

Proposed

State of California
Air Resources Board

**Proposed Fiscal Years 2021-2024 Triennial
Strategic Research Plan and the Proposed
Research for Fiscal Year 2021-2022**

Resolution 21-5

March 25, 2021

Agenda Item No.: 21-2-2

Whereas, sections 39600 and 39601 of the Health and Safety Code authorize the California Air Resources Board (CARB or Board) to adopt standards, rules and regulations and to do such acts as may be necessary for the proper execution of the powers and duties granted to and imposed upon the Board by law;

Whereas, Health and Safety Code section 39701 states that CARB shall coordinate and collect research data on air pollution, including but not limited to, researching specific air pollution problems and solutions and identifying knowledge gaps;

Whereas, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 39703, CARB has been directed to administer and coordinate all air pollution research funded, in whole or in part, with state funds;

Whereas, staff have developed the "Proposed 2021-2024 Triennial Strategic Research Plan and the Proposed Research for Fiscal Year 2021-2022" (Plan), as set forth in the Staff Report released to the public on CARB's website on March 8, 2021;

Whereas, research included in the proposed Plan will advance the state of the science and support CARB's efforts to meet California's air quality and climate goals by guiding research efforts over the next three fiscal years;

Whereas, the Board has directed CARB to address racial equity and social justice in all aspects of CARB operations through Board Resolution 20-33 and the Research Program is an important part of those operations;

Whereas, the Board finds that:

The proposed Plan satisfies Health and Safety Code Section 39701 which requires CARB to coordinate and collect research data on air pollution,

including researching air pollution problems and solutions and identifying knowledge gaps. The projects proposed for Fiscal Year 2021-22, which are contained in the Plan, are designed to support the development of new policies and regulations, track implementation of existing programs, maximize the benefits of longer-term strategies, and advance the state of the science in the areas of health, environmental justice, air quality, and climate;

The proposed research initiatives in the Plan were developed in an open public process, in consultation with stakeholders and research partners, through individual meetings, two public workshops on September 16, 2020, which was followed by an open public comment period, and other outreach efforts, and these efforts are expected to continue;

The Plan contains a proposal for engagement and commits to examining the research planning process and research topics in the context of racial equity and providing greater opportunity to engage communities during the research planning process and increase its research focus on investigating and addressing inequities in air quality disproportionately impacting communities of color and priority communities;

The proposal is consistent with CARB's environmental justice policies and does not disproportionately impact people of any race, culture, or income.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board hereby approves the proposed Plan and staff's commitment to further developing a racial equity plan beginning this year as set forth in the Staff Report released to the public on CARB's website on March 8, 2021.