

Actions by the Governing Board – Feb. 19, 2026

Accept and Appropriate \$3.4 Million in Additional Revenue from the California Air Resources Board 2022 Climate Heat Impact Response Program

The Valley Air District's Governing Board accepted \$3,015,461 in state funding from CARB under the Climate Heat Impact Response Program (CHIRP). This program was established under direction from the California Governor's July 30, 2021 State of Emergency proclamation to address extreme heat-driven grid emergencies and the associated excess emissions from emergency power generation. The Governor's proclamation directed the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop a mitigation framework to offset these excess emissions, protect public health, and enhance community resilience, particularly in disadvantaged and low-income areas. Based on the established funding formula, the District was allocated 13 percent of the total program funding. However, the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District (GBAPCD) elected to direct its CHIRP funding allocation to the District for administration. When combined, the District's total CHIRP funding allocation is \$3,015,461. This funding will be utilized to fund emission reduction incentive projects in the District in accordance with established Carl Moyer Program and Community Air Protection Program guidelines.

Receive and File District's Annual Air Toxics Report for 2025

Air District Efforts to Protect Valley Residents from Toxic Emissions: In addition to numerous efforts aimed at reducing ozone and particulate emissions throughout the Valley, the District also devotes significant resources and implements comprehensive strategies to further reduce toxic air pollutants. The District's Governing Board received a detailed report on efforts by the District and authorized District staff to distribute the report to county boards of supervisors, city councils, and local health officers. The District's integrated air toxics program integrates local, state and federal measures to prevent localized air toxic hot spots, reduce regional air toxic risk from various source categories and prevent significant risk to the public from new and expanding facilities. As noted in the report, the District has completed the assessment of thousands of facilities to date, none of which pose a significant risk to residents of the Valley. Through these efforts, Valley residents have benefitted from a significant reduction in cancer risk due to air toxics during the last two decades. For more details, the District's Annual Air Toxics Report for the Year 2025 is available on the District's website.

Verbal Report on Clean Air Act Implementation

At the February 19, 2026 Governing Board meeting, staff highlighted that recent challenges to Clean Air Act waiver approvals for key CARB regulations have introduced uncertainty into the attainment strategies used in the 2022 Ozone Plan and 2024 PM2.5 Plan.

The update also emphasized ongoing coordination with CARB and EPA to advocate for EPA approval of the five-year extension that was requested in the 2024 PM2.5 Plan. The five-year extension is critical to avoiding the need to develop a very challenging 189(d) plan ("Five Percent Plan") and potential Clean Air Act sanctions.

Overall, the presentation underscored the importance of closely monitoring federal decisions that need to happen on an accelerated time table while ensuring that the District remains positioned to meet Clean Air Act and associated planning requirements.

January District Activities

Outreach and Communications

- In January, District staff began actively engaging with communities across the Valley, conducting outreach to raise awareness about the variety of grants and funding opportunities available to residents, businesses, and local organizations. These efforts included providing guidance on eligibility, application procedures, and program benefits, with the goal of supporting cleaner air initiatives.
- District staff spent January, traveling throughout the Valley to distribute the 2026 Kids' Calendar to schools and school districts. During these visits, the team connected with front office staff to share educational resources and provide tools to support cleaner air on campuses, including new No Idling signs and informational brochures. Staff also worked to ensure schools remain connected to the District's communications, helping them continue receiving timely air quality information. These outreach efforts help strengthen partnerships with schools while promoting awareness of air quality initiatives across the Valley.
- In January, District staff responded to 6 media calls, 27 public calls, 18 emails, and participated in five events/presentations.

Grants and Incentive Programs

	January 2026	Grants Offered		Amount Paid
Key	Program	Number of Contracts Sent Out	Sum of Grant Funding	Sum of Grant Funding
Burn Cleaner	Wood Stove Change Out	277	\$1,011,300.00	\$353,595.00
Community Benefit	Alt to Fireworks	0	\$0.00	\$18,000.00
	Residential	0	\$0.00	\$41,396.98
Heavy-Duty	Ag Burn Alternative	123	\$4,334,836.08	\$2,618,607.60
	Ag-UTV	4	\$54,000.00	\$128,329.59
	Low-Dust Harvester	1	\$209,845.19	\$5,584,471.29
	Off-Road	59	\$4,983,981.27	\$10,819,948.15
	On-Road	18	\$2,303,161.92	\$441,564.24
	Yard Truck	0	\$0.00	\$265,576.50
Lawn & Garden	Commercial	167	\$686,000.00	\$47,800.00
	Residential	246	\$42,097.27	\$192,147.38
Legal Entity	SubContractor / Partner	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
Light Duty	Charge Up	9	\$295,000.00	\$0.00
	Drive Clean	246	\$475,000.00	\$389,000.00
	EFMP	317	\$3,983,908.17	\$3,341,116.30
	TITU	213	\$863,231.23	\$875,876.02
Public Benefit	Alternative Fuel	3	\$58,395.48	\$640,604.17
	Clean Air Centers	0	\$0.00	\$21,316.25
REMOVE II	Alternate Fuel Training	3	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Special Projects	Infrastructure	0	\$0.00	\$6,068.72

VW Nox Mitigation	Replacement	0	\$0.00	\$2,580,000.00
	Totals	1,687	\$19,330,756.61	\$28,365,418.19

Reductions from Executed Contracts (tons)			
NOx	PM	ROG	Total
262	430	334	1,026

Upcoming Meetings

Governing Board*

Citizens Advisory Committee*

Environmental Justice Advisory Group

9:00 AM, Mar. 19

10:00 AM, Apr. 7

5:30 PM, Apr. 23

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

Details: www.valleyair.org

*Webcast