

CLEANUP IN VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

YEAR IN REVIEW

Welcome to the CVCI Newsletter!

The ***Cleanup in Vulnerable Communities Initiative*** (CVCI) is Governor Newsom's \$500 million dollar initiative to cleanup vulnerable communities that suffer from multiple and historical sources of pollution. The five-program initiative was launched by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) in July 2021 after the passage of SB 158, the *Hazardous Waste bill*.

The CVCI programs will work over the next four years to meet the goals of the initiative and will share updates through the quarterly newsletter.

Goal: Address environmental inequities in California's most vulnerable communities



The CVCI Programs

Environmentally burdened communities have shown to be historically affected by redlining policies that have affected the health outcomes and inequities of these communities. The CVCI aims to investigate and clean up hazardous sites, while also restoring economic advancement opportunities for communities. The multi-program initiative will be implemented in vulnerable communities in California to restore environmental equity.

SB 158 also allocated \$40 million dollars to DTSC's existing Site Remediation Account program that works on orphan dry cleaning sites.

The Equitable Communities Revitalization Grant (ECRG), \$270 Million

Discovery and Enforcement (D&E) \$152 Million

Workforce Development \$4 Million

Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) \$3.5 Million

Community Benefits Agreement Program (CBA), \$800,000

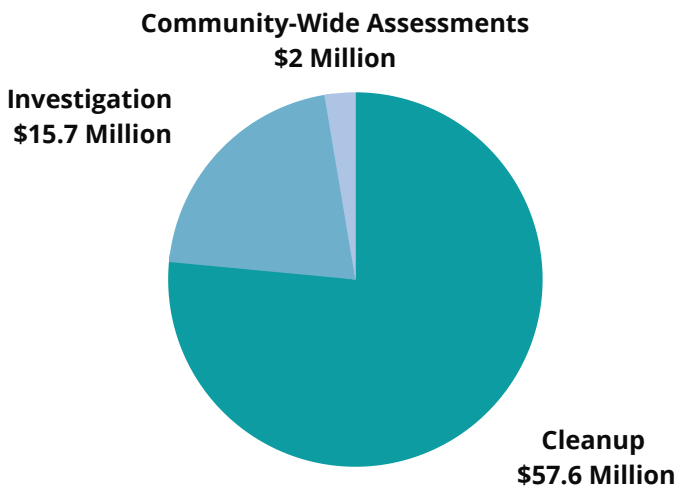
\$74.5 Million for Community Redevelopment Projects

Over 70 million dollars have been invested in vulnerable communities across California through the Equitable Community Revitalization Grant program. Funding was awarded to 53 communities to work on environmental cleanups, environmental investigations, or community-wide assessments.

The funding will expedite the cleanup and beneficial reuse of contaminated properties. ECRG supports the dynamic reuse of underutilized properties that, for too long, have burdened communities with unaddressed environmental impacts. The program is currently working on updating the funding guidelines in preparation for the second round of funding is expected to open in late 2022 or early 2023. Please visit [ECRG's webpage](#) for upcoming news.



ECRG Funding by Project



Engaging the Public

Since the initiative was enacted in July 2021, the CVCI program staff has been providing updates to various environmental justice groups, municipalities, individuals, and other stakeholders. Over 500 individuals have participated in on-line events to learn about CVCI. Three programs have also solicited feedback through online events.

In November 2021, the Discovery and Enforcement and Equitable Revitalization Grant programs each hosted roundtable conversations with over 60 individuals and organizations. The feedback was used to develop the engagement strategies for the programs.

The Technical Assistance Grant program held a polling session in June 2022 to gather feedback on the design of the program. The [on-line poll](#) is open until July 30, 2022.

What is to come for 2022-2023?

More engagement. CVCI programs will be hosting a series of events and meetings to provide regular updates. Visit the CVCI webpage to learn about the upcoming events.

Cleaning Up Dry Cleaning Contamination

The D&E program began investigating [112 current and former dry-cleaners](#) throughout California. The 112 sites will go through the discovery investigation phase, which will provide sampling data for evaluation whether a release has occurred at a site, and if an immediate response action is needed. The state-wide list can be found on DTSC's D&E webpage along with an additional list of 21 orphan dry cleaning sites that have been prioritized for evaluation and cleanup as part of DTSC's Orphan Site Program.

More to Come

The ECRG and D&E programs have launched and are fully engaged in communities across California. Next year, we can expect to see more from the Workforce Development, Community Benefits Agreement and Technical Assistance Grant Programs. These programs will offer job training, economic advancement and direct benefits to vulnerable communities dealing with DTSC cleanup projects. The programs are currently being developed and plan on launching their draft framework in 2022-2023.

ECRG Funded Areas



Key Terms

Vulnerable Communities: CVCI used CalEnviroScreen Scores as one of the main indicators to define vulnerable communities. CalEnviroScreen 3.0 was used for fiscal year 2022-2023 and **CalEnviroScreen 4.0** will be used for the upcoming years.

Discovery Investigations: Obtain regulatory files, evaluate operational history, and collect samples as appropriate to see if further investigation is warranted.

Sign Up Today!

Subscribe to Receive CVCI Program Updates. Click on the links below:

[Community Benefits Agreement](#)
[Technical Assistance Grants](#)
[Discovery and Enforcement](#)
[Equitable Community Revitalization Grant](#)

Visit us at [DTSC's CVCI Webpage](#)

*Maps are not representative of site locations.

Data is based only on grants awarded by the Department of Toxic Substances Control. This does not include applications that were not selected. For a list of all applicants please visit the Equitable Community Revitalization Grant website.