burn Alternative	606	\$16,492,540.00	\$18,601,292.53
	Ag Engine	0	\$0.00	\$70,868.97
	Ag-UTV	157	\$2,119,500.00	\$1,996,502.22
	Forklift	46	\$3,335,083.70	\$800,997.22
	Infrastructure	4	\$1,810,265.00	\$9,204,823.86
	Low-Dust Harvester	30	\$8,784,362.05	\$4,707,471.73
	Off-Road	454	\$45,173,867.33	\$41,354,960.20
	On-Road	37	\$4,305,420.72	\$777,957.60
	School Bus	8	\$2,752,390.34	\$3,600,000.00
	Yard Truck	9	\$1,229,897.55	\$135,366.66
Lawn & Garden	Commercial	706	\$1,883,300.00	\$1,096,849.36
	Residential	2,002	\$495,016.52	\$491,160.28
Legal Entity	Subcontractor/Partner	3	\$0.00	\$0.00
Light Duty	Charge Up	5	\$190,000.00	\$565,000.00
	Drive Clean	1,600	\$3,134,000.00	\$2,758,000.00
	EFMP	1,205	\$14,919,552.69	\$13,625,031.21
	E-Mobility Trip Reduction	1	\$150,000.00	\$0.00
	TITU	1,270	\$5,419,590.30	\$5,474,656.65
Public Benefit	Alternative Fuel	116	\$2,250,563.42	\$1,820,605.28
	Clean Air Centers	4	\$37,532.64	\$37,434.38
Special Projects	Infrastructure	0	\$0	\$12,094.25
VW Nox Mitigation	Replacement	29	\$9,942,897.30	\$8,479,712.09
	Totals	10,774	\$127,718,170.90	\$119,420,574.46

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
NOx	PM	ROG	Total
2,282	2,145	1,901	6,384

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*

9:00 AM, Jan. 15

Citizens Advisory Committee*

10:00 AM, Feb. 3

Environmental Justice Advisory Group

5:30 PM, Jan. 22

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

Details: www.valleyair.org

**Webcast*