

*The California Environmental Dialogue Perspective:*  
**Voluntary Accelerated Vehicle  
Retirement Program Principles**

Voluntary accelerated vehicle retirement can improve air quality by providing significant and cost-effective emission reductions for California. The sooner we act, the greater the potential positive impact.

The California Environmental Dialogue (CED), a collaborative effort of California businesses, environmental groups and government agencies, has adopted these principles in an effort to provide guidance for an effective voluntary accelerated light-duty vehicle retirement program to reduce ozone air pollution. Several state and local agencies today operate vehicle retirement programs for the purpose of reducing mobile source emissions. We reviewed these programs as well as other approaches. We grappled with balancing cost effectiveness, consumer protection, emission reductions, credit to the air quality plan (“State Implementation Plan (SIP) credit”), incentives, marketing, speed of implementation, fraud prevention, environmental mitigation and other program objectives. We have identified ten program principles that should guide the evolution of voluntary accelerated vehicle retirement.

- 1) **Coordinate Governance** – Statewide coordination, monitoring, and reporting about vehicle retirement would help all the existing state and local programs and any new program to operate more effectively. A coordinated statewide task force, for example, could help ensure technical consistency between programs, provide peer review, allow public input, and encourage sharing of program experience on a timely basis.
- 2) **Implement Auditing and Reporting** – The programs should be audited regularly. The audit should include a fiscal review, and a review of emission benefits, SIP credit, and cost-effectiveness. The audit should be consolidated in to one publicly available report.

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- 3) **Establish Strong Program Standards** – The Carl Moyer Program established standards for heavy-duty mobile source voluntary emission reduction programs. Light-duty accelerated vehicle retirement and programs should be designed with similar program elements. These include cost-effectiveness criteria, SIP credit, safeguards against fraud, statewide guidance and reporting, and also allow for variations by air basin at the discretion of air districts.
  - 4) **Focus on Most Polluted Areas** – Focus resources on the highest emission reductions in the most polluted communities of the worst ozone non-attainment areas in order to maximize reductions in both regional and localized pollution problems.
  - 5) **SIP Credit** – Achieve emission reductions beyond existing programs so that new SIP creditable emission reductions can be obtained. Consult with USEPA to ensure that the emission benefits gained are real, quantifiable, surplus, verifiable and enforceable and result in the highest possible SIP credit for the emission reductions.
  - 6) **Inform Consumers of Consumer Options and Protections** – Information about incentives should be available to all eligible vehicle owners.
  - 7) **Prevent Fraud** – Ensure that candidate retired vehicles are in use in California and have significant useful life remaining.
  - 8) **Utilize Remote Sensing Data (RSD)** – Use tools like on-road remote sensing technology and High Emitter Profiling (HEP) to identify the most polluting vehicles in use as candidates for accelerated vehicle retirement or repair.
  - 9) **Mitigate Environmental Impacts** – Continue to ensure that the environmental impacts of accelerated vehicle scrappage are understood and appropriately mitigated.
  - 10) **Repair Option** – Availability of a cost effective repair option should be considered as an alternative strategy in this pollution reduction program.

# CED Member Organizations



California Environmental Protection Agency



**California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance**



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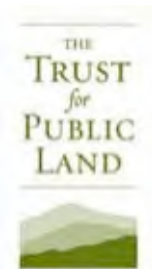
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# California Environmental Dialogue

The mission of the California Environmental Dialogue (CED) is to engage California business, environmental, and government leaders collaboratively to produce timely and improved environmental protection while reducing costs to business, government and society. By engaging in a formal dialogue, CED builds relationships and trust, which allow its members to pursue public and private policies leading to enhanced environmental outcomes and economic efficiencies.

For more information on CED, please visit our website at [www.cedlink.org](http://www.cedlink.org) or contact:

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