

FEATHER RIVER AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM  
02/27/2017

TO: FRAQMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Christopher D. Brown AICP, APCO

SUBJECT: Informational item on FRAQMD grant programs

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**BACKGROUND:**

The District currently administers three grant programs on an annual basis: The Blue Sky Program, the Mini Grant Program, and the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program.

Summary of estimated 2017 grant program funding:

Grant Program	Funding Level	Status
Blue Sky AB2766	\$200,000	RFP late summer
Blue Sky AB923	\$350,000	RFP late summer
Mini Grant Program	\$10,000	Accepting applications until May 31, 2017
Carl Moyer	\$300,000	Accepting applications until March 10, 2017

**Blue Sky Program**

The Blue Sky Program is funded through DMV renewal fees and is authorized by California Health and Safety Code sections 44220-44247 (AB 2766 and AB 923). The District has typically around \$350,000 available for the AB 923 portion and \$200,000 for the AB 2766 portion each year. Eligible projects must reduce emissions from motor vehicles. In addition, the AB 923 funding has been prioritized by the FRAQMD Board to be spent on replacement of school buses.

The District typically issues a Request for Proposals late summer to early fall. The District holds a public workshop during the RFP to present information on the program and answer questions. Funding is typically awarded at the December Board meeting.

Examples of past AB 2766 proposals includes transit oriented projects (expansion of park and ride facilities, local bus route expansions, and discount monthly bus passes), bicycle promotion and education programs, and pesticide container recycling promotion events. The District's Blue Sky Program prioritizes projects that have broad support

from other agencies and the community.

Example Blue Sky Projects:

Commuter Bus for Yuba-Sutter Transit:



New School Buses:



Bike Lanes and Sharrows:



### Mini Grant Program

The Mini Grant Program is funded by fees paid to the Department of Motor Vehicles for vehicle registration. The purpose of the Mini Grant Program is to fund projects that provide an air quality public benefit in Yuba and Sutter counties by reducing emissions generated by registered vehicles, with a relatively low cost and quick turnaround. The Mini Grant Program was authorized by the FRAQMD Board of Directors in August of 2015. The Program allocation for fiscal year 2016/2017 was \$10,000 from the FRAQMD's AB2766 funding (section 44220 through 44247 of the California Health and Safety Code). No individual project can receive more than \$2,000.

The types of projects that are eligible to apply for the Mini Grants must reduce vehicle miles travelled directly or through public education programs. The projects should benefit the people of Yuba and Sutter counties. Ideal projects will tie into larger efforts to reduce pollution from motor vehicles.

Examples of eligible projects for the Mini Grant Program include:

- May Is Bike Month energizer stations for May 2017 in Yuba/Sutter Counties
  - Up to \$100 per station
- The purchase of flags to initiate the School Flag Program ([http://www.airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=school\\_flag\\_program.index](http://www.airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=school_flag_program.index))
  - Up to 100% cost of flags
- Funding for publicly accessible bicycle racks
  - Up to 100% cost of racks
- Grants for teachers to provide air quality curriculums
- “Kickstarter” grants for larger bicycle and pedestrian projects
- Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

### Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program

The District announced the 19<sup>th</sup> year of the Carl Moyer Program in December, 2016. The Carl Moyer Program is authorized in HSC 44275-44299.2 and provides grants to offset the incremental cost of projects that reduce emissions from primarily diesel

engines. The District targets agricultural diesel engine repowers, electric conversions of irrigation engines, and off-road equipment replacement projects. The Carl Moyer Program has become very popular since the District introduced the option to replace pre-1994 agricultural tractors with new, emissions certified tractors, and the program is usually oversubscribed each year.

The amount of funding typically available each year from the California Air Resources Board is approximately \$310,000 for projects. The program also benefits from the use of the optional Off-Site Mitigation Program in which projects undergoing California Environmental Quality Act review may offset the emissions generated by their project by funding Carl Moyer Program projects. The California Air Resources Board issues the guidelines for the Carl Moyer Program and has oversight authority. Each of the projects is tracked throughout the life of the project (one to ten years), is required to report usage annually, and is subject to audit.

This year's Carl Moyer Program is accepting applications until March 10, 2017. Applications are available at the District office and online at the District website. Example Moyer Projects:

Off-Road Equipment Replacement – replacing an old tractor with a new, emissions certified tractor.



Electrification of Irrigation Wells:  
Replacing a diesel engine with an electric motor



Repowering with a new, emissions-certified engine:



The emission reductions achieved through the Carl Moyer Program, the Mini Grant Program, and the Blue Sky Program improve air quality for the residents of Yuba and Sutter counties and assist the area with meeting National and California ambient air quality standards and reduce toxic air contaminants.

DISCUSSION:

N/A, Informational item only

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A, Informational item only