

# FOCUS Bay Area Responding to the COVID-19 Crisis

## BayREN is Empowering Our Communities When They Need It Most

The Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) is focused on meeting the needs of our stakeholders and partners in the nine county Bay Area during this unprecedented COVID-19 crisis. Our response includes expanded programs and services designed to support small businesses, homeowners, renters, and our contractors as they work together to revitalize our communities. The graphic below highlights how BayREN will phase in new programs and responses to help our communities.

## Regional Leadership to Rebuild a Stronger Bay Area

Commencing in mid-May, all BayREN participating contractors will have the benefit of completing BayREN's **new Health and Safety Training** to ensure the safety of this critical workforce as well as the communities they serve. BayREN will require that all contractors complete the training and abide by new Health and Safety Protocols before resuming any project work.

In May, BayREN is hosting the first in a series of **Decarbonization Forums for city and county staff** to focus on both the

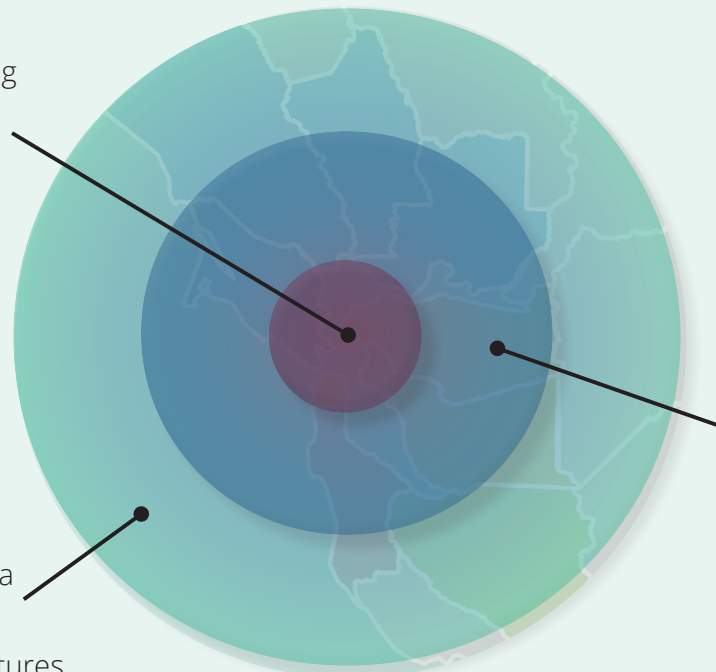
challenges and the opportunities of advancing decarbonization initiatives during the COVID-19 crisis. These forums will create space for focused conversations on specific challenges and opportunities that our local government staff are struggling with today. BayREN will facilitate the discussion with the goal of identifying clear, near term actions that BayREN can support to advance new opportunities and meet these challenges head on.

### Now - Triage

- Health & Safety Training & Protocols
- Virtual Workforce Education & Training
- Develop Virtual Assessment Capacity

### 2021 & Beyond - Rebuild

- Capacity Building and Economic Support for Workforce and Bay Area Communities
- Revisit Programs' Structures
- Online & In Person Training
- Expanded Decarbonization Initiatives



### Post-SIP - Evolve & Adapt

- Small/Medium Business Stimulus
- Home+ Added Incentives
- Multifamily Upfront Incentive Structure
- Online & Targeted In Person Training
- Decarbonization Initiatives
- Regional Climate Forums Cities & Counties

# BayREN COVID-19 Program Response Packages

Program Area	New Offerings	Time Available
<b>BayREN Business Program</b> For small and medium businesses and commercial property owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Free energy efficiency assessments and rebates for new energy efficiency equipment</li> <li>Interest-free microloans</li> <li>Contactless energy audits</li> <li>New Health and Safety Equipment Protocols</li> <li>Online hub for small business resource and links to county economic development offices and centers</li> </ul>	Summer 2020
<b>BayREN Multifamily</b> Multifamily residential property owners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phased incentive pathway to make 25% of project cost available prior to construction</li> <li>Health and hygiene best practices for multifamily common areas</li> </ul>	Summer 2020
<b>BayREN Home+</b> For homeowners and renters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual energy assessments</li> <li>Increased incentives</li> <li>Energy Efficiency Toolkit (available now!)</li> </ul>	May 2020
<b>BayREN Home+</b> For contractors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New health and safety training and protocols</li> <li>Virtual training and education</li> <li>New online learning portal for participating contractors</li> </ul>	May 2020
<b>Green Labeling</b> For Real Estate Professionals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual training and education</li> </ul>	May 2020
<b>Codes &amp; Standards</b> For City and County Building Department Staff and Building Industry Professionals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virtual training and education</li> </ul>	May 2020



[www.bayren.org](http://www.bayren.org)

BayREN is a collaboration of the nine counties that make up the San Francisco Bay Area. Led by the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) BayREN provides regional-scale energy efficiency programs services and resources. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, BayREN has developed new trainings and services to meet the evolving needs of our contractor workforce and the local government staff that make our programs possible.

## BayREN is Here for Our Contractors so They Can Be There for You

BayREN Home+ provides cash rebates and incentives to homeowners to increase home comfort, health, and efficiency. BayREN is developing **new, robust Health and Safety Protocols** for our certified contractors to ensure everyone's safety as they provide critical upgrades to lower home energy costs when many of us are spending more time at home than ever before.

In addition, Home+ will be offering **increased incentives for contractors and free trainings on building science practices**. BayREN also recently launched a new Online Learning Portal to support BayREN participating contractors in continuing education and training.

Homeowners can still receive a no-cost Energy Savings Kit (\$70 value), contact the Home Energy Advisors ([www.bayrenresidential.org](http://www.bayrenresidential.org)) to plan future improvement projects, and receive virtual home assessments from contractors.



## BayREN Supports Small Businesses with Microloans and Rebates

BayREN Commercial Programs provide rebates, financing, and one-stop-shop technical assistance to ensure small and medium businesses can leverage all available energy saving programs. During this unprecedented time, our goal is to support the resilience of small businesses by lowering energy and maintenance costs.

During the COVID-19 recovery period, BAYREN will offer free energy efficiency assessments and rebates for new equipment. Additionally, BayREN will offer 0% interest microloans. Microloans are available on a first-come-first-served basis and will be available through *December 31, 2020*.

**To learn more or to enroll email [michael.denevan@sfgov.org](mailto:michael.denevan@sfgov.org).**





## BayREN Greens Multifamily Buildings to Support Cost Savings and Emissions Reductions

BayREN offers cash rebates and no-cost energy consulting for multifamily property owners for improvements that are expected to save an estimated 15% of the entire building's energy use. During the Bay Area's Shelter in Place Order (SIP), BayREN is continuing remote program operations where possible for existing Multifamily Building projects and will continue to process new project applications. We will continue to support tenants and multifamily building owners as our local communities begin to restore economic activity.

To help ease the current and anticipated cash flow slow-down, BayREN will be offering a phased incentive for projects that demonstrate a need for upfront cash to participate in the program, or to expand scopes of work. This offering should be available by mid-summer 2020. BayREN is also collating resources for multifamily property owners to easily implement health and hygiene best practices.

Visit [www.bayareamultifamily.org](http://www.bayareamultifamily.org) for more information

## New Virtual Trainings to Expand Knowledge

During the COVID-19 crisis and beyond, Codes & Standards and Green Labeling Program trainings will be available virtually to enable contractors and real estate professionals to continue to expand their knowledge and skills.

BayREN's Green Labeling Program builds market recognition of the value of a green home through training real estate professionals in green building and sustainable business practices and by providing incentives for homeowners to get a Home Energy Score.

BayREN's Codes & Standards Program supports Bay Area cities and counties in complying with the California Energy Code, provides zero net energy engineering analysis for municipal buildings and supports the adoption of policies that expand building electrification and decarbonization efforts region wide.

For a list of scheduled virtual trainings and forums please visit: [www.bayrencodes.org/events/](http://www.bayrencodes.org/events/)

Real estate professionals:  
<http://tiny.cc/63weoz>