

# NEWS RELEASE

[baaqmd.gov](http://baaqmd.gov)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 7, 2024  
**CONTACT:** [communications@baaqmd.gov](mailto:communications@baaqmd.gov)

## **Air District's James Cary Smith Community Grant Program uplifts Bay Area communities**

*\$1.5 million available for community groups, neighborhood associations and nonprofits*

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is announcing the availability of \$1.5 million through Cycle 2 of 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 environmental health. Grants must be used to design and implement strategies that support the full involvement and leadership of communities most directly impacted by environmental injustices to influence policy and improve air quality.

“The James Cary Smith Community Grant Program helps position community-driven solutions at the forefront of the fight for cleaner air and environmental justice,” said Dr. Philip Fine, executive officer of the Air District. “Our efforts to provide clean air to all Bay Area residents are strengthened by partnering with those doing this crucial grassroots work, ensuring that those most affected by air pollution can lead the charge in creating healthier communities.”

Cycle 1 of the grant program launched in 2022 and has awarded \$6.4 million to 33 community-based organizations over three years. Grantees have utilized funds to launch environmental justice leadership academies, facilitate community education and develop bilingual community outreach workers.

The maximum amount for an individual grant is \$300,000 over three years, with a maximum of \$100,000 per year. Projects must be located within the Air District's jurisdiction and preference will be given to environmental justice communities.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Pacific Time on January 7, 2025. For additional information and to apply, visit [www.baaqmd.gov/communitygrants](http://www.baaqmd.gov/communitygrants).

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

###

---

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