



Land Use & Air Quality Update

*The quarterly newsletter of the **Sac Metro Air District's** Transportation & Climate Change Division. This edition includes updates on the CEQA Guidance, a local project of note, an update on Open Grant Solicitations, and a biography of a new team member.*

[Visit our Website](#)

2021 Community Air Quality Grant Solicitation

The application process is open from March 29, 2021, through May 28, 2021

The **Sac Metro Air District** is accepting applications to reduce air pollution from cars, trucks, tractors, buses, and other mobile sources in the Sacramento region. Over **\$18 million** is available for sole proprietors, community organizations, government agencies, and big and small businesses.

Projects include:

- New, zero-emission trucks and buses
- EV charging stations
- Hydrogen fueling stations
- New, clean farm and construction equipment
- Public school filtration systems & lawn and garden programs
- Clean locomotives

The **Sac Metro Air District** will accept applications from March 28, 2021, to May 28, 2021. Final details about the program solicitation are on the website, including details on a Zoom webinar to discuss the program on April 15, 2021. Please visit our link below for more information and online applications:

[More information](#)

Sac Metro Air District releases new Technical Support Contract RFP

The **Sac Metro Air District** released a request for proposals (RFP) for a new technical support contract for the Transportation and Climate Change Division. The District, on occasion, requires technical assistance with tasks related to emissions reduction

technologies and programs, mitigation measures, research, quantification, planning, database and modeling tools, and CEQA.

A detailed description of the work covered by the contract will be included in the Scope of Services section of the RFP. Some of the expected technical support work will include:

- Support the Land Use and Mobile Sources Sections of the Transportation and Climate Change Division in researching, quantifying, and evaluating programs, projects and strategies to improve regional air quality.
- Provide support to and assist in the research, development, analysis, quantification, and implementation approaches of control strategies and demonstrations of emission reduction programs in all sectors of the mobile inventory.
- Assist in the development, analysis, quantification, and implementation approaches of various land-use emission reduction strategies to meet the goals related to climate change (including the preparation and review of CEQA documents).
- Assist in the development, analysis, quantification, and implementation of approaches of various emission reduction strategies to meet climate change goals.
- Assist in the research, development, analysis, quantification, and implementation approaches of emission reduction strategies for the State Implementation Plan (SIP).

Responses to **RFP #2021-002** are due May 10 by 5pm.

RFP #2021-002 - Environmental Engineering and Planning Support Services

CEQA Guideline Update

[Sac Metro Air District](#) published an update to Chapter 6 of the *Guide to Air Quality Assessment in Sacramento County*. Chapter 6 includes recommendations for greenhouse gas emissions analysis and mitigation. The main change to Chapter 6 was the removal of the option to amortize construction emissions over the operational life of a project. With the update to the operational greenhouse gas emissions thresholds and inclusion of best management practices in April 2020, amortizing construction emissions over the life of the project is not a strategy that can be accommodated. Contact Karen Huss at 916-874-4881 or khuss@airquality.org if you have questions on construction emissions.



Chapter 6

CalEEMod Update

The long-awaited release of CalEEMod version 2020 is forthcoming. Beta testing on the updated model was completed at the end of February and Trinity Consultants is working to

fix a few bugs discovered during testing. CalEEMod users will finally have access to a model that includes EMFAC2017 emission factors (with and without the SAFE Rule) and 2019 Title 24 energy updates. To ensure you receive notice when CalEEMod version 2020 is released, visit www.caleemod.com and subscribe.



California Emissions Estimator Model[®]

CalEEMod.com

City of Sacramento Implements Slow & Active Streets Pilot

The City of Sacramento is launching a “Slow & Active Streets” initial pilot project to give precedence to walking and biking by limiting through traffic on selected residential streets. With a goal of supporting physical and mental health, partial closures of low-speed residential streets are planned to encourage physically-distanced walking, biking, and skating in the roadways. The partial closures will be implemented in mid-to-late January, will remain in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and will run through the end of April 2021. Throughout the pilot, vehicle accessibility will be available to and from residences for emergency responders, delivery drivers, and neighborhood residents.



The City has identified resources to implement 5 to 6 miles of Slow & Active Streets in the initial pilot. Streets for partial closures will be selected from applications submitted by business associations, faith-based organizations, local community-based organizations, neighborhood associations, school-related organizations, and City Council offices. The City will prioritize requests using an equitable framework, giving preference to requests in **Environmental Justice** areas, areas with multifamily housing and limited yards, and areas with limited access to parks.

Slow Active Streets

Updates on Transportation and Climate Change Division Programs

Sac Metro Air District staff in the Transportation and Climate Change Division are working to increase the use of clean transportation to improve air quality in Sacramento Region. Making low- and zero-emission vehicles more widely available to residents of historically disadvantaged communities has been a focus of this work. Part of this task is to more directly listen to and understand the needs of residents in these communities. Staff have held numerous, necessary, and ongoing conversations with community organizations and residents to better ascertain how the Air District can assist residents to make use of low- and zero-emission vehicles.

Key findings from these conversations have been that it's all about *"getting access"* to the medical services, housing, jobs, transportation, and funding that have been missing in these under-resourced and under-served communities. A second key finding has been: *"Don't overburden community organizations."* We recognize that these community organizations have limited resources and have been pulled in many directions. Working with environmental justice community-based organizations is a priority and the Air District will continue to engage in ongoing outreach; We need carefully develop our programs so that their implementation doesn't create unnecessary or unfunded burdens on these community organizations. The goal is to receive feedback and develop agency programs that meet the needs of respective community groups.

Program Updates

- The Community programs are expanding. In 2021 the Air District will be adding new sites for Our Community Car Share, expanding the Clean Cars 4 All program, and investing in community mobility hubs.
- For the AB 617 Community Air Protection (CAP) program, the District will continue its neighborhood-level pollution monitoring in the South Sacramento/Florin Community. The District is also considering expanding the CAP program to a second community, possibly in the Del Paso/North Natomas/Gardenland communities.
- The District is working to increase flexibility in some of its primary funding programs by seeking modifications to the state legislative language that created these programs. For example, for the Carl Moyer programs, removing the requirement to scrap an existing vehicle in order to receive assistance in purchasing a zero-emission vehicle would expand the scope of eligible participants and the number of applications. Another legislative effort would be to obtain funding for a CAP program pilot that would support community-level projects such as enhanced tree canopy, expanded solar panel canopy, improved streetscape, expanded bike lanes, increased cool paving and cool roofs, all of which would reduce exposure of residents to air pollution emissions.
- The District supported the regional Climate, Justice, and Jobs Summit that occurred on March 30th, 2021 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. More information is available at <https://caled.org/event/climate-justice-and-jobs-summit/>. The event was an informative regional conversation on creating equitable pipelines to climate-related jobs.

New Arrivals at the Sac Metro Air District:



Harrison Ashby

Harrison is a CivicSpark Fellow working primarily on the Air District's Clean Cars 4 All (CC4A) program, which help low-income Sacramentans get funding to purchase hybrid and electric vehicles. Under the direction of Katie Cox, she works with CC4A participants to complete their applications, and provides support in data analysis and reporting. Through her fellowship she looks forward to making recommendations for how the program can be more equitable.

As an undergrad, Harrison completed two research projects. The first focused on the intersections of environmental injustice and juvenile incarceration, for which she wrote

articles about the use of pepper spray in juvenile detention facilities and incidences of Superfund Sites being located near juvenile detention facilities. For her second project, she wrote a senior thesis that examined the impacts of federal legislation on the ability of Indigenous people to relocate because of climate change. As a graduate student, Harrison interned with Community Water Center in Sacramento, and crafted a sustainability plan for Vista del Lago High School in Folsom.

In her free time, Harrison enjoys reading, cooking, baking, gardening, organizing with Food Not Bombs. After the pandemic, she looks forward to organizing with groups focused on racial and climate justice, and animal liberation. Harrison holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Barbara, and a Master's degree in Environmental Policy and Management from UC Davis.

You can contact Harrison at hashby@airquality.org

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



**Check out Spare the Air for
Updates on Regional Air Quality**





Spare the Air

Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District | 777 12th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento, CA
95814

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by jhurley@airquality.org