SB 535 FACT SHEET

Waterfront Park, Wilmington, CA

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY THAT HELPS OUR COMMUNITIES

Disadvantaged communities are hit first and hardest by pollution and climate change. Too often, these communities don't get enough public resources to meet crucial needs like public health, good jobs, affordable housing, and clean and affordable transit and energy options.

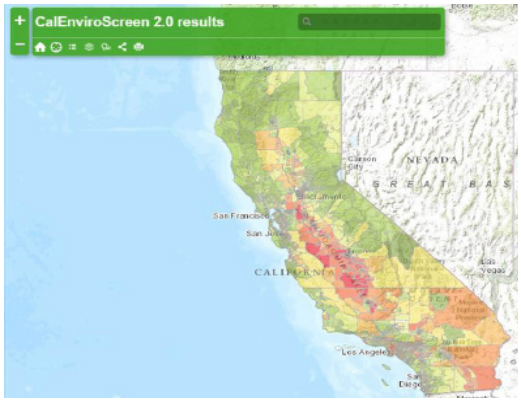
Today, change is on the horizon. Groundbreaking legislation caps our state's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, charges polluters for the damage they cause and directs hundreds of millions of dollars to disadvantaged communities most impacted by climate change. Read on to learn about SB 535 and how your community can benefit.

What does SB 535 do?

California's groundbreaking Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) charges polluters for their GHG emissions, and the money goes into a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). SB 535 requires that at least **25% of these funds go to projects that benefit disadvantaged communities, with at least 10% going to projects located within these communities.** This means hundreds of millions of dollars in investments that promote, clean air, jobs, transportation and energy efficiency, all targeted to benefit the communities hit first and worst by climate change.

CalEnviroScreen

The California Environmental Protection Agency developed a tool called CalEnviroScreen 2.0 to identify communities most impacted by poverty and pollution. Learn more about this tool by visiting http://oehha.ca.gov/ej/ces2.html



AB 32 will generate billions of dollars from the sale of pollution allowances. SB 535 puts a minimum of one quarter of that money into projects that benefit disadvantaged communities.[1]

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How does SB 535 funding reach disadvantaged communities?

AB 32 generates money from the sale of GHG allowances.

AB 1532 creates the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF).

SB 535 drives GGRF money to disadvantaged communities.

The California Air Resources Board and California Environmental Protection Agency develop guidelines for allocation of AB 32 money and identify disadvantaged communities.

The Governor and Legislature allocate funding to priority programs through the annual budget process.

Funding is distributed to agencies overseeing these programs, who then distribute money to local programs through a competitive process.

Agencies distribute money to local programs based on the guidelines and maps of disadvantaged communities.

Funded programs provide data showing that they are fulfilling AB 32 and SB 535 requirements.

Photo credit: © Craig Kuhner Photography

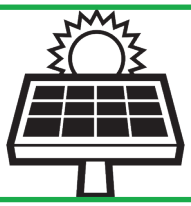
1 "Cap-and-Trade Auction Revenue Expenditure Plan" (2014). California Legislative Analyst Office. http://www.lao.ca.gov/reports/2014/budget/cap-and-trade/auction-revenue-expenditure-022414.pdf

2 "Investments to Benefit Disadvantaged Communities" (2014). California Air Resources Board. http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/auctionproceeds/workshops/arb-sb-535-interim-guidance-08-22-2014.pdf

How can your community benefit from SB 535?

Communities throughout California will begin receiving investments from the GGRF starting in 2015. GGRF funds must be allocated (a) only to projects that reduce greenhouse gases and provide maximum feasible co-benefits while (b) ensuring that SB 535's mandates are met. The first round of SB 535 funding allocates **$272 million for investments in public transit, affordable housing near transit, weatherization for homes, renewable energy, cleaner vehicles and urban forestry.**[2]

Check out the following table and see if a project in your community may qualify for SB 535 funding!

	PROGRAM AREA	FUNDING 2014-2015
	Cleaner Freight Accelerate the transition to low carbon freight and passenger transportation. www.arb.ca.gov	$100 Million
	**Clean Energy** Installation of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. www.csd.ca.gov	$75 Million
	Affordable Housing Near Transit Affordable housing near transit stations that reduces the number of vehicle miles traveled. www.sgc.ca.gov	$65 Million
	Urban Forestry Planting, cultivating, and maintaining trees and related vegetation in urban areas. www.calfire.ca.gov	$18 Million
	Public Transit Support new or expanded bus and rail services. www.calsta.ca.gov	$8 Million
	Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program Program for rail and bus transit operators for capital improvements. www.calsta.ca.gov	$6 Million

SB 535 is a game-changing policy, ensuring that as California works to solve our climate crisis, we invest in the neighborhoods that have suffered the most from pollution and will be most hurt by climate change. We encourage you to stay up-to-date on SB 535 developments by tracking its implementation and joining our list serve. You can do so by emailing Mari Rose Taruc at marirose@apen4ej.org