



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 25, 2021

CONTACT: Erin DeMerritt, (415) 517-4147

Air District's James Cary Smith Community Grant Program empowers Bay Area community leaders

\$750,000 available for community groups, neighborhood associations and nonprofits

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the availability of \$750,000 through the James Cary Smith Community Grant Program for community groups, neighborhood associations and nonprofits to participate in decisions that impact their environment and health.

The Air District seeks to partner with community leaders in the Bay Area to uplift local efforts that improve air quality and reduce exposure to air pollution. Grants must be used to design and implement strategies that foster authentic community participation in planning activities that improve a community's environmental health.

"The James Cary Smith Community Grant Program is an excellent opportunity to empower community groups with tools to be key players and participate in decisions that directly impact their air quality and health," said Jack Broadbent, executive officer of the Air District. "We look forward to working closely with local community groups to make meaningful air quality improvements and deliver a shared vision of a healthy community."

The Air District combined elements from the previous James Cary Smith Grant Program and Community Health Protection Grant program to create a refocused James Cary Smith Community Grant program. The new program is designed to strengthen partnerships with community-based organizations and leverage community power to improve local air quality and health outcomes.

The maximum amount for an individual grant is \$100,000 per year with the potential for funding for up to three years. Projects must be located within the Air District's jurisdiction and priority will be given to environmental justice communities. Projects in West Oakland and the Richmond/San Pablo area are not eligible due to ongoing projects authorized by California Assembly Bill 617.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Pacific Time on October 1, 2021. For additional information and to apply, visit www.baaqmd.gov/communitygrants.

The [Bay Area Air Quality Management District](http://www.baaqmd.gov) is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality and the global climate in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

###

Air District Communications Office
375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 - (415) 749-4900
[Air District Homepage](#) | [News Releases](#)