BOARD MEETING DATE: November 6, 2026 AGENDA NO. 7

PROPOSAL: Issue Program Announcement and Execute Agreements for AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program

SYNOPSIS: AB 617 was signed into California state law in July 2017 and focuses on improving air quality and reducing exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants in communities most impacted by air pollution. The AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program is an incentive-based program that will provide a total of $20 million in funding for private and public entities to implement road paving projects in AB 617-designated communities, Consistently Nominated Communities and Disadvantaged Communities as defined by SB 535, based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health and environmental hazard criteria. These actions are to: 1) issue, and if necessary, re-issue a Program Announcement to solicit applications for eligible road paving projects in the South Coast AQMD; and 2) execute agreements for eligible road paving projects based on the results of the Program Announcement from the Community Air Protection Program Fund (77).

COMMITTEE: Stationary Source, October 16, 2026; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Issue, and if necessary, re-issue Program Announcement (PA) PA#2027-05 to solicit eligible road paving projects from public and private entities, including paving of unpaved roads, bike paths, and sidewalks; and
2. Authorize the Chair (or by the Chair's designation, the Executive Officer) to execute and, if necessary, amend agreements with eligible applicants to implement paving projects in an amount up to $20 million from the Community Air Protection Program Fund (77).

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

AHJ:WS:RD:PM

Background
Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) was signed into California state law in July 2017 and focuses on improving air quality and reducing exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants in overburdened communities most impacted by air pollution. There are currently six AB 617 communities within South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction that include:

- East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce
- San Bernardino, Muscoy
- Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach
- Eastern Coachella Valley
- Southeast Los Angeles
- South Los Angeles

South Coast AQMD is moving into the next phase of AB 617 to implement Blueprint 2.0 by expanding implementation beyond the six AB 617 communities and providing incentives for Consistently Nominated Communities (CNCs) and Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) which is defined by SB 535 as communities based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health and environmental hazard criteria. South Coast AQMD's AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program is an incentive program designed to focus on paving of unpaved roads (e.g., mobile home parks, public roads), bike paths, and sidewalks, providing a reduction in emissions of PM10 in AB 617-designated communities, CNCs and SB 535 DACs. Specifically, the AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program will provide financial incentives to public and private entities to implement paving projects and reduce PM10 emissions in the most overburdened communities. Additional co-benefits of paving bike paths and sidewalks relate to improved mobility and active forms of transportation, which may reduce vehicle miles traveled and the associated emissions.

Proposal
This action is to issue and, if necessary, re-issue PA#2027-05 to implement paving projects in overburdened communities including paving unpaved roadways such as mobile home parks and public roads, bike paths, and sidewalks.

Up to $20 million is available from the Community Air Protection Incentive funds for public and private entities implementing paving projects located within AB 617-designated communities, CNCs and DACs within the South Coast AQMD region. Applications will be evaluated based on requirements in the PA and the Community Air Protection Incentive Guidelines.

Paving project applications will be due Friday, March 5, 2027 at 2:00 pm. To expedite implementation of the paving projects in overburdened communities, staff is requesting

that the Chair (or by the Chair's designation, the Executive Officer) execute agreements with eligible applicants of the PA, based upon staff recommendations from the Community Air Protection Program Fund (77).

Outreach
In accordance with South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure, a public notice advertising the PA and inviting bids will be published in the Los Angeles Times, the Orange County Register, the San Bernardino Sun, and Riverside County's Press Enterprise newspapers to leverage the most cost-effective method of outreach to the South Coast Basin.

Additionally, potential bidders may be notified utilizing South Coast AQMD's own electronic listing of certified minority vendors. Notice of the PA will be emailed to the Legislative Caucuses and various minority chambers of commerce and business associations, and placed on the Internet at South Coast AQMD's website (http://www.aqmd.gov) where it can be viewed by making menu selection "Grants & Bids."

Other efforts to promote the AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program may include but is not limited to: 1) mass email announcements to all CSCs and interested parties' lists; 2) press releases; 3) outreach to public and private road paving entities in the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction; and 4) increasing social media presence via South Coast AQMD's social media accounts.

Bid Evaluation
Applications will be evaluated based on requirements in the PA and the Community Air Protection Incentive Guidelines.

Benefits to South Coast AQMD
Paving unpaved roadways will reduce emissions of PM10 within the AB 617-designated communities, CNCs and DACs and will improve public health. Vehicular activities and winds that impact unpaved roads are major sources of fugitive dust, which primarily consists of PM10. Exposure to elevated levels of PM10 can cause various adverse health problems related to the lungs and heart, including premature death in people with heart or lung disease. Additionally, paving bike paths and sidewalks improves mobility and encourages active forms of transportation, which may reduce vehicle miles traveled and the associated emissions.

Resource Impacts
Funding up to $20 million for the AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program will be provided from the Community Air Protection Program Fund (77). Sufficient funding is available in the Community Air Protection Fund (77) for the AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program.

Attachment
Program Announcement PA#2027-05 for the Implementation of the South Coast AQMD Assembly Bill 617 Regional Paving Program.

South Coast AQMD
Assembly Bill (AB) 617 Regional Road Paving Program

SOUTH COAST AQMD
PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT PA#2027-05

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (South Coast AQMD) is pleased to announce the Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) Regional Road Paving Program and requesting applications from public and private entities that seek funding for projects to pave unpaved roadways (e.g., mobile home parks, public roads), sidewalks, or bike paths. The primary purpose of this AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program (Program) is to reduce air pollution from inhalable particulate matter of 10 microns or less (PM10) in Assembly Bill 617 (AB 617) communities, Consistently Nominated Communities (CNCs), and Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as defined by Senate Bill 535 (SB 535).

SECTION I: OVERVIEW

AB 617 was signed into California state law in July 2017 and provides a community-focused action framework to improve air quality and reduce exposure to criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminates in communities most impacted by air pollution. The AB 617 Program requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and air districts to engage with community members in heavily impacted communities to develop strategies to address air quality issues, which includes incentives for both mobile and stationary sources. As part of AB 617, CARB and air districts are implementing the Community Air Protection Program, which is centered on community-informed local emissions and exposure reduction actions to help advance air pollution control efforts, which include targeted incentive funding to accelerate the deployment of cleaner technologies.

CARB's Community Air Protection Program Blueprint 2.0 further commits the program to implement community emissions reduction and monitoring plans for designated communities and to provide additional program support for Consistently Nominated Communities (CNCs) and Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) as defined by SB 535, which is based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria.

This Program aims to reduce emissions of PM10 in AB 617 communities, CNCs, and DACs within the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. This incentive-based program will provide funding to public and private entities that have experience implementing, administering, or overseeing paving projects or related construction projects and are knowledgeable about federal, state, and local laws and regulations, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and/or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, and permit requirements relating to implementation of paving projects. Applicants may decide to hire subcontractor(s) to implement paving projects.

In response to this Program Announcement (PA), interested applicants are required to submit four (4) complete copies of the paving project application in a sealed envelope, plainly marked in

the upper left-hand corner with the name and address of the applicant and the words "Program Announcement PA#2027-05." In addition, submit one (1) electronic copy of the paving project application on a flash drive inside an envelope. All paving project applications must be submitted to:

Procurement Unit
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Dr.
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178

Under the PA 2027-05, application solicitations will remain open for a period of four (4) months, until March 5, 2027. Funding awards may be given to multiple eligible applicants, subject to the availability of funds and the applicant's compliance with the application submittal requirements and selection procedures set forth in this PA. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in rejection of the paving project application without further evaluation.

Schedule of Events

Date	Event
November 6, 2026	PA Released
February 12, 2027	Bidder's Conference*
March 5, 2027	Proposals Due to South Coast AQMD **- No Later Than 2:00 pm**
March through April 2027	Proposal Evaluations
Summer 2027	Anticipated Contract Execution

*Participation in the Bidder's Conference is optional. Such participation would assist in notifying potential bidders of any updates or amendments. The Bidder's Conference will be virtual on Zoom at 2:00 PM on Friday, February 12, 2027. Please contact **MaFe Ruivivar** at (909) 396-3145, or at ab617@aqmd.gov by close of business on Friday, January 29, 2027 if you plan to attend.

SECTION II – PURPOSE

The purpose of this Program is to pave unpaved roadways, sidewalks, and bike paths and provide funding to reduce PM10 emissions and improve air quality in communities disproportionately impacted by air pollution. This Program is administered locally through South Coast AQMD's Community Engagement and Air Programs division. At least $20 million is available under this PA through AB 617 Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentive funds.

In preparation of this PA, the words "Applicant" and "Recipient" are used interchangeably. All applications will be evaluated based on the criteria set forth in this PA, the Community Air Protection Incentive Guidelines (Chapter 12), the CARB-approved Paving Project Plan (Plan) developed by South Coast AQMD, and any subsequent updates and modifications/advisories to the guidelines and/or the Plan. Any tax obligation associated with an award is the responsibility of the grantee.

For this PA, up to one hundred percent (100%) of South Coast AQMD's AB 617 CAP Incentive funds will target paving projects in AB 617 Communities, CNCs, and DACs. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) in the California

Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) has developed the SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities Map (2026) to identify DACs. OEHHA used the following four factors to determine DAC designation: 1) census tracts with the highest 25 percent of CalEnviroScreen 5.0 overall scores (2,259 tracts); 2) census tracts with the highest 5 percent of CalEnviroScreen 5.0 pollution burden scores (9 tracts); 3) census tracts that overlap at least 25 percent with a 2022 DAC-designated census tract based on CalEnviroScreen 4.0 (436 tracts); and 4) lands under the control of federally recognized tribes. South Coast AQMD will use the OEHHA DAC Map (2026) to identify paving projects located in a qualifying DAC and will strive to maximize the benefits to these communities. While South Coast AQMD encourages submission of all eligible applications, some projects may not be selected based on their location. South Coast AQMD staff will evaluate all eligible applications and make recommendations to the Governing Board Chair (or by the Chair's designation, the Executive Officer) for final selection of project(s) to be funded.

SECTION III – LEGAL UPDATES AND DEFINITIONS

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Applicant must address any potential conflicts of interest with other clients affected by actions performed by the firm on behalf of the South Coast AQMD. Although the applicant will not be automatically disqualified by reason of work performed for such firms, the South Coast AQMD reserves the right to consider the nature and extent of such work in evaluating the application.

Conflicts of interest will be screened on a case-by-case basis by the South Coast AQMD General Counsel's Office. Conflict of interest provisions of the state law, including the Political Reform Act, may apply to work performed pursuant to this contract. An example of a conflict of interest may occur when a consultant applying on behalf of an applicant for funding under the Program is also contracted with South Coast AQMD.

COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LAWS

Applicants must comply with all federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, codes and regulations. If the application is eligible for funding, all paving activities must be compliant with all applicable federal, state, and local air quality rules and regulations, and will maintain compliance for the full agreement term.

COMPLIANCE WITH LABOR LAWS

If an application is deemed eligible, the applicant will be required to provide any labor violations that have occurred within the last three years to be further considered for an award. If awarded, the recipient will be required to notify South Coast AQMD in writing if they have been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws. As part of their annual report, the recipient will complete a yearly certification in which they will either state that they have not been found by a court or federal or state agency to have violated labor laws or, if such violations have been found, the recipient will give South Coast AQMD details about those violations in the certification. If the recipient has previously provided that information to the South Coast AQMD, they will be required to reattach that previous notification to the certification and provide any additional details about those violations that have not previously been provided. The recipient's yearly certification will be due at the same time as the annual progress reports. South Coast AQMD reserves the right to terminate the agreement with a recipient that has been found to have violated labor laws, and the recipient may be required to

return any and all agreement funds, as determined by South Coast AQMD. The recipient will also ensure that these requirements are included in all subcontracts.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE
Government Code Section 12990 and California Administrative Code, Title II, Division 4, Chapter 5, require employers to agree not to unlawfully discriminate against any employee or applicant because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, or age. A statement of compliance with this clause is included in all South Coast AQMD contracts.

ECONOMIC SANCTIONS (RUSSIA/UKRAINE)
On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Oder N-6-22 (EO) regarding sanctions in response to Russian aggression in Ukraine. Applicants who are considered eligible for Program funds under this Program Announcement and received executed contracts from South Coast AQMD, are obligated to comply with existing economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine.

DEFINITIONS

California Environmental Quality Act
The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). was adopted in 1970 and incorporated in the Public Resources Code §21000-21177. Its basic purposes are to: inform governmental decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental effects of proposed activities; identify ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced; require changes in projects using alternatives or mitigation measures when feasible; and disclose to the public the reasons why a project was approved if significant environmental effects are involved. CEQA applies to projects undertaken, funded or requiring an issuance of a permit by a public agency (Additional details are available at: http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/frequently-asked-questions).

Consistently Nominated Communities
Under the AB 617 Program, a consistently nominated community is a community identified as heavily impacted by air quality burdens and have been either self-nominated or recommended by community-based organizations or an air district since 2018 and *are not part* of the six (6) AB 617-designated, CARB-approved communities located within the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. These six AB 617-designated communities are:

- East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, West Commerce (ELABHWC)
- San Bernardino, Muscoy (SBM)
- Wilmington, Carson, West Long Beach (WCWLB)
- Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV)
- Southeast Los Angeles (SELA)
- South Los Angeles (SLA)

Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)
DACs are areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards and areas with a concentration of people that are of low income, high unemployment, low levels of home ownership, high rent burden, or low levels of educational attainment. According to state law (SB 535 De Leon, Statutes of 2012), CalEPA designates these communities based on

geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazard criteria. These criteria include 1) Census tracts with the highest 25 percent of CalEnviroScreen 5.0 overall scores (2,259 tracts); 2) Census tracts with the highest 5 percent of CalEnviroScreen 5.0 pollution burden scores (9 tracts); 3) Census tracts that overlap at least 25 percent with a 2022 DAC-designated census tract based on CalEnviroScreen 4.0 (436 tracts); and 4) Lands under the control of federally recognized tribes. South Coast AQMD will use the OEHHA DAC Map (2026) to identify projects located in a qualifying DAC. This map is available at: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/2a6d7617a76b499ebc0bf79319e9fc92/page/SB-535-Disadvantaged-Communities

High Albedo Paving Material

For purposes of this Program, "high albedo paving material" refers to a paving material or surface treatment designed to reflect a relatively high proportion of incoming solar radiation and reduce the amount of solar energy absorbed by the paved surface. High-albedo paving materials may include light-colored or reflective asphalt, concrete, coatings, or other pavement technologies that demonstrate increased solar reflectance compared to conventional paving materials. Materials proposed to meet the high-albedo requirement shall be subject to South Coast AQMD review and approval.

National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 established national policies and goals for the protection of the environment. NEPA directs all federal agencies to consider the environmental effects of their decision making and to prepare detailed environmental impact statements (EIS) on recommendations or reports on paving project applications for legislation and other major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the environment. NEPA is divided into two titles. Title I outlines a basic national charter for protection of the environment. Title II establishes the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) which monitors the progress made toward achieving NEPA goals, advises the president on environmental issues and provides guidance to other federal agencies on compliance with NEPA (Additional details are available at: http://www.aqmd.gov/home/rules-compliance/ceqa/air-quality-analysis-handbook/frequently-asked-questions).

Project Implementation

Project Implementation is the period between contract execution and South Coast AQMD receipt of photo documentation of completed grant-funded paved area. Project Implementation must follow the schedule included in the executed contract.

Project Life

Project Life is the time the applicant(s) is required to maintain the completed grant-funded paved area. The Project Life for this Program Announcement is a minimum of five (5) years from the date of completion of Project Implementation. During this time, entities must conduct regular and as-needed maintenance (e.g., fixing potholes, lane re-striping, street cleaning). Regular and as-needed maintenance may be conducted through professional services or completed by the property owner(s). Additionally, applicant(s) must provide annual photo documentation of maintained paving property and make the paving property available for inspection upon request by South Coast AQMD and/or CARB. Entity shall conduct maintenance as required by South Coast AQMD and/or CARB from inspections.

Sensitive Receptor

Sensitive Receptors are children, elderly, asthmatics and others who are at a heightened risk of negative health outcomes due to exposure to air pollution. The locations where these sensitive receptors congregate are considered sensitive receptor locations. Sensitive Receptor locations may include hospitals, schools, and day care centers, and such other locations as the air district board or California Air Resources Board may determine (California Health and Safety Code § 42705.5(a)(5)).

South Coast AQMD Jurisdiction

The South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for all of Orange County and large portions of Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. This area of 10,743 square miles is home to approximately 17 million people–about half the population of the state of California. It is the second most populated urban area in the United States and one of the smoggiest. Visit http://www.aqmd.gov/nav/about/jurisdiction for more information.

SECTION IV – FUNDING CATEGORY

A total of $20 million in Community Air Protection (CAP) Incentive funds is available for implementation of this Program. The Program will be administered by the South Coast AQMD in accordance with the AB 617 CAP Incentive Chapter 12 guidelines and applicable Program requirements. The solicitation will remain open for a period of four (4) months. Funding awards may be given to multiple eligible applicants, subject to the availability of funds and the applicant's compliance with the application submittal requirements and selection procedures set forth in Sections V and VIII, respectively. An eligible applicant may receive funding no more than once per Program Announcement (PA) cycle. Funding awards are subject to South Coast AQMD review and approval and may not exceed the amount of funding available under the Program.

The Program may provide funding for up to hundred percent (100%) of eligible project costs, subject to the availability of Program funds and applicable funding limitations. In addition to eligible project costs, applicants may budget up to twenty-five percent (25%) of the awarded grant amount for eligible non-construction costs, including, but not limited to, permitting, design, and administration. Applicants may also budget up to thirty percent (30%) of the awarded grant amount for contingency costs associated with unforeseen project expenses, such as permitting delays, material acquisition, and cost escalation due to inflation. Applicants need to inform vendors of the time frame of the award process so that they can accurately quote costs based on the anticipated order/purchase date.

Co-funding may be permitted on a case-by-case basis, subject to approval by South Coast AQMD. Applicants requesting co-funding must provide a justification for the need for co-funding as part of the application submittal. The justification should identify the total project cost, the amount of funding requested from the Program, the amount and source of other funding, and the rationale for requiring multiple funding sources. All proposed costs and funding sources are subject to South Coast AQMD review and approval and must comply with the applicable Program requirements.

Projects Eligible for Funding:

- Eligible projects include well-traveled unpaved roads, parking lots, and other unpaved areas located near sensitive receptors including, but not limited to, homes, schools, and

senior centers.
- Projects must provide road paving, sidewalk improvements and/or bicycle infrastructure. Participants must meet all the required criteria listed in this chapter and agree that paving projects will meet all local, State, and federal statutes, rules, and regulations.

The following projects are not eligible for funding:

- Routine maintenance and rehabilitation projects.
- Paving activities as part of new development projects.

The following costs are eligible for funding:

- Supplies, equipment, and materials necessary to complete the project.
- Labor and construction costs, including contracted services, mobilization, and traffic control.
- Signs and interpretive aids that communicate information about the paving project.

The following costs are ineligible to receive funding:

- All other permits not related solely to paving projects.
- Any cost not directly related or maintenance activities (e.g., pothole repair, lane re-striping, street sweeping). beyond what is required to complete the project.
- Costs incurred outside of the performance period.
- Indirect or overhead costs incurred generally as part of normal business operations within an organization.
    a) An example of indirect costs is salaries and benefits of employees not directly assigned to work on the project
    b) Other examples of overhead costs are rent, utilities, and general office supplies

No purchase orders may be placed, or work performed under this PA until after the date of contract execution. Any orders placed or payments made in advance of an executed contract with the South Coast AQMD are at the applicant's expense. The South Coast AQMD has no obligation to fund the project until a contract is fully executed by both parties. All project costs shall be clearly indicated in the paving project application.

SECTION V – APPLICATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

The following information and/or documentation are required as part of the application submission:

- A list of all properties proposed for paving, including the rationale for prioritizing each property for paving.
- A description of each proposed project site, including:
    - Location and current use;
    - Size of the area proposed for paving;
    - Existing site conditions;
    - Photographs documenting the current condition of the project site;
    - Identification of nearby sensitive receptors, if applicable;
    - Current and anticipated vehicle use at the project site; and

  - Existing dust control measures, if applicable, including the frequency at which unpaved areas are treated.
- The estimated paving cost for each property and the total project cost, including a detailed breakdown of all eligible costs and anticipated expenses. At least two vendors or subcontractor quotes for the proposed work, if applicable, where each quote must be dated within 90 calendar days prior to the application submission date.
- A document showing the applicant is either the owner of the area to be paved or has authority to pave the area, or control it through a long-term lease, easement, or other legal arrangement, for the duration of the project life. For a proposed project where the land is not owned by the applicant, an executed lease agreement or letters of commitment lasting for the duration of the project life must be signed by property owners/authorized representatives and must be submitted with the application.
- A commitment to maintain the paved area, conduct as-needed maintenance such as repairing any potholes and re-painting of lines throughout the Project Life
- A narrative describing applicants' paving or construction related work experience, including a minimum of two examples for each applicant demonstrating successfully implemented paving or construction related projects (e.g., photos and past completion reports); examples of paving projects in mobile home parks, bike paths, sidewalks are preferred
- A list of personnel (e.g., project manager) who will be implementing the paving project(s) and their contact details
- Physical address of the applicant's office location
- Documentation demonstrating that all property taxes are current before paving and that the property(ies) is (are) in compliance with all federal, state, and local requirements
- A commitment to provide copies of all permits required to complete the paving project and copies of existing permits for the project site, permit application for properties in the process of obtaining permits, or proof of exemption from permitting requirements
- A commitment to comply with the most current versions of any applicable South Coast AQMD rules, including but not limited to, Rule 402 – Public Nuisance and Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust
- A commitment detailing that all paving activities be conducted and all work performed in conformance with the California Uniform Building Code, CalTrans 2018 Standard Specifications for asphalt and aggregate mixes, and all other applicable federal, state, and local statutes, rules, regulations, and ordinances
- A commitment to provide documentation that demonstrates compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and/or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), or proof of exemption
- A commitment to ensure regular and as-needed maintenance of the paved project area is conducted throughout Project Life, and to submit and adhere to a Maintenance Plan
- A commitment to making all paving project(s) available for post-inspection if requested by South Coast AQMD and/or CARB during the Project Life
- A Schedule of Deliverables and Payment Schedule outlining the payment terms in accordance with Section VI: Work Statement and List of Deliverables
- Document(s) demonstrating conflicts of interest
- Additional documents, if needed

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all information submitted is accurate and complete. If the applicant hires a subcontractor(s) to implement the paving project, it is the

responsibility of the applicant to submit all required information on behalf of the subcontractor(s) and ensure that all information submitted is accurate and complete.

SECTION VI: WORK STATEMENT AND LIST OF DELIVERABLES

WORK STATEMENT

Selected applicants shall perform the work specified in the List of Deliverables. Applicants shall be responsible for submitting a Schedule of Deliverables and Payment Schedule consistent with the Work Statement and List of Deliverables outlined in this section.

Task	List of Deliverables
Project Documents	Submit these following documents to South Coast AQMD: • Site plans and project specifications necessary to calculate the emission reductions resulting from the paving project • Detailed cost estimates for the proposed paving project • Executed Right-of-Entry Agreements, as applicable, and documentation demonstrating that appropriate public outreach has been conducted for the proposed project • Documentation from each property owner authorizing the applicant to implement the proposed paving project on the property • Documentation demonstrating that all applicable property taxes are current and that the proposed paving project site is in compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local requirements • Documentation demonstrating compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and/or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as applicable, or documentation demonstrating that the project is exempt from such requirements • Documentation of all permits and approvals required to complete the proposed paving project, including copies of existing permits for the project site, permit applications for permits that are pending, or documentation demonstrating that the project is exempt from applicable permitting requirements • Documentation from the property owner demonstrating a commitment to comply with the project's maintenance requirements throughout the Project Life, including responsibility for preventive maintenance costs necessary to maintain the paved surface in accordance with Program requirements. The property owner shall also agree to make the project site available for inspection upon request by South Coast AQMD and/or CARB throughout the Project Life
Project Advertisement and Contract Awarding	Submit the following documents to South Coast AQMD, if applicable: • Documentation of public outreach, contractor selection

	process, and selected contractor • Project Implementation Plan detailing construction phase
Construction	Submit these following documents to South Coast AQMD: • Pictures of completed paving for each property • Maintenance Plan • Quarterly Progress Report and Check-In meeting with South Coast AQMD throughout Project Implementation
Maintenance	• Submit Annual Maintenance Report throughout Project Life to South Coast AQMD

SECTION VII: PAVING PROJECT APPLICATION SUBMISSION

All paving project applications must be submitted according to specifications set forth herein. Failure to adhere to these specifications may be cause for rejection of the paving project application without evaluation.

Grounds for Rejection:

A paving project application may be immediately rejected if the paving project application is:

- Submitted after the submittal deadline; or
- Does not include correct documentation and other forms required; or
- Not signed by an individual authorized to represent the contractor.

Missing Information:

Within sixty (60) South Coast AQMD business days of the submittal deadline, South Coast AQMD will email letters to applicants regarding any missing or incomplete information. Applicants will have twenty-one (21) South Coast AQMD business days to provide any missing information requested in the letter. It will be the applicant's responsibility to submit the missing or incomplete information within the time specified by South Coast AQMD staff. Only complete applications can move forward in the evaluation process.

Certifications and Representations

Contained in this PA are six business forms, which must also be completed and submitted with the paving project application.

Methods of Delivery:

The AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program will remain open for solicitation for four (4) months, from November 6, 2026 through March 5, 2027. **Applications must be submitted no later than 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 5, 2027,** and should be directed to:

Procurement Unit
South Coast Air Quality Management District
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178

(909) 396-3520

Submittal - Submit four (4) complete copies of the paving project application in a sealed envelope, plainly marked in the upper left-hand corner with the name and address of the applicant and the words "Program Announcement PA#2027-05." In addition, include one electronic version of the paving project application on a flash drive at the time of submittal.

Late paving project applications will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Disposition of Paving Project Applications

The South Coast AQMD reserves the right to reject any or all paving project applications. All responses become the property of the South Coast AQMD. One copy of the paving project application shall be retained for South Coast AQMD files. Additional copies and materials will be returned only if requested and at the applicant's expense.

Modification or Withdrawal

Once submitted, paving project applications cannot be altered without the prior written consent of South Coast AQMD.

SECTION VIII: PAVING PROJECT APPLICATION EVALUATION/CONTRACTOR SELECTION CRITERIA

Paving project applications received during the PA solicitation period will be reviewed and scored by a selection panel consisting of two (2) to three (3) South Coast AQMD staff members. A subject matter expert from an external agency may also be included on the selection panel, as appropriate. Each selection panel member will have equal weight in evaluating and scoring the applications. The final score for each application will be calculated as the average of the scores assigned by all selection panel members.

Applications will be evaluated and scored based on the criteria outlined below. The bulleted items in the table are non-exhaustive and South Coast AQMD may utilize additional methods, where needed, to score an application for any given criteria. Applications requesting funds to pave unpaved roads resulting in PM10 emissions reductions will be prioritized over applications requesting funds solely for sidewalks and/or bike paths.

Scoring Criteria for AB 617 Regional Road Paving Program Applications

Scoring Criteria	Points Available
Cost-Effectiveness and Air Quality Benefit • Total PM10 emissions reduced • Cost of paving per ton per year PM10 reduced • Cost of paving per linear foot of bike path or sidewalk • Applicant cost sharing and other available funding	**0 - 40**
Applicant Qualifications	**0 – 25**

• Applicant's previous experience implementing paving projects	
Project Readiness • Timeliness and robustness of paving project application*	**0 – 20**
Other Benefits • Pre-paving property preparation design (e.g., land compaction) • Flood prevention elements (e.g., retention basin) • Accessibility improvements (e.g., wheelchair ramps, roundabout/hammerhead turnarounds, speed bumps)** • Addition of a landscaping component, "high albedo" and/or "cool pavement," or other climate resistance measure • Addition of green space and/or tree planting***	**0 – 15**
Total Points Available:	**100**

* Timeliness and robustness of the paving project application refers to the extent the paving project application is developed and ready for implementation. Applications that are complete and include all necessary permissions, documentation, details of paving activities (e.g., timelines, contracting entity), etc. will likely receive full points.

** Expenses associated with green space and/or tree planting will not be covered under this PA and must be funded by the applicant or through other funding sources.

*** Accessibility may refer to several features that increase the project's accessibility to community members with disabilities (e.g., wheelchair ramps, designated parking spots, clear signage, detectable warning for visually impaired), school buses (e.g., roundabouts, hammerhead turnarounds), and other benefits that provide improved accessibility to community members.

A minimum score of sixty (60) out of hundred (100) points will be established for an application to be considered for funding under this Program. Applications that meet or exceed the minimum cutoff score, and are competitively qualified, will be presented to the South Coast AQMD Governing Board Chair (or by the Chair's designation, the Executive Officer) for final approval and consideration for a funding award.

PAVING PROJECT EMISSION REDUCTION QUANTIFICATION METHODOLOGY

Paving of unpaved roads is expected to reduce fugitive dust emissions associated with vehicle activity and windblown dust. For purposes of this Program, emission reductions associated with vehicle use within the project area proposed for paving will be attributed to the project. Emission reductions associated with windblown dust are conservatively excluded from the emission reduction calculation and should not be included in the project's quantified emission reductions unless specifically identified and justified in the application submittal.

In addition to reducing fugitive dust emissions, paving unpaved roads may provide relative exposure reductions and other qualitative benefits, including reduced road erosion, improved stormwater runoff, and improved accessibility for people with disabilities.

Emission reductions and associated relative exposure reductions will be determined in accordance with the emission reduction quantification methodology and relative exposure

reduction methodology outlined in CARB approved Paving Project Plan.

SECTION IX – IMPORTANT PROGRAM INFORMATION

- For all paving projects, payment will be made in accordance with the payment terms outlined in the applicant's Payment Schedule in the executed contract.
- Any tax obligation or liabilities associated with the award is the responsibility of the grantee. Please consult your tax advisor on the tax liabilities of receiving a grant award under this Program.
- No third-party contracts will be executed.
- Applicants must ensure that proposed paving sites are available for pre- and post-inspections requested by South Coast AQMD and CARB.
- Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all submitted materials reflect the most current information and requirements.
- In cases where CARB guidelines and South Coast AQMD criteria differ, the more stringent criteria will apply. South Coast AQMD will post updated requirements on its AB 617 CERP website.
- All emission reductions resulting from funded projects will be credited to the AB 617 Program. Awards cannot exceed maximum allowable amounts under the requirements of this PA and the CAP Incentive Guidelines.
- Emission reductions funded by AB 617 CAP Incentive funds may not be claimed by any other funding source

Questions regarding the content or intent of this PA, procedural matters, and/or sample contract can be addressed to:

Robert Dalbeck
Community Engagement and Air Programs
South Coast AQMD
21865 Copley Drive
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Phone: (909) 396-2139
E-Mail: rdalbeck@aqmd.gov

Item	Website Link
Emission Reduction Quantification Methodology	CARB approved Paving Project Plan
CARB Community Air Protection Program Guideline	Community Air Protection Incentives | California Air Resources Board