# GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING A CLEAN AIR PROJECT



The Sac Metro Air District's Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Program allows Clean Air Projects to be funded from a portion of the penalties received from settling an enforcement action. Clean Air Projects can improve public health, reduce air pollution, increase environmental compliance, and bring public awareness to neighborhoods most burdened by air pollution.

# **PROJECT TYPES & ELIGIBILITY**

Projects must benefit a District Priority Community and fall into one of these categories:

- Pollution Prevention or Reduction: Prevent or reduce air pollution or greenhouse gas emissions.
- Air-Related Education or Compliance Training:
   Assist educators, schools, and community groups to conduct training and public awareness campaigns for the business community or the public.
- **Community Air Monitoring:** Provide tools to be used by trained members of the public for data collection and enhancement of existing air quality monitoring stations.
- Environmental Restoration and Protection:
   Improve or restore the quality of the environment.

   The project must be related to air quality or climate change.

Projects outside these categories may be considered if they demonstrate substantial health or environmental benefits aligned with the District's policies.

# WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Any authorized representative of a:

- Community-based organization
- Nonprofit organization
- Public Agency
- Academic institution
- Tribal organization

# **DISTRICT PRIORITY COMMUNITIES**

The District uses the following maps to determine if your project is in a District Priority Community.

- AB 617 South Sac Florin Community Emissions Reduction Map
- High to medium-sensitivity areas identified on <u>SMUD's Sustainable Communities Resource</u> Priorities Map.

#### PROJECT EXAMPLES

You can find examples of potential project ideas at the California Air Resources Board website: <u>Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) Lists & Report</u>

For more assistance, email <a href="mailto:Compliance@AirQuality.org">Compliance@AirQuality.org</a> or call 279-207-1122 ext. 14 (Tollfree: 800-880-9025).





# **HOW DO I APPLY?**

Please visit <u>www.AirQuality.org/SEP</u> to see if the District is currently accepting applications. If applications are being accepted, complete the online form. The Air District will review your project within 30 days after the solicitation closes. Approved projects will remain on the eligibility list for up to one year.

#### APPLICATION INFORMATION

Please gather and be prepared to provide the following information:

- ✓ **Tell us about your organization.** Include who you are, what you do, and who will be the point of contact.
- ✓ **Tell us about your project.** Provide a project summary. Include why the project is important and how it will be done.
- ✓ How does your project benefit air quality? Be sure to include the air quality issue(s) that will be addressed and any expected air quality benefit(s) or reduced community exposure to air pollution.
- ✓ What is your project budget? Provide an accurate estimation of all costs associated with the project expected by the applicant and any project partners.
- ✓ Is your project located within a District Priority Community? Provide the project's location, including street name and number or other locators such as latitude and longitude.
- ✓ Let us know when you are planning for your project to happen. Provide your project timeline (expected project start date and projected completion dates).

# **APPLICATION REVIEW**

After submitting your application, there are three possible outcomes:

Your project meets the qualifying criteria and is approved: The District will notify you by email that your project is eligible and place it on our SEP Eligibility List.

Your project tentatively meets the qualifying criteria: The District needs more information before it can fully approve your project and will reach out for additional information before listing.

Your proposal does not meet the qualifying criteria: The District will notify you by email why the project was not eligible for listing.

# **AWARDS & NEXT STEPS**

- The District will contact you if your project is selected for funding.
- If your project is selected and you agree to move forward with the project, your project will be included in an agreement between the Violator and the District. Completing your project is now one of the conditions to resolve the violation.
- Updates on the progress of the project must be provided to the Air District regularly until the project is complete.
- A final project report must be submitted upon completion to close out the violation.