



Questions & Answers

BayREN Decarbonization Showcase Application

Q1: Are public school districts eligible applicants, and if so, are they categorized as a local government or a special district?

- A1: No, school districts are not eligible for this program unfortunately.

Q2: Should a local government submit separate applications for each eligible site, or should they submit a single application listing all three sites?

- A2: Each project site should have its own application (i.e. three applications for the three projects).

Q3: If a municipality has previously had a Showcase site, is it less likely to be selected for another building, even if it is a different building type?

- A3: As this is the pilot program, there are currently no past Showcase site projects.

Q4: The webinar Q&A document mentions this program prioritizes projects that will be implemented within 2-5 years. Does that include prioritization for projects that receive gap funding?

- A4: The Showcase will prioritize the approval and allocation of gap funding for projects planned for implementation within a 2- to 5-year timeframe. For projects without identified or secured funding, BayREN's Energy Concierge service is specifically designed to support local governments and special districts in identifying and obtaining the necessary financial resources to bring these types of projects to completion. Therefore, we strongly encourage local governments and special districts with projects in this situation to apply for the Decarbonization Showcase and connect with the Energy Concierge service through [this webpage](#).

Q5: Is this program intended to support a single project or multiple projects?

- A5: The Showcase will enroll a small selection of public buildings – approximately 10 – in different climate zones in the Bay Area. Applicants should submit separate applications for each project site, as projects are evaluated individually.

Q6: What is the ideal project stage/status?

- A6: The ideal project should have both funding and management support but does not need to be shovel-ready. However, projects already under construction are not recommended. The project should be capable of completion within 2 to 5 years from the application submission date. Additional information on preferred key features of a strong candidate for the Showcase can be found on page 3 of the [Program Handbook](#).

Q7: The materials list requirements that the project be funded by outside sources, what level of funding commitment/security is needed at this stage? Would a project that has design funding identified but not confirmed construction funding be appropriate?

- A7: Having funds secured at the time of application is not a firm requirement; however, given the limited gap funding BayREN can provide, if selected, participants are expected to contribute internal funding and/or seek funding or financing from external programs to help cover project costs. A project that has design funding identified but has not yet secured construction funding may still be appropriate for the Showcase. For projects without identified or secured construction funding, BayREN's Energy Concierge service is specifically designed to support local governments and special districts in identifying and obtaining the necessary financial resources to bring these projects to completion. Therefore, we strongly encourage local governments and special districts with projects in this situation to apply for the Decarbonization Showcase and connect with the Energy Concierge service through [this webpage](#). The Showcase will prioritize the approval and allocation of gap funding for projects planned for implementation within a 2- to 5-year timeframe.

Q8: The materials state that the project should not require electrical upgrades—how strict is this requirement? If we intended to use this technical assistance to assess electrical capacity and later discovered that an upgrade to our service was necessary, how would that impact our eligibility?

- A8: This is not a strict requirement. However, the Showcase will prioritize projects that may not require electrical service upgrades, as these could delay construction completion or encounter difficulties in securing additional funding, potentially causing the project to stall. Nonetheless, using technical assistance to assess the need for electrical upgrades is acceptable. Projects that are confident they will not require electrical service upgrades, or those with a proven plan and timeline to implement such upgrades, will be rated more favorably in the evaluation.

Q9: Could you clarify the scope of technical assistance provided?

- A9: The technical assistance component of the Showcase supports the preparation and review of technical sections within bid documents, as well as the evaluation of design and engineering firm qualifications. However, the solicitation of qualified firms and construction project management fall outside the scope of this program, and participants would be responsible for leading these efforts.

Q10: Lastly, does the program provide or identify project management support?

- Q10: An assigned BayREN Project Manager will support the project through program processes and serve as an extension of your team within the program's defined scope. While they will provide valuable support, they will not assume full construction project management responsibilities.