

The BAAQMD & the Urban Forest Protocol

Carbon Offsets and the Urban Forest Conference
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Introduction



- GHG programs a priority for BAAQMD
- Creating opportunities for regional GHG reductions
- Urban Tree Planting part of BAAQMD Clean Air Plan
- CEQA GHG mitigation measures
- District provides leadership in collaboration w/ stakeholders
- Potential to incentivize





A Beautiful Idea!



- Effects of climate change exacerbates air pollution
- Alluring & significant co-benefits i.e buffer zones
- Localized GHG credits for CEQA, health impacts of infill development,
- Districts taking idea into full consideration
- Urban Re-leaf, Oakland



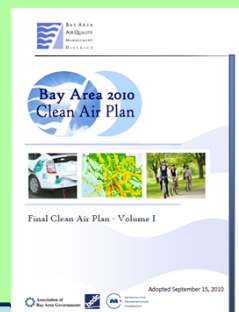
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BAAQMD Clean Air Plan



- Districts regulate regional criteria and toxic pollutants, some GHG's.
- CAP integrated strategy promotes Energy and Climate Measures –Tree Planting
- Emphasizes importance of co-benefits
- Multiple means of getting at GHG reductions



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CEQA



- District provides comments for projects, offsets
- District prefers that offsets be undertaken locally
- District gets technical requests from developers
- Lead agencies must decide if to implement
- Case by case basis for comments



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Other BAAQMD Partners



- Working with local & regional govts. on GHG plans
- Setting down conditions for smart growth
- Tree planting not priority but option for integrated plans
- Coordinating agencies, stakeholders is process
- CAPCOA working group



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Benefits to Project Sponsorship



- Expands Districts' Climate Protection public portfolio
- Grants and Incentives
- Enhances staff auditing and engineering skills
- District could potentially create offset exchange, Emission Credit Reduction bank
- Potential Verification Role



Impracticality of UFP



- 100 year auditing, monitoring & verification commitment
- High cost of CO₂e credits, bad economy
- Significant liability, risk of failure

- GHG's are global pollutant – lower hanging fruit; more critical investments? i.e. Avoided Deforestation?



Charlie Brown Understood What 100 years meant



Where ARE we going?

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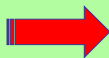
Ongoing District Support



- Climate protection key District commitment
- BAAQMD may get involved in offset market
- BAAQMD will support UFP projects
- May support canopy remote sensing
- The key is to incentivize the tremendous co-benefits



One day???



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Onward!



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