Dallas-Fort Worth
CLEAN CITIES

In This Issue

Get Recognized! Stakeholders and Sponsors are invited to submit any updates/success stories/info about new projects or initiatives to be added to future Newsflashes upon review.

DFW Clean Cities is here for all your alternative transportation fuel and technology needs. Reach out to us for any technical assistance or general inquiries related to Clean Cities.

Upcoming Events

Energy Independence Summit 2021

This year the Transportation Energy Partners (TEP) will host the Energy Independence Summit virtually! This summit will focus on important topics such as:

- Enacting longer-term tax incentives for clean fuels, vehicles, and infrastructure.
- Strengthening the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS).
- Exploring innovative ideas like a national low-carbon fuel standard to advance markets for cleaner fuels and vehicles.

The 2021 Summit will include two major components:

- On **March 17-19**, there will be virtual roundtable discussions with leaders of the Biden Administration's clean transportation team, key Congressional committees, federal agencies, and the electric vehicle, natural gas, propane, biofuels, and hydrogen industries.
- **March 22-26** will be Capitol Hill Week, where TEP will organize more than 300 virtual meetings with House and Senate offices. This will be a great opportunity to showcase how

your fuels, technologies, and projects are reducing emissions and creating thousands of clean energy jobs in communities across America.

More information will be available soon at the Transportation Energy Partners website.

Electric School Bus Webinar Series

DFWCC has hosted a series of webinars that focus on electric school buses. These webinars include discussions from original equipment manufacturers, non-profits, utilities, and energy managers. Some of the presenters include TxDOT, Lion Electric, Blue Bird and more.
Find meeting recordings and presentations here.

Save the Date- Fleet Manager Roundtable

Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) is continuing its series of Fleet Manager Roundtables! DFWCC is hosting an open discussion-style meeting to give fleet managers an opportunity to learn and troubleshoot with their peers. Come ready to ask questions and share your experience! Topics will be announced later.

Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2021
Time: 2 p.m. CST
Register: Contact us at cleancities@nctcog.org

Legislative Items of Interest

Clean Transportation Wins Big in Year-End Legislation

The clean transportation energy industry has many updates, as the House and Senate reached an agreement on the FY2021 spending and COVID-19 stimulus bill.
Here are a few aspects of the bill that pertain to the clean transportation industry.

Bill details:

- Extends key alternative fuel tax incentives through 2021, including tax credits for natural gas and propane, the credit for alternative fuel infrastructure, and the credit for qualified fuel cell vehicles.
- Includes $40 million for the DOE Clean Cities program and $20 million for another round of Electric Vehicle Community Partnership grants.
- Directs the DOE to develop a plan for establishing a Clean School Bus Grant Program that would prioritize school districts serving disadvantaged communities and located in air quality nonattainment areas.
- Includes $90 million for the EPA Diesel Emission Reduction grants.
- Provides $125 million for the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Low and No Emission bus grants and encourages the program to support a variety of different fuel types that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Directs the Federal Highway Administration to approve CMAQ funding for clean vehicle projects using the previous criteria (final assembly in the United States) and it directs the agency to review and respond to Buy America waiver requests within 60 days of submission.**
- Includes language stating that DOT Surface Transportation Block Grants can be used by States to install charging infrastructure on FHWA designated alternative fuel corridors.
- Enables the Secretary of Agriculture to make payments to U.S. producers of advanced biofuel, biomass-based diesel, cellulosic biofuel, conventional biofuel, or renewable fuel to help compensate for unexpected market losses resulting from COVID–19.

Regional News

Resourceful Texans use their 2021 hybrid F-150 trucks with a generator to power homes

As Texas struggled with rolling blackouts and cold temperatures, some residents like Randy Jones of Katy, TX used their pickup trucks to power their homes. During this emergency, Ford sent out letters to its Texas dealers to encourage them to use any hybrid trucks they have to help citizens. Read more here.

New micro-transit solution in DFW

Circuit is a new local electric shuttle that aims to reduce congestion and its harmful effects. Their approach is to work with local governments and advertising partners to provide their service at an affordable cost. They currently provide services for four areas in Texas, including West Dallas and Downtown Dallas. Read more about Circuit here.

Southlake collects 146 gallons of cooking oil and grease in the 2020 Holiday Grease Roundup

The North Central Texas Council of Governments hosts a yearly oil and grease collection event during the holiday season. The purpose of this event is to encourage local governments to register and to collect oil and grease from its residents. The oil collected during this roundup is then used to create biodiesel for vehicles in the region. Read more about this success story on the Dallas Morning News website.

The University of North Texas adds hybrid police vehicles

The University of North Texas (UNT) has decided to replace 6 of their 32 police vehicles with Ford's hybrid police vehicle. It is estimated this switch with save the police department $3,000 a year per vehicle and remove 19,539 pounds of carbon dioxide per year by switching to electric during idling or low speeds. Read more about the switch at Denton Record Chronicle.

Self-Driving Truck Company Kodiak Robotics Receives Innovation Award

Kodiak Robotics, which conducts much of its operations out of North Texas, has reached a landmark achievement in the automated vehicles industry. For the first time, two 400-mile round trips between Dallas and Houston were accomplished relying on the truck's automation system. Kodiak has been recognized with the CES Innovation Award for this accomplishment at the 2021 Consumer Electronics Show. Read more from Dallas News.

Dallas' Smart Transit Project Moves Forward

The City of Dallas has received funds totaling $4 million from the Department of Transportation to build their smart transit roadway. This road, a 1.5-mile section of the S.M. Wright Highway, will feature pedestrian crosswalks activated by the presence of pedestrians, smart-transit bus shelters with Wi-Fi capability, connected vehicle tech, and more. The plan was one of 10 chosen to receive funding through the Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment (ATCMTD) program. Read about these plans from Dallas Innovates.

Request for Vehicle Technology Providers

Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) is looking for providers of clean vehicle technologies, such as:

- Alternative fuel vehicles
- Vehicles demonstrating operation of aftermarket technologies such as
    - EPA or CARB certified repowers, alternative fuel upfits, or conversion kits
    - EPA SmartWay® verified technologies or other EPA-verified retrofits
- Skid-mount, mobile, or other non-permanent alternative fuel infrastructure
- Telematics systems that include ability to monitor idle time *(telematics systems without this feature are not of interest)*

To participate in the DFWCC Try and Drive Alternative Program and be added to the Clean Vehicle Technology Provider Directory.

Note: Technology OEMs or corporate representatives are preferred to dealerships or installers. Technologies that are consumable (e.g. oil treatments, lubricants, fluids, tires, etc.) are NOT of interest in this initiative. This initiative is intended to provide "demonstration" opportunities for vehicles or technologies with a long useful life.

The goal of this program is to connect consumers and fleets with hands-on experiences with clean vehicle technologies that help improve air quality, with the ultimate goal of increasing adoption of these technologies.

The provided experiences could include offers such as;

- test drives,
- extended (multi-day) test-drives,
- short-term loaner programs, or similar opportunities.

If you are a provider who would like to participate, please go to www.nctcog.org/DFWTryDrive to learn more about the program and participate. Follow the instructions listed in the Clean Vehicle and Technology Providers Guidelines. This is an ongoing request for participation and Clean Vehicle Technology Providers can submit at any time while the initiative is ongoing.

Please contact DFWCC at cleancities@nctcog.org with any questions.

Calling EV Owners to Participate in EV Data Collection Project!- Reply by March 31st

The Electric Vehicle Widescale Analysis for Tomorrow's Transportation Solutions (EV WATTS) project is seeking electric vehicle owners to participate, by sharing your vehicle data. Through this project, plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) data is anonymized and compiled to analyze EV performance nationwide and help shape future EV research and development. Participants will receive a free data-logger and installation, as well as access to their vehicle data through MyGeotab.

Please reply by **March 31st** to participate.

To learn more, visit www.dfwcleancities.org/evwatts. If you are interested in participating, fill out the project survey on the DFW Clean Cities EV Watts website, and staff will contact you with more information.

Engine Off North Texas Re-Launch

Engine Off North Texas (EONT) -- a regional initiative focused on reducing idling of heavy-duty vehicles -- will officially re-launch in March, as the North Central Texas Council of Governments recently updated its inventory of outreach and educational materials.
This program equips truck drivers with information about strategies to reduce unnecessary idling, available idle reduction technologies and areas with local idling restriction policies or ordinances. Local governments can use EONT to develop idle reduction ordinances and enforcement strategies. Educational materials are available upon request to inform truck drivers and residents about idling impacts, as well as how to report an idling complaint.
Engine Off North Texas is a resource for heavy-duty vehicle idling information in the North Central Texas Region. To learn about this initiative, visit the website at www.engineoffnorthtexas.org.

Industry Updates

President Biden has committed to replace the entire US federal fleet with electric vehicles

President Joe Biden has just announced that he will replace the entire US federal fleet with electric vehicles made in the US. This is a big move, as the US federal fleet consists of over 645,000 vehicles and the mass use of electric vehicles will bring significant savings to the federal government in fuel and maintenance costs. Read more here.

GM plans to go all-electric by 2035

Back in 2016, General Motors released its first electric vehicle, the Chevy Bolt. Today they have committed to go carbon neutral, and to phase out all light duty gas and diesel engines by 2035. Read more about the topic here.

Toyota Announces Two New Electric Vehicles for 2022

Toyota has announced they will be unveiling two electric vehicles that will be available in 2022. One vehicle is a crossover and the other has yet to be specified. Toyota has offered hybrid and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles for years, but this is the first large commitment by the automaker towards battery electric vehicles. Read more at Car and Driver.

Navistar and GM Partner to Develop Heavy-Duty Hydrogen Fuel Cell Ecosystem

Navistar, GM, and OneH2 have partnered to create a hydrogen fuel cell ecosystem for long-haul class 8 trucks. OneH2 will develop the hydrogen fueling infrastructure and facilities. Navistar and GM will develop the truck which plans to be available by model year 2024, with a target range of over 500 miles and refueling in less than 15 minutes. Read more at Green Fleet Magazine.

New Engine and Fuel System for Blue Bird's School Buses

Blue Bird has announced their propane and gasoline buses will be receive a new fuel system and engine in 2022. The fuel system, designed by Roush CleanTech, was engineered with school buses in mind and features stronger and lighter fuel rails. The new engine, the Ford 7.3L, will provide more horsepower and better fuel economy. Read more details at School Bus Fleet.

E Squared announces Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Mobility as a Service (MaaS) program

E^2 Energy Advisors has partnered with Turner & Townsend to help set up a net-zero energy program enabling new builds and retrofit projects to achieve as close to net-zero energy as possible while saving substantially on energy costs. The net-zero building program includes many building types where 100 percent renewable microgrids can be applied. Read more at Charged Fleet.

Testing of Battery-Electric Locomotive Commences

Fort Worth-based company, BNSF Railway is seeking ways to further reduce environmental impacts. BNSF, along with Wabtec, have begun testing a battery-electric in California. This new technology is expected to reduce emissions along the route and improve fuel efficiency by 10 percent. The company will decide how to expand testing to other locations once the pilot test ends in March. Read more from Fort Worth Business.

Record Number of Propane School Busses on U.S Roads

Last year, 20,000 propane Autogas school busses transported students across the United States, more than ever before. Over 1,000 school districts have adopted propane school busses, resulting in a 10 percent increase in use from 2019. This fuel is also being repurchased at high rates, making it the most popular alternative fuel for school busses. Read more from Propane.com.

How Do We Get to All Electric School Buses?

President Elect Joe Biden plans to make all American-made buses electric by 2030, starting with the school bus fleet. School buses have become a topic of interest due to concerns around air quality and children's health. Additionally, the conversion to electric buses will create more jobs in North America. Currently only 1 percent of the 480,000 buses carrying students to school are electric, with the high cost being a difficult hurdle to overcome. Dominion Energy, a utility in Virginia is helping overcome this cost by investing in using school buses as energy storage when not in use. Read more about this project at electric & hybrid vehicle technology international.

L.A. County Uses Food Waste for Fuel!

Due to a new adoption of a biogas purification system, the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts will now be able to recycle food waste into renewable vehicle fuel. This process begins with restaurants and grocery stores placing leftovers being placed in separate bins, then the food is hauled away and sealed into large tanks where microorganisms convert food waste and waste water solids into biogas. This biogas is used for both electricity and fuel grade renewable natural gas. Read more at the NGV journal.

GM Announces BrightDrop, A New Brand for Electric Delivery Vehicles

General Motors has announced BrightDrop, a new brand focused on electrification of the commercial sector. BrightDrop will begin production on the EV600, an electric cargo van with a 250-mile range, in 2021. The first 500 vehicles will be delivered to FedEx. BrightDrop will also offer other products such as charging infrastructure, fleet management, and an electric pallet called the EP1. Read more at Forbes.

Paccar Parts Introduces Charging Stations for All Electric Vehicles

Paccar Parts is releasing innovative electric vehicle (EV) charging stations that are designed to support Kenworth, Peterbilt, and DAF electric trucks, as well as other electric commercial vehicles. These new charging stations focus on providing charging for a wide range of EV's including trucks, vans, buses and other commercial vehicles. Options include a 20 kW charger, a 50 kW model, as well as a 350 kW.
Read more about this topic Here.

Funding

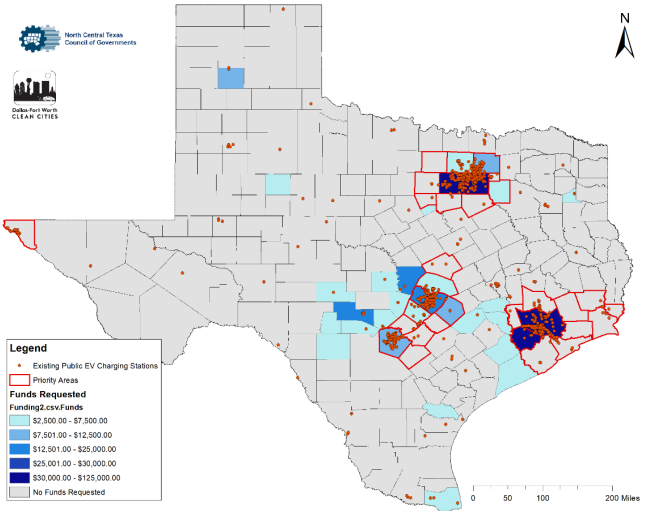
Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP) Level 2 Charging Funding

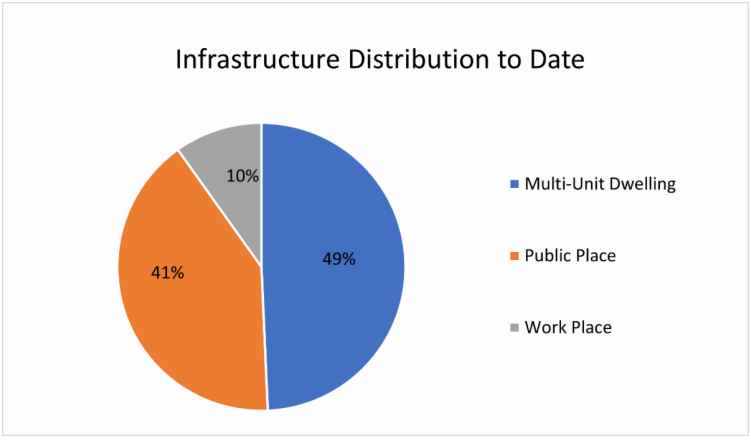
Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP) is now accepting applications for the purchase and installation of Level 2 charging equipment for light-duty zero emission vehicles in the State of Texas. So far, the Dallas-Fort Worth region has only accounted for 26 percent of total applicants. Apply as soon as possible to take advantage of over $10 million available in first-come, first-served funding. The funds can also be used for workplace charging, as well as multi-unit dwellings (MUD) read about the benefits of workplace charging on the DFWCC

webpage.

Eligible Activities:
Purchase and installation of new light-duty electric vehicle Level 2 charging equipment in a public place, workplace, or multi-unit dwelling (i.e., not located at a private residential dwelling that is not a multi-unit dwelling in Texas); and at a site without existing light-duty electric charging services or to expand the number of vehicles that may be serviced at an existing site.
Funding Availability:
A total of $10.4 million is available under this program. Grant recipients will be eligible for a reimbursement of up to $2,500 per installation. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and may not exceed the following percentages of eligible costs:

Electric chargers available to the public: 70 percent
Electric chargers available at a workplace or multi-dwelling unit: 60 percent
Application Deadline: September 9, 2021
More information and how to apply to the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program from TCEQ.





Diesel Emissions Reduction Calls for Projects

North Central Texas Council of Governments has opened three calls for projects (CFPs) that are offering approximately $4 million total in grant funding for diesel emissions reduction projects! Project details are as follows:
Eligible Applicants

- **North Texas Freight Terminal Electrification (NTFTE) 2020 CFP:** Private freight terminals or distribution centers primarily receiving heavy-duty truck TRUs and trailer TRUs and located in the ten-county ozone nonattainment area.
- **North Texas Emissions Reduction Project (NTERP) 2020 CFP:** Private sector fleets for high-use diesel vehicles and equipment operating in the ten-county ozone nonattainment area as well as Hood and Navarro counties.
- **Clean Fleets North Texas (CFNT) 2020 CFP:** Local governments, or private companies that contract with local governments, that own heavy-duty diesel vehicles or equipment

operating in the ten-county ozone nonattainment area.

Eligible Projects

- **NTFTE:** Construction and installation of Electrified Parking Spaces for heavy-duty TRUs and trailer TRUs, electric power monitoring equipment and electric power connection kits.
- **NTERP:** Replacement of an older diesel on-road vehicle and non-road equipment with a newer model year on-road vehicle or non-road equipment; additionally, this includes Shore power installation for rail and switch yards.
- **CFNT:** Replacement of older diesel on-road vehicle and non-road equipment with newer model year on-road vehicle or non-road equipment.

Funding Details and Levels

- **NTFTE:** Rebate grants, approximately $1 million available
  - Up to 30 percent of the project cost
- **NTERP:** Rebate grants, approximately $2.3 million available
  - 45 percent if New Vehicle/Equipment is Electric
  - 35 percent if New Vehicle/Equipment is Powered by Engine Certified to California Air Resource Board Optional Low-NOx Standards
  - 25 percent Cost for All Others
- **CFNT**: Grants, approximately $660,000 available
  - 45 percent if New Vehicle/Equipment is Electric
  - 35 percent if New Vehicle/Equipment is Powered by Engine Certified to California Air Resource Board Optional Low-NOx Standards
  - 25 percent Cost for All Others

More information and application details for each program available on the NCTCOG website.

Low or No Emission Program (Low-No Program) – Now Open!

The Low-No Program supports the transition of fleets to the lowest polluting and most energy efficient transit vehicles. This program provides funding to state and local governments for the purchase of low and zero emission buses.

Applications are due April 12, 2021

For more details visit the Federal Transit Administration Website.

DERA National Grants Accepting Applications

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is now accepting applications for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) grant funds! With over $46 million in funding available, these funds are used to reduce emissions from older diesel engines through replacement and retrofits. For more information go here.

Eligible Applicants:

- Regional, state, local or tribal agencies
- Nonprofit organizations

Eligible diesel vehicles, engines and equipment include:

- School buses
- Class 5 – Class 8 heavy-duty highway vehicles
- Locomotive engines
- Marine engines
- Nonroad engines, equipment or vehicles used in construction, handling of cargo (including at ports or airports), agriculture, mining, or energy production (including stationary generators and pumps).

Grant funds may be used for diesel emission reduction projects including:

- EPA verified technologies or certified engine configurations
- California Air Resources Board (CARB) verified technologies or certified engines
- Idle-reduction technologies that are EPA verified
- Aerodynamic technologies and low rolling resistance tires that are EPA verified
- Early engine, vehicle, or equipment replacements withcertified engine configurations

Application Deadline: Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 10:59pm CT

U.S. Department of Energy Announces $100 Million for Transformative Clean Energy Solutions

The DOE announces $100 Million for Transformative Clean Energy Solutions via the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E) OPEN 2021 funding opportunity. This funding will help identify cutting-edge, disruptive clean energy technologies to address the climate crisis. Find more information about OPEN 2021, such as webinars and a teaming partner list on the ARPA-E

website.

Concept Paper Submission Deadline: April 6, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. ET
Full Application Submission Deadline: TBD

Training Resources

PlugStar Electric Vehicle Dealer Sales Training

Electric Vehicle (EV) registration has grown exponentially in the last 10 years in North Texas and EVs are expected to continue gaining market share in the coming years. Car dealers whose staff understand the basics of EVs and are prepared to sell them will be better positioned to adapt to the changing market.

Plug In America has developed an electric vehicle training course in conjunction with its PlugStar resources. PlugStar is a one-stop-shop for all things EV – making it one of the best resources to market EV availability. The EV training course is based off insight received from dozens of interviews with dealers. This course is designed by and for dealers and includes training on the fundamentals of EVs as a product category, EV charging basics, nationwide and local EV incentives, utility rates, EV programs, PlugStar tool tutorial and setup, and EV sales best practices.

Sign up at www.pluginamerica.org/evtraining

National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium Manuals Available

DFWCC is offering the following manuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Please send your request to cleacities@nctcog.org. See pictures of the manuals available at https://www.dfwcleancities.org/training.

(17) Law Enforcement Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training Instructor Manual

(15) Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles: Fuel System Inspector

(2) Light-Duty Natural Gas Vehicles

(1) Propane Vehicle Training

Electric Vehicle Charging Guidebook

The San Diego Gas & Electric Company has released an EV charging Guidebook for medium and heavy-duty fleets in which they cover the following topics:

- Purchasing electricity and understanding price tiers
- Advice on charger selection, site planning and design
- Cost-saving infrastructure programs and support

This guidebook provides resources for fleet managers and any person involved in the fleet electrification process. It provides you with resources and walks you through the process of selecting, installing, and maintaining charging solutions that meet your need. Download the EV Charging Guidebook, here .

Clean Cities Sponsorship

We have rolled out a new, streamlined way to make a DFW Clean Cities sponsorship by paying online with a credit card! For full details, check out the updated sponsorship page at https://www.dfwcleancities.org/sponsorus.

DFW Clean Cities relies on sponsor support to enhance certain fund its initiatives, including hosting workshops, trainings, developing educational materials, or providing non-federal matching funds on grant proposals.

Thanks to our Level 3 DFW Clean Cities Sponsors: FreeWire andInGevity!

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Resources

Air North Texas | Air Quality Funding | Electric Vehicles North Texas

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For a complete list of Clean Cities staff, visitwww.dfwcleancities.org.