



Dallas-Fort Worth
CLEAN CITIES

DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official Publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

April 2021

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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

April 13-14: UT Energy Week 2021

This year the UT Energy Week will be held as a virtual event. The theme for UT Energy Week 2021 is: **Energy Transition: Agents of Change, Changing Agents**. It will focus on the dynamics between public organizations and the private sector and how they work to be leaders in energy transition, as well as how they become more equitable and resilient in the process.

The UT Energy Week will be held April 13- 14, 2021. Visit their [website](#) for more information.

April 16: North Texas Climate Change Symposium

Please join the City of Dallas' Office of Environmental Quality & Sustainability for the North Texas Climate Change Symposium on April 16, 2021. This year the event will be completely virtual, and livestreamed through multiple platform. Register [here](#).

Agenda

9:30-9:35 Welcome

9:35-9:45 City Leadership in Climate Action

9:45- 10:15 AT&T Sustainability Overview (Shannon T. Carroll, AT&T)

10:15- 11:00 Climate and the Economy (Robert S. Kaplan, Dallas Fed)

11:00-11:55 Panel – “Exploring Business' Roles in Mitigating Climate Change”

11:55-12:00 Wrap Up

April 17: Drive Electric Earth Day

All electric vehicle (EV) owners and the EV curious are invited to celebrate Drive Electric Earth Day in Keller, TX, presented by Oncor Electric and the Tesla Owners Club of North Texas.

Date: Saturday, April 17, 2021

Time: 2:30-5:30 PM (CST)

RSVP [here](#).

April 20: Electric Truck Bootcamp

Join NACFE, RMI, and industry experts on this 10 part series to learn about electric trucks. This bootcamp is perfect for fleet managers, utility planners, and those who want to learn more about electric trucks. This bootcamp runs from April to August, and the first training is April 20 at 1pm EDT.

Find more information and register at the [Run on Less](#) website

April 21: Governmental Alternative Fuel Fleet (GAFF) Grant Program Webinar

The GAFF provides grants to purchase or lease new vehicles that operate primarily on compressed natural gas, liquified natural gas, liquified petroleum gas (propane), hydrogen fuel cells, or electricity. Join TCEQ for this free webinar, on Wednesday April 21, 1:00 PM to learn more about this new opportunity.

RSVP: email terp@tceq.texas.gov

Regional News

Car Care Awareness

Are you Car Care Aware? April is national Car Care Awareness Month and that means taking a few extra steps to make sure your vehicle is in good operation. This may not only prolong the life of your car but can also save you time and keep you and your passengers safe. As we enter spring into summer, the temperature is rising and so is the stress on your vehicle's cooling system. Make sure your coolant levels are topped off with antifreeze to prevent your car from overheating and leaving you stranded. Not only that but keeping that check engine light off ensures your car is not polluting more than has to, meaning better air quality for all of us in the region.

Before those April showers can bring May flowers, you may have to drive through some wet weather. Make sure your windshield wipers are doing their job and are not brittle and hard to the touch. Wipers also should be replaced if they leave streaks

as they wipe, affecting visibility. While your tires may be doing their job when it is dry, worn treads on a tire can seriously impact a car's ability to handle and stop in the rain. If your tread depth is less than 4/32", you should consider replacing the tires. Also, if you hear squeaking brakes, that is your vehicle's way of telling you that there may be an issue that needs attention. Stay safe and remember to be Car Care Aware! For more information, visit www.ntxcare.org.



Figure 1 Source: NCTCOG

Austin and Arlington Rank 74 and 75 on List of Best Cities for EVs

LawnStarter has conducted a study of the 200 largest cities in the United States, to determine which are the best for electric cars. Austin and Arlington were 74 and 75 on the list, respectively. Both cities ranked high in the "Incentives" category, and Austin ranked 9 in the "Infrastructure" category. There are currently more initiatives to expand EV infrastructure availability throughout the state of Texas, and this will surely continue to make Texas a great destination for EV owners. Visit the LawnStarter website for the complete list and methodology.

IH-45 Zero-Emission Vehicle Corridor Surveys for Fuel Providers and Fleets and Shippers

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) is developing a Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) corridor plan funded by the [Federal Highway Administration Alternative Fuels Corridor Deployment Plan Awards](#). This plan will outline a strategy for building battery electric (BEV) and hydrogen fuel cell electric (FCEV) vehicle infrastructure with an emphasis on medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

As part of these efforts, NCTCOG has released the [IH-45 Fuel Provider Zero-Emission Plans survey and IH-45 Fleets and Shippers survey](#) to receive feedback from industry stakeholders on the development of ZEV infrastructure along the corridor. The deadline to complete both surveys is Friday, April 30.

For more information, please visit the [project website](#).

Industry Updates

EVs Could Soon Compare in Cost to the Combustion Engine Vehicle

A report by BloombergNEF finds that by 2023 the cost of batteries will likely decrease. This would make it possible for EV prices to compete with their combustion engine counterparts, and thus increase their adoption. Read more [here](#).

Six US Utilities Come Together to Form Electric Highway Coalition

American Electric Power, Dominion Energy, Duke Energy, Entergy Corporation, Southern Company and Tennessee Valley Authority come together to form the Electric Highway Coalition. Their goal is to establish EV charging stations in the Southeast and Midwest, in order to make it easier for residents to charge their cars during long distance travel. Read more [here](#). To see where existing EV stations are located, visit the Alternative Fuels Data Center Station Locator at [Alternative Fuels Data Center: Alternative Fueling Station Locator \(energy.gov\)](http://Alternative Fuels Data Center: Alternative Fueling Station Locator (energy.gov)).

Propane School Bus Receives Certification from California's Air Quality Agency

Micro Bird propane school bus is the first school bus and Type A propane vehicle to be certified by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) as a low nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions standard of 0.05 grams per brake horsepower-hour (g/bhp-hr) vehicle. This will help school districts around the country save money and lower their emissions. Read more [here](#).

Ford Expands its Fleet Telematic System

Ford has recently announced its [Ford Telematics](#) system will now be able to be used on all fleet vehicles regardless of make and model. With this expanded functionality, fleets can analyze all of their fleet vehicles in one dashboard, this will make it easier for fleet customers to track data across their entire fleet.

Chevy Announces New Electric SUV

In addition to the Bolt hatchback, Chevy has announced the Bolt EUV, an electric SUV for the 2022 model year. The Bolt EUV is larger than the Bolt while having a similar 250-mile range. The new Bolt and Bolt EUV are also the first non-Cadillac vehicles to have GM's autopilot system, Super Cruise. Read more [here](#).

Maryland District Adds Over 300 Electric School Buses to Fleet (SN)

Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) has committed to converting 20% of their fleet from diesel to electric over the next four years. This was made possible through a partnership with Highland Electric Transportation (HET). HET will front the up-front cost of purchasing the buses and lease them to the district, who will pay a fee. Learn more about this effort at [School Bus Fleet](#).

Renewable Hydrogen Rivalry Grows Between Texas and California

As alternative fuel adoption efforts increase throughout the country, Texas and California battle it out to be the leader in hydrogen fuel adoption. Both states have taken a different approach in hydrogen adoption, while California focuses on vehicles, Texas has focused on the industrial use of hydrogen. Read more [here](#).

Carpool Chats- Balancing the Future of Transportation Energy

Is the internal combustion engine approaching its death? Join the Alternative Fuels Institute on their 20 minute [Carpool Chats](#) segment as they discuss the internal combustion engine and the increase in alternative fuels vehicles.

Funding

Notices of Intent for Sustainable Transportation Technologies Funding Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy announced its intent to issue three sustainable transportation technologies funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) in Spring 2021.

The three Notices of Intent (NOI) are for the following potential FOAs:

- [Notice of Intent - SuperTruck 3](#)

Improving the vehicle efficiency and safety of freight transportation while minimizing environmental impact is critical to helping the country decrease its petroleum use and reduce emissions as the economy grows. The Vehicle Technologies Office (VTO) and the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies

Office (HFTO) are interested in partnering to develop and demonstrate R&D concepts to enable

higher efficiency, low-emission medium- and heavy-duty trucks and freight systems. This NOI aims to take advantage of the significant opportunities for the entire freight and truck transportation system to achieve higher efficiency and electrification (battery, hydrogen fuel cell, plug-in hybrid and fuel cell range extenders).

- [Notice of Intent - Low Greenhouse Gas Vehicle Technologies Research, Development, and Deployment](#)

VTO funds a broad portfolio of RDD&D projects to develop affordable, efficient, and clean transportation options to tackle the climate crisis and accelerate the development and widespread use of a variety of innovative transportation technologies. This NOI will invite innovative solutions for on- and off-road vehicles to support the reduction of emissions and increased efficiencies in the transportation sector. To achieve this, areas that could be explored include community-level electric vehicle (EV) demonstrations, EV infrastructure and charging, and advanced engines and fuels that reduce emissions.

- [Notice of Intent - Bioenergy Technologies Office Scale-Up and Conversion](#)

The Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) is focused on developing technologies that convert domestic biomass and other waste resources into low carbon biofuels and bioproducts. These bioenergy technologies can enable a transition to a clean energy economy, create high-quality jobs, support rural economies, and spur innovation in renewable energy and chemicals production—the bioeconomy. This NOI anticipates supporting high-impact technology research, development, and demonstration to bolster the body of scientific and engineering knowledge needed to produce low-carbon biofuels at lower cost. This will involve partnerships with industry to demonstrate these technologies at industrially relevant scales.

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:

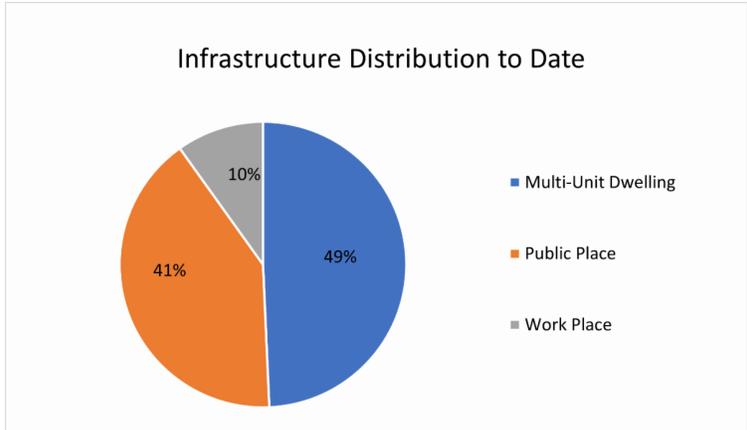
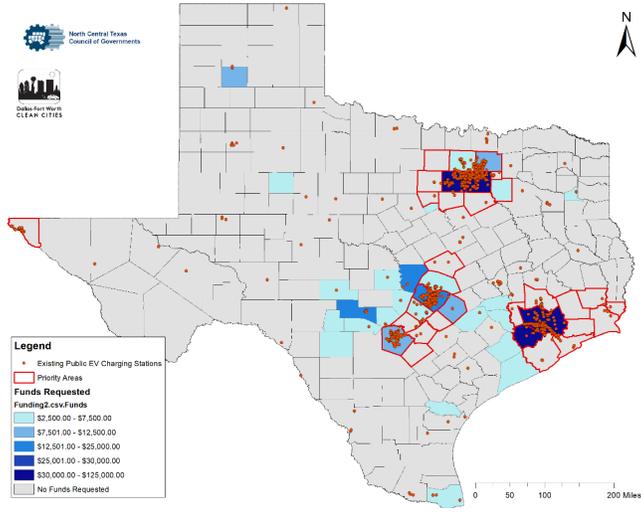
A total of \$10.4 million is available under this program. Grant recipients will be eligible for a reimbursement of up to \$2,500 per installation. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and may not exceed the following percentages of eligible costs:

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](#).

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.

Full Application Submission Deadline: TBD

Training Resources

“How to succeed with Fleet Electrification” Guide by EVgo

EVgo is the nation's largest public fast charging network for electric vehicles, they have recently released a [guide](#) to help fleet operators navigate fleet electrification. This guide discusses reducing costs, incentive programs, operations and maintenance, sustainability and many more topics related to fleet electrification. For more information about EVgo, visit their [website](#).

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](#).

Department of Energy Releases Energy Storage Grand Challenge Roadmap

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has released the Energy Storage Grand Challenge Roadmap which is the department's first comprehensive energy storage strategy. The Roadmap includes an aggressive but achievable goal: to develop and domestically manufacture energy storage technologies that can meet all U.S. market demands by 2030. For more information click [here](#). Or download the Energy Storage Grand Challenge Roadmap [Here](#).

Alternative Fuel Vehicle First Responder Safety Training Webinars

The National Alternative Fuels Consortium (NAFTC) held two First Responder Safety Training webinars in January of 2021 related to electric vehicles (EVs) and gaseous alternative fuels. Both webinars were recorded and can be accessed on the NAFTC [webpage](#).

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training for Fire Service

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is offering an online safety training related to incidents involving alternative fuel vehicles including electric, hybrid, hydrogen fuel cell, bio-diesel and other gaseous alternative fuels and their associated infrastructure. The online training is self-paced and visually interactive with simulations, animations videos and more! More information and registration can be found on the NFPA [webpage](#).

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 DFW Clean Cities Sponsor: FreeWire!



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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, visit www.dfwcleancities.org.