



Local Governments Empowering Our Communities

# Overview of Programs

Sustainability Committee

March 9, 2026

# Who is BayREN

The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) is a **coalition** of the Bay Area's **nine counties** and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) partnering to **promote energy, water and greenhouse gas reduction** for residents, small businesses and local governments.



# 9 Innovative Programs



## For Residents

Support for homeowners, renters and multifamily properties with personalized recommendations for energy upgrades, funding and technical assistance.

- EASE Home
- Home Energy Score
- Green House Calls
- Bay Area Multifamily Enhancements Program



## For Businesses

Free or low-cost help for small and medium businesses to lower emissions, cut costs and improve comfort.

- BayREN Business
- Bay Area Refrigerant Replacement



## For Local Governments

Training, policy guidance and building upgrade services to meet climate targets and reduce long-term operational facility costs.

- Codes & Standards
- Integrated Energy Services
- Targeted Decarbonization Services

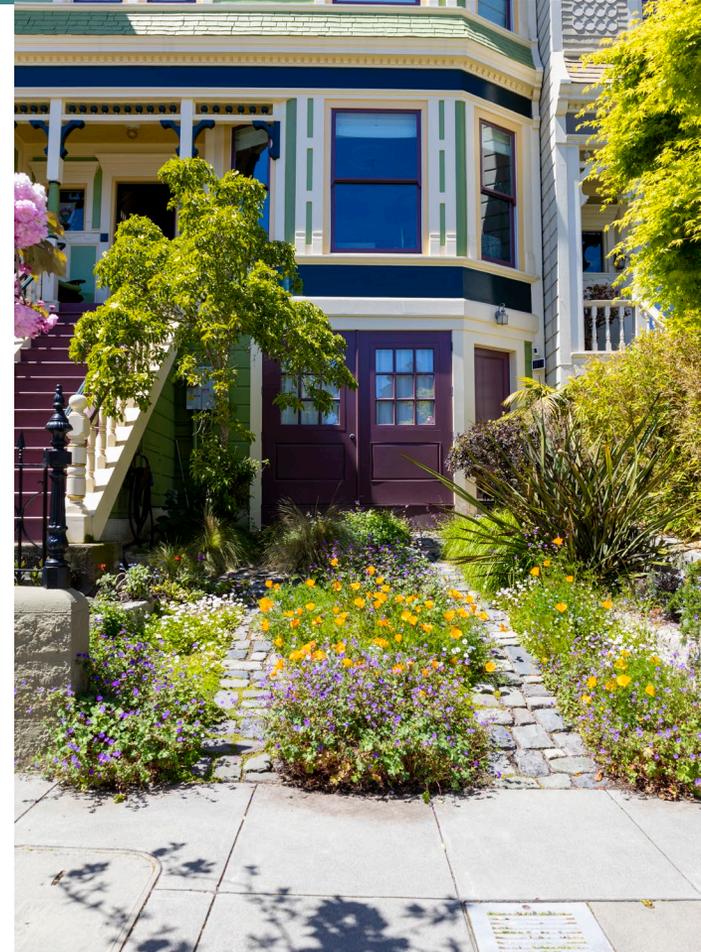
# Efficiency And Sustainable Energy (EASE) Home Program

## What is the EASE Home Program?

- Direct install program focused on providing income-qualified households with core energy efficiency measures
- Customer pays no more than \$1,000 copay; BayREN covers 80% of project costs (~\$5,000 average cost covered per project)
- Fixed pricing for equipment and installation costs

## Who benefits from the program?

- Moderate-income (up to 120% of County Area Median Income) residents.
- Focus on reaching households with limited English proficiency and in pollution burdened census tracts



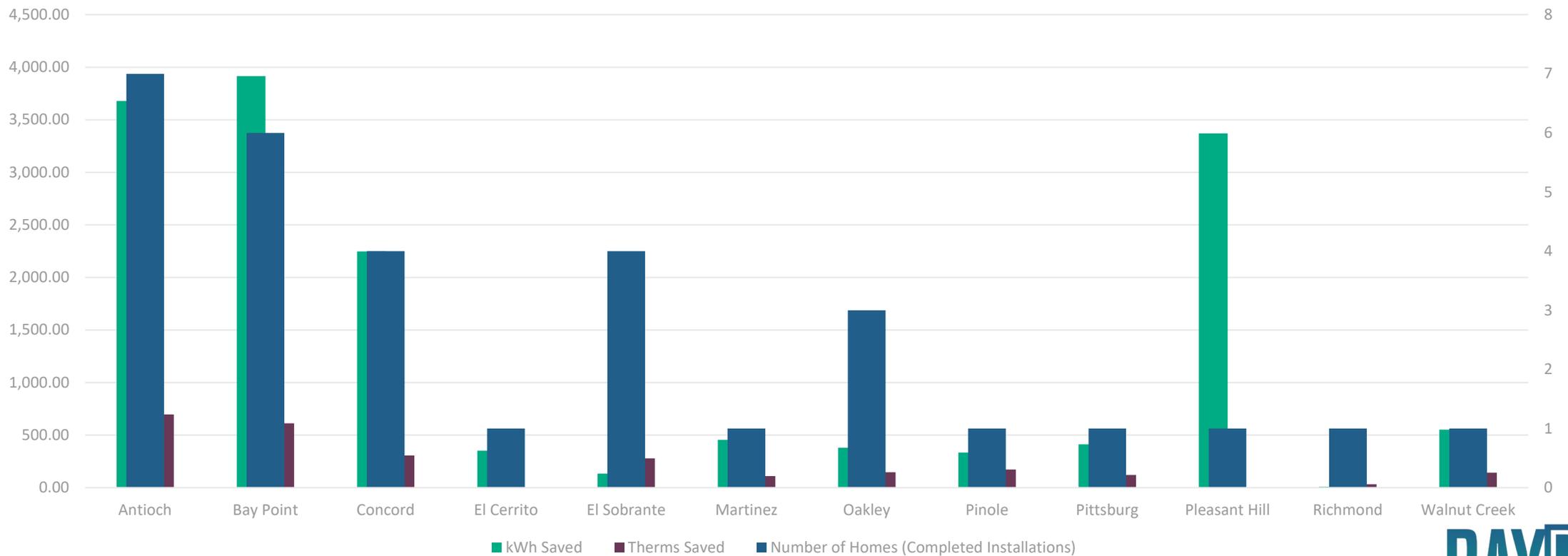
# EASE Home Participation in 2025 by Community

Community	Number of Homes (Completed Installations)	Incentive Covered by BayREN
Antioch	7	\$43,550
Bay Point	6	\$36,494
Concord	4	\$28,153
El Cerrito	1	\$1,500
El Sobrante	4	\$17,826
Martinez	1	\$6,929
Oakley	3	\$11,394
Pinole	1	\$8,072
Pittsburg	1	\$9,935
Pleasant Hill	1	\$6,986
Richmond	1	\$3,986
Walnut Creek	1	\$3,652
Total	31	\$178,477

- Program launched in June 2025
- 31 homes served
- BayREN covered \$178,477 in project costs
- Energy Savings
  - 15,841.6 kWh
  - 11 kW
  - 2,621.4 therms

# EASE Home Program Energy Savings in 2025

EASE Home Program Energy Savings by Community (June-December 2025)



# Resources for Residents



- Contra Costa County
  - Energy efficiency, solar, water efficiency, and clean transportation resources: <https://www.contracosta.ca.gov/9750/Sustainability-Resources>
- BayREN
  - Income qualified residential energy programs and rebates: <https://www.bayren.org/homeowners/income-qualified-programs>
  - General residential energy programs: <https://www.bayren.org/find-incentives>
- Statewide
  - The Switch is On incentive finder by zip code: <https://www.switchison.org/ca>

# Home Energy Score Program

## What is the Home Energy Score Program?

- Certified assessors perform a home inspection walk-through and scores homes on a scale of 1-10
- In 2026, the Home Energy Score Program will be expanded statewide

## Who benefits from the program?

- Residents of single-family homes looking to learn more about their home's energy performance before making upgrades

## Home Energy Score Details

A **Home Energy Score Assessor** will collect information during a home inspection walk-through and score your home on a scale of 1-10.

USES MORE ENERGY

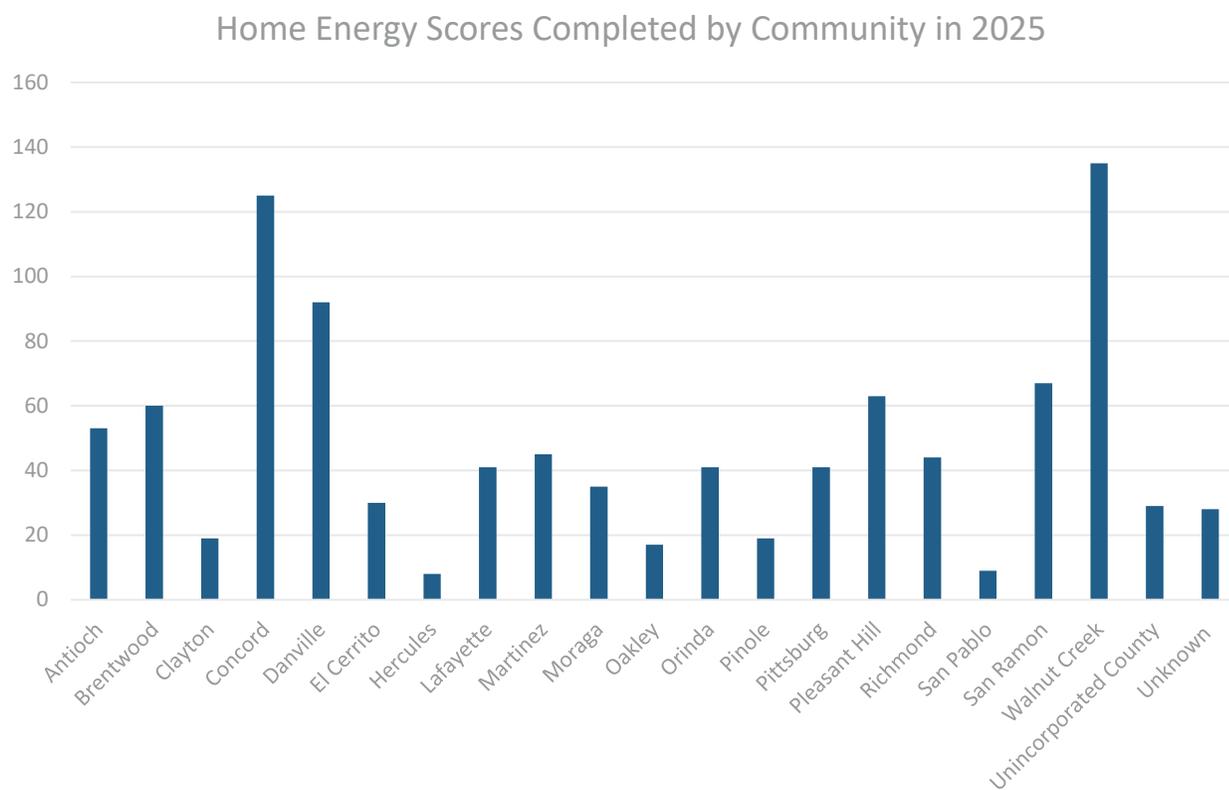
USES LESS ENERGY



A score of 1 indicates the home needs **extensive energy improvements**.

A score of 10 indicates the home has **excellent energy performance**.

# Home Energy Score Program Participation



## 2025

- 1,001 Home Energy Scores were completed in Contra Costa County in 2025
- \$250,250 in rebate incentives was paid out

## All Time

- 8,828 Home Energy Scores were completed in Contra Costa County from 2018-2025
- \$1,600,450 in rebate incentives was paid out

# Green House Call Program

## What is the Green House Call Program?

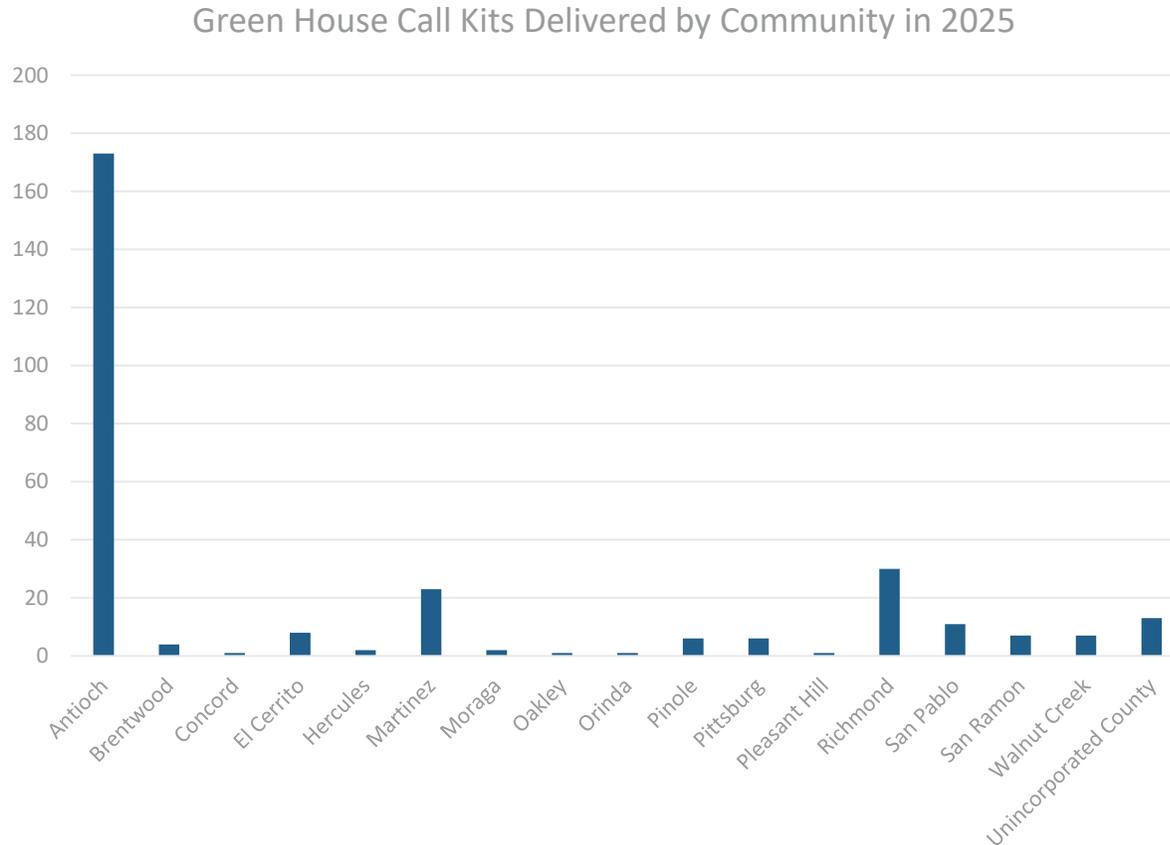
- No-cost energy- and water-saving toolkits including items like LED lightbulbs and sink faucet aerators
- Counties with in-person services have youth energy specialists visit households and assist residents with the installation of energy- and water-efficient devices. Counties without in-person services have toolkits mailed directly to their homes

## Who benefits from the program?

- Residents of single-family and multifamily dwellings



# Green House Call Program Participation



- 2025: 296 kits were mailed to homes in Contra Costa County
- All Time: 1,304 kits were mailed to homes in Contra Costa County. 707 homes were serviced in-person from 2019-2025

# Bay Area Multifamily Building Enhancements Program

## What is the BAMBE program?

- An energy efficiency and gas-to-electric conversion incentive program for multifamily property owners.
- The program offers:
  - Free technical assistance for property owners to assess and develop scope of projects
  - Cash rebates: \$500/base rebate with additional incentives for properties located in communities burdened by extreme heat, air pollution, and high housing costs.

## Who benefits from the program?

- Multifamily property owners and managers
- Residents in participating multifamily buildings; residents living in areas burdened by poor air quality, extreme heat, or high rental costs.

## Program eligibility

- Any multifamily property owner/manager of a property with 5 or more dwelling units who commits to installing 2 or more unique measures that reduce overall building energy use by 10% or more



# BAMBE Incentives

**Base Rebate = \$500/unit**

**Free, no obligation technical assistance for building assessment and project scoping**

**Rebate Adders For:**

Electrification

Health Burden

Heat Burden

Housing Burden

# BAMBE Program Participation

	# Properties	# Units	Total Incentive Payout
San Francisco Bay Area (All-Time)	614	45,237	\$34,000,000
Contra Costa County (All-Time)	61	5,369	\$4,026,750
Contra Costa County (2025)*	1	40	\$84,000

\*BAMBE was paused from July 2025 – February 2026



# BayREN Business Program

## What is BayREN Business?

- This program provides incentives to contractors for completing energy efficiency projects at small businesses. The savings are passed on to the business through reduced upfront costs or quarterly payments based on the energy savings from the project.
- The program offers:
  - Free energy assessment and technical assistance for small businesses
  - Pay-for-performance incentives to contractor\*\* for energy efficiency measures based on actual metered energy savings.

## Who benefits from the program?

- Small businesses, particularly those in underserved communities.
- BayREN Business Program certified contractors (aka Aggregators)

## Who is eligible for BayREN Business?

- Hard-to-Reach Business in the 9 San Francisco Bay Area Counties

\*\*Savings are passed on to the business through lower project costs upfront based on estimated energy reductions OR quarterly payments based on actual savings of the project.



# Eligibility

- This program serves only businesses that are considered Hard-to-Reach (HTR).
- The table on the right is used to determine HTR status.
- Must have a minimum of 3 points to be considered HTR.

Criteria	Description	Point Value
<b>Location</b>	Located in a Disadvantaged Community*	<b>2</b>
<b>Language</b>	Primary language @ business is other than English	<b>1</b>
<b>Business Size</b>	≤ 25 employees <i>or</i> annual energy use: <20-kW or <10,000 therms	<b>1</b>
<b>Rented, Leased?</b>	Leased or Rented Facility	<b>1</b>

\*Top 25 percent of Census Tracts in CalEnviroScreen considered HTR <https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40>

# Business Program Participation

	# Projects	Energy Saved	Total Incentive Payout
San Francisco Bay Area (All-Time)	283	2,680,723 kWh	\$6,444,976
Contra Costa County (All-Time)	29	147,658 kWh	\$332,290
Contra Costa County (2025)*	1	16,347 kWh	\$39,274

\*Program started the year on pause. Reopened in Q2 of 2025.

# BayREN Refrigerant Replacement Program



## What is BRRR?

- This program provides incentives to contractors to replace refrigeration systems or high global warming potential refrigerants in existing systems with more environmentally friendly alternatives.
- The program offers:
  - Free energy assessment and technical assistance for small businesses
  - The program covers up to 80% of project costs
  - Free refrigeration system operation and maintenance training for small business staff

## Who benefits from the program?

- Small businesses
- Refrigeration Contractors (Must be certified by BayREN)

## Who is eligible for BayREN Business?

- Small businesses in the Bay Area with priority given to businesses in low-income and CalEnviroScreen Disadvantaged Communities\*

\*<https://oehha.ca.gov/calenviroscreen/report/calenviroscreen-40>

# Codes & Standards

## What is Codes and Standards?

- This program helps building departments understand and enforce California's Building Energy Efficiency Standards.
- The program offers:
  - Reach code support
  - Training programs (ICC approved)
  - Permit guides
  - Regional forums on topics highlighting the nexus between the energy code and energy policies and programs



## Who benefits from the program?

- Local governments
- Contractors and designers

# Public Programs

The Public Programs help local governments and special districts in the Bay Area improve energy performance and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in public buildings.

BayREN Public Programs includes two subprograms:

- Integrated Energy Services (IES)
  - Energy Concierge
  - Energy Roadmapping
- Targeted Decarbonization Services (TDS)
  - Decarbonization Showcase
  - Decarbonization Education and Finance

# Questions?

## EASE Home, Home Energy Score & Green House Calls

Contact Nicole Shimizu

[Nicole.Shimizu@dcd.cccounty.us](mailto:Nicole.Shimizu@dcd.cccounty.us)

## All Other BayREN Programs

Contact Demian Hardman-Saldana or Adam Scarbrough

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