

**San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District
AB 617 Community Emission Reduction Program**

Commerical Lawn and Garden Emission Reduction Program Plan

***South Central Fresno Community
Shafter Community***

1. Project Identification

***LG.2: INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF COMMERCIAL LAWN
AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT***

This is a Community Identified Project included and prioritized in the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and District adopted South Central Fresno and Shafter Community Emission Reduction Programs (CERP).

This measure will reduce NOx and PM2.5 emissions from commercial lawn equipment by providing incentives to lawn care providers for the replacement of their existing gas- or diesel-powered landscape maintenance equipment with new electric landscape maintenance equipment. In addition, the program provides incentive funds for additional batteries and chargers to ensure that the equipment is capable of operating for a full day of work.

2. Community Support

This measure received support from both the South Central Fresno and Shafter Community Steering Committees and was included in the adopted Community Emission Reduction Program. Information about the Steering Committees is included below:

- (1) Name(s) of the community group(s):**
 - a. South Central Fresno Steering Committee [Map](#)
 - b. Shafter Steering Committee [Map](#)
- (2) Purpose of community group(s)**
 - a. AB617 Community Engagement and Public Input
- (3) Total number of members in the community group(s)**
 - a. South Central Fresno – 34 members
 - b. Shafter – 27 members
- (4) Date(s) of formation/establishment**
 - a. South Central Fresno – December 2018
 - b. Shafter – December 2018
- (5) A description of the decision-making process must be included.**
 - a. South Central Fresno Steering Committee [Charter](#)
 - b. Shafter Steering Committee [Charter](#)
- (6) Community Support Demonstration**

- a. South Central Fresno [CERP](#)
- b. Shafter [CERP](#)

As part of the mechanism for informing the community, this measure will be discussed at Community Steering Committee meetings in addition to outreach activities to inform residents of the program and requirements for participation.

3. Participant Requirements

(A) Commercial Lawn & Garden Program Eligibility

The Commercial CGYM program guidelines are attached to this program plan as Exhibit A. In implementing this CERP measure, the District will follow existing program guidelines and eligibility criteria. Eligible participants include public and private entities and businesses located within South Central Fresno or Shafter communities. Entities must provide commercial scale landscape maintenance either in-house or as a service to residential neighborhoods, business locations and other communities. Entities must also currently use gas or diesel-powered professional landscape maintenance equipment and conduct 100% of their daily maintenance operations within the geographic area of the San Joaquin Valley Air Basin. Participants must submit an application with supporting document to the District and obtain an approved voucher prior to purchasing their new battery powered equipment.

(B) Participant Requirements

The Commercial CGYM program application is attached to this program plan as Exhibit B. A certification section is included in the application and details participant requirements. Participation in the program occurs in three phases: Voucher Application, Voucher Approval and Voucher Redemption.

- (1) Voucher Application: A participant must submit a voucher application for each piece of eligible equipment, a completed first page of IRS Form W-9, a quote for the new equipment, batteries, and charger, along with one of the following documents:
 - a. Public Agencies and Non-Profit Organization: Documentation signed by a duly authorized official with authority to make financing decisions authorizing the submittal of the application and identifying the individual authorized to implement the project.
 - b. Businesses: A copy of the valid, current business licence, which covers the past 12 months from the date of application submittal.
- (2) Voucher Approval: District staff will review submitted voucher applications and issue a voucher if the application is deemed eligible. Participants may then use their voucher at a storefront or online retailer for the purchase of their new, professional grade, battery-power equipment. Upon purchase, participants must surrender their old eligible

equipment to an approved dismantler for permanent destruction. The dismantler will provide the participant with a Destruction Verification Form at the time the old equipment is received, which is required for the claim for payment packet for reimbursement.

- (3) Voucher Redemption: Once a participant has purchased and surrendered their old eligible equipment, they may submit a claim for payment packet to redeem their voucher. A complete claim packet is required as part of the voucher redemption process and must include a completed and signed Claim for Payment Form and voucher, copies of any invoices and receipts for the purchase of the new equipment, and a Destruction Verification Form. District staff will review submitted claim for payment packet and reimburse the participant for eligible costs, up to the approved voucher amount. Participants must maintain ownership of new eligible equipment for a minimum of 3 years and submit a survey form provided by the District commencing one (1) year from the purchase date of the new equipment for the life of the project.

4. Funding Amounts

The approved CERP's include \$40,000 for the Shafter community and \$75,000 for the South Central Fresno community for the implementation of this measure. This funding will provide for the replacement of up to 30 pieces of commercial grade gas powered lawn and garden equipment in Shafter and 60 similar pieces of equipment in South Central Fresno. This funding would benefit entities, such as schools in disadvantaged and low-income communities as well as commercial lawn care providers servicing those public schools.

Table 1 summarizes the eligible new equipment types and incentive amounts available to commercial lawn care providers in the South Central Fresno and Shafter communities through the Commercial CGYM Program. These funding levels represent the maximum incentive amounts based on the type of eligible new equipment to be purchased by the participant. If the purchase price of the new equipment, batteries, and charger are less than the incentive amount, the final amount reimbursed to the participant will be reduced. There are no minimum match requirements to participate in the program; however, participants must pay for any additional costs that exceed the incentive amount. Funding will be limited to \$25,000 annually per applicant. Incentive levels for Public Schools is eligible to entities that are defined as a public school located within the identified communities or a private contractor that is servicing a public school located in the identified communities.

Table 1. Eligible Incentive Amounts by Equipment Type

EQUIPMENT TYPE	MAXIMUM AMOUNT PER EQUIPMENT* (Non Public School)	MAXIMUM AMOUNT PER EQUIPMENT* (Public School)
Edgers, Trimmers, Chainsaws, Pole Saws, Leaf Blowers and Vacuumes	70% of purchase price, up to \$200*	70% of purchase price, up to \$400*
Walk-behind Mowers	70% of purchase price, up to \$750*	70% of purchase price, up to \$750*
Ride-on/Stand-Ride Mowers	70% of purchase price, up to \$15,000*	70% of purchase price, up to \$15,000*
Additional Batteries and Chargers	100% of purchase price for up to two (2) batteries and one (1) charger per piece of equipment purchased*	100% of purchase price for up to two (2) batteries and one (1) charger per piece of equipment purchased*

*Each amount is based on the purchase price of the eligible electric equipment and does not include additional costs such as taxes, fees, accessories and delivery charges. Actual reimbursement of funds to applicant may be reduced depending on final eligible invoiced costs.

The project life varies for the different types of eligible equipment identified above and will be determined with any quantification methodology at a later time.

5. Project Selection and Reporting Requirements

Projects will be approved on a first come, first served basis determined by the submittal of a complete program application.

The District will report program information in accordance with Community Air Protection program guidelines found at:

https://ww3.arb.ca.gov/msprog/cap/docs/cap_incentives_2019_guidelines.pdf.

6. Emission Reduction Targets

The goal of this measure is to reduce NOx and PM2.5 emissions by replacing 30 pieces of commercial grade gas powered lawn and garden equipment in the Shafter Community and 60 similar pieces of equipment in South Central Fresno. There is currently no CARB-approved methodology to quantify emissions reductions for this project category. The District will work with CARB and other air districts to determine a quantification methodology for this category. Emission reductions associated with this measure will be calculated at a later time.