

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Awards \$439,000 for Clean Air Projects

DAVIS, CA – June 18, 2025 – The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District Board of Directors approved \$439,000 in funding for 14 projects as part of the 2025 Clean Air Funds grant program at its June 11 meeting. The projects will be implemented over the next year in Yolo County and the northeastern portion of Solano County.

"All of these projects are helping to reduce emissions in the District and promote cleaner air," Executive Director Gretchen Bennitt said. "From EV chargers to bike racks to educational programs, we're proud to support such a wide range of impactful projects."

The annual Clean Air Funds program provides grants to private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and public agencies for local projects that reduce emissions from mobile sources of air pollution. The funding supports projects that advance cleaner technologies, such as low-emission vehicles, as well as alternative transportation options, transit services, and public education efforts.

Funding for the program comes from a portion of annual Department of Motor Vehicles registration fees, with additional support for Solano County projects provided by property tax proceeds. Since the program's launch more than 30 years ago, the District has awarded roughly \$12 million in grants.

Projects funded for the 2025–2026 grant cycle include:

Clean Technologies / Low-Emission Vehicles

- The City of Vacaville will install publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure at De Colores Park and Malaquias Montoya Community Center.
- The City of Rio Vista will purchase one Ford F-150 Lightning for its Public Works Department vehicle fleet.
- The Vacaville Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club will replace its current gas-powered pickup van with an electric van and install EV charging infrastructure at its new Clubhouse location.

• The Yolo Food Bank will replace its current diesel-powered refrigerated truck with a fully electric refrigerated truck to pick up food donations across Yolo County.

Alternative Transportation

- The Solano Transportation Authority will expand its Eastern Solano Vanpool program that connects northeastern Solano County workers with their jobs across the region and increase the incentives offered to residents for taking alternative transportation.
- The City of Vacaville will install a high visibility crosswalk to promote safer routes to school at Kairos Elementary School.
- The City of Woodland will install bike racks for public use at its new aquatic center.
- Fourth and Hope, a non-profit serving individuals experiencing homelessness, will install bike racks at its East Beamer Campus in Woodland.

Public Education / Information

- The Solano Transportation Authority will continue and expand its Safe Routes to School Program, which conducts school-based outreach and education in Solano County, offering students bicycle education and bicycle repair resources.
- Sustainable Solano will expand its Youth Air Protectors program to a cohort of high school interns in Dixon, teaching them about air quality awareness and culminating in a bike rack installation project.
- Catholic Charities of Yolo-Solano will incorporate air quality education into its existing disaster preparedness outreach efforts in vulnerable communities across Yolo and Solano Counties.
- The Solano Resource Conservation District will integrate air quality education into its Suisun Marsh Watershed Program, which provides sixth-grade students in Solano County with hands-on, field-based learning experiences about the environment.
- The Bike Campaign, a Yolo County non-profit that educates people about bicycling, will bring the All Kids Bike Program to local schools to teach kindergarteners how to bike.
- Breathe California Sacramento Region will hold the 5th Annual Breathe Bike Festival in West Sacramento to kick off May is Bike Month.

For more information about the Clean Air Funds grant program, other incentive programs, or to join the mailing list for future grant opportunities, visit: https://www.ysaqmd.org/incentives/.

The Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District's mission is to protect human health and property from the harmful effects of air pollution. As a public health agency, the District is responsible for safeguarding air quality and overseeing air pollution control in Yolo and northeastern Solano counties, including the cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville. For more information, visit <u>ysaqmd.org</u>. Connect with the Air District via <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X, LinkedIn</u> and <u>Nextdoor</u>.

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