



Dallas-Fort Worth  
CLEAN CITIES



# DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official Publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

January 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

### Local Government Energy Reporting: 2020 Updates and Newly Developed Resources

Join the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), the South-central Partnership for Energy Efficiency as a Resource (SPEER), and the Texas State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) for an overview of 2020 changes made to the Local Government Energy Reporting form and newly developed resources to aid local governments in meeting the Local Government Energy Reporting requirements. NCTCOG staff will discuss a recently developed whitepaper, "Texas' Mandated Local Government Energy Reduction Goal: Challenges and Best Practices", staff at SPEER will present a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document for the Local Government Energy Reporting form, and SECO staff will highlight 2020 updates made to the Local Government Energy Reporting form.

**Date:** January 12, 2021

**Time:** 2:00 to 3:30 pm (CST)

To attend, please register [here](#).

## Texas Hydrogen Roundtable

On January 12, 2021, the Energy Institute and the Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin will initiate conversations by virtually convening key industry, legal, governmental, and academic leaders to discuss coordination strategies for advancing the hydrogen economy in Texas. This meeting will help to identify timely and effective steps Texas stakeholders can take to advance the conversation and coordinate to address barriers. The Texas Hydrogen Roundtable will also highlight lessons learned by firms conducting large-scale hydrogen technology demonstration projects around the world. Attendees of this event will have the opportunity to contribute perspectives from their experience on demonstration and partnership opportunities, policy needs, and approaches to addressing barriers to the hydrogen economy in Texas.

Register [here](#).

Electric School Bus Webinar Series School district staff- especially Fleet Managers, Energy & Facility Managers, and Directors of Transportation- are invited to attend the third part of a three-part webinar series on electric school buses. Electric school buses provide a unique opportunity for school districts due to the environmental, maintenance and fuel savings, and health benefits associated with using them.

These webinars were set to prepare school districts for deployment of electric school buses by informing transportation and energy staff of available electric school buses, funding, the role of electric utilities, and provide a platform to discuss necessary charging infrastructure and any concerns directly with electric school bus manufacturers and other experts.

All three webinars have different presenters and will cover an important aspect of the deployment of electric buses. Webinars 1-2 were held: Webinar 1: Thursday, December 3, Webinar 2: Wednesday, December 16.

Webinar 3: Wednesday, January 13 at 10:00am CT, please register [here](#).

## Follow-Up Public Sector EV Charging Station Roundtable

Join us on January 15 at 9 a.m. for a second roundtable discussion on public sector electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE). This event will expand on topics discussed in the first roundtable and involve new areas of discussion. View the first roundtable recording from December 4, 2020 [here](#).

This event will again be structured as an open peer-exchange of lessons learned, best practices, and any questions about navigating new EVSE contracts/installations for local government entities who have or are interested in installing new EV charging stations. Any local governments staff involved in sustainability, procurement, or facilities, are invited to attend. Please come prepared with topics or reach out to Bailey at [bmuller@nctcog.org](mailto:bmuller@nctcog.org) any specific topics or questions you would like covered.

Join the Teams meeting: [Here](#). Or Call in at 1 903-508-4574, code: 631185605#

## RISE Virtual National Biodiesel Conference and Expo

This year's Rise Biodiesel Conference will be held virtually. Industry veterans and newcomers alike are invited. The four-day event will run from January 18 to January 21. Some of the announced

topics are:

- Biodiesel and Renewable Diesel 101
- What to Expect When You're Expecting and RFS Rule
- The Changing Landscape for Diesel Vehicles
- Rising to the Challenge in Washington

To register, visit the [Conference Pricing](#) page.

## Regional News

### Calling EV Owners to Participate in EV Data Collection Project!

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.

To learn more, visit [www.dfwcleancities.org/evwatts](http://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.

### Motorweek Features Blue Roof Foundation Electric Lawn Equipment

The Dallas based non-profit Blue Roof Foundation was recently featured on Motorweek. Blue Roof has created a prototype trailer for charging electric lawn equipment. The trailer houses re-purposed batteries from a Nissan Leaf electric vehicle, further reducing pollution. The Leaf batteries charge the lawn equipment batteries during the day, allowing the lawn to quickly swap batteries without having to wait for anything to charge. Read more at [Motorweek](#).

### First Electric School Bus in Texas!

Everman Independent School District (ISD) in Fort Worth, Texas has deployed the first electric school bus pilot in Texas. Funded by the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program, the three Blue Bird Vision Electric school buses are zero-emission vehicles that will benefit the health of the community and kids while saving Everman ISD money on maintenance and fuel costs. Read more at [School Bus Fleet](#).

### 2020 Local Government Energy Reporting Reminder

Under Texas Health and Safety Code §388.005(c), all political subdivisions, state agencies and institutes of higher education in an ozone non-attainment area or an affected county are required to establish a goal to reduce electricity consumption by at least five percent each year. Each political subdivision must submit a report annually to the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) regarding the entity's progress and efforts to meet the five percent annual reduction goal. Reports will be due February 1, 2021 and will cover CALENDAR year 2020. The 2020 reporting form has been released and can be found on [SECO's website](#).

## Industry Updates

### Uber's Air Taxis Sold

Uber's aerial ride-hailing technology has been sold to Joby Aviation. This company plans to

develop fully electric, vertical takeoff passenger equipment that is operable by 2023. As part of this development, the company has identified the DFW area as an ideal location for this technology and is partnering with Bell and Hillwood to expand the plans. Read more from [Fort Worth Business.](#)

### Mileage Standards Expected to Increase

Automakers expect vehicle standards to increase under the Biden administration and have begun to prepare. Many automakers will likely push sales of battery-powered vehicles, and many will be releasing new EV models. It is projected that around 1.5% of new vehicle purchases will be fully electric vehicles, with the figure rising to 6.6% by 2025. Read more from [AP News.](#)

### How Oil Refineries are Utilizing Kitchen Grease

Oil refining companies are increasing the use of materials like restaurant grease and slaughterhouse waste to create a renewable version of diesel. Although this technology has been around for some time, it is beginning to gain traction in the industry, with production increases of 7% this year alone. These methods have the potential to produce as much as 3.8 billion gallons of renewable diesel by 2025. Learn more from [The New York Times.](#)

### New Report on Accelerating Freight Electrification

The Electrification Coalition has recently released a report highlighting challenges and solutions of electrifying medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. Challenges identified include higher upfront costs, charging infrastructure, and limited model availability and demand. The electrification of freight vehicles is an opportunity to improve air quality, especially in urban areas. The report has received positive responses from stakeholders such as Volvo, Roush CleanTech, and Lion Electric. Read more at [ACT News.](#)

### Bezos Earth Fund Recipients Announced

Jeff Bezos, founder of Amazon, has donated almost \$800 million from his Bezos Earth Fund. 16 recipients were announced, including Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and the ClimateWorks Foundation. The award to EDF totaled \$100 million and will fund a satellite able to locate and measure sources of methane pollution. The award to the ClimateWorks Foundation totaled \$50 million and will help to “drive climate action in the transportation and industrial sectors”. Read more on [Forbes.](#)

### Seven Percent Drop in Carbon Dioxide Emissions Worldwide

According to The Global Carbon Project, 2020 saw a seven percent decrease in carbon dioxide emissions, down nearly 6 billion tons from 2019. These decreases are largely due to worldwide lockdowns. In the United States alone, emissions are down by 12%. Scientists believe decreasing trends in man-made heat-trapping gas emissions before and after 2019 could indicate a peak. Read more about these trends from [Fox 4 News.](#)

### New Report: Electric Transportation Supply Chain in Texas

A new research analysis from the Texas Advanced Energy Business Alliance (TAEBA) concludes that Texas is in a position to benefit from the growth of Electric Transportation (ET). This growth could provide a boost to the state's economy. In 2019, the ET sector contributed nearly \$690 million to Texas's Gross State Product (GSP) and employed over 7,000 workers in more than 1,200 companies across the state. By 2024 the number of workers is expected to grow to over 13,000.

Read the full report from TAEBA on their [website!](#)

## Funding

To receive up-to-date information on available funding and incentives related to clean vehicle technologies and other air-quality improvement measures, subscribe to Air Quality Funding Updates [here](#).

### Texas Natural Gas Motor Fuel Tax Credit for Natural Gas and Propane Extended

The Texas Natural Gas alternative fuel tax credit has been extended through December 31, 2020. This opportunity provides a 50-cent-per-gallon credit to propane and natural gas. Those eligible to apply are private individuals, natural gas or propane retailers, suppliers, private companies, non-profit agencies and state and local government agencies. To learn more about claiming this credit, view the Texas Natural Gas Foundation's [information sheet](#).

### 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% 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; 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%

Electric chargers available at a workplace or multi-dwelling unit:60%

Application Deadline: September 9, 2021

More information and how to apply to the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program from [TCEQ](#).

### TCEQ is now accepting TERP Emissions Reduction Incentive Grants Program Applications

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) program is now accepting applications for the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP) Emissions

Reduction Incentive Grants (ERIG) program. ERIG applications must be received by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 11, 2021**. Grant application forms are now available at:

<http://www.terpgrants.org>. Applications submitted an application forms from previous grant rounds will not be accepted.

#### Eligible Applicants:

Eligible applicants include individuals, corporations, organizations, governments or governmental subdivisions or agencies, business trusts, partnerships, associations, or any other legal entity that:

- have owned and operated the equipment being replaced for at least the two years immediately preceding the application signature date; and
- commits to using the grant-funded equipment at least 55% of the annual mileage or hours of operation in one or more of the eligible areas designated below.

#### Eligible Areas:

- Austin Area: Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson Counties
- Beaumont-Port Arthur Area: Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties
- Corpus Christi Area: Nueces and San Patricio Counties
- Dallas-Fort Worth Area: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Henderson, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise Counties
- El Paso Area: El Paso County
- Houston-Galveston-Brazoria Area: Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, and Waller Counties
- San Antonio Area: Bexar, Comal, Guadalupe, and Wilson Counties

### Tyler-Longview Area: Gregg, Harrison, Rusk, Smith, and Upshur Counties 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](#).

## Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Released Three Funding Opportunities

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced an investment of up to \$128 million in funding for research and development of sustainable transportation resources and technologies, subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Split between three separate funding opportunity announcements (FOAs), the investment supports DOE's goal of ensuring that American families have greater choice in how their transportation energy needs are met. The announcement was made by Deputy Secretary of Energy Mark W. Menezes when visiting a new hydrogen fueling station in Washington, D.C.

"As the transportation sector and our mobility needs continue to evolve, it is important that we support technological solutions from a variety of energy sources," said Deputy Secretary Menezes. "These three funding opportunities are excellent examples of the diversity of resources we have available. The Trump Administration is committed to harnessing the strengths of these technologies to ensure families, goods, and services are moved safely, efficiently, and cleanly."

Funded through DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), the FOAs will be issued on behalf of EERE's three transportation offices: the [Bioenergy, Hydrogen and Fuel Cell](#) and [Vehicle](#) Technologies Offices. Each contains multiple topics as summarized below:

- **Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO) FOA (up to \$35 million):** This FOA supports bioenergy feedstock technologies, with a focus on characterization of municipal solid waste, as well as algae research and development. This investment supports the Trump Administration's priority of advancing the domestic bioeconomy, as well as BETO's goals of improving the performance and lowering the cost and risk of technologies that can be used to produce biofuels, biopower, and bioproducts.
- **Hydrogen and Fuel Cells Technologies Office (HFTO) FOA (up to \$33 million):** This FOA supports innovative hydrogen and fuel cell research and development, infrastructure supply chain development and validation, and cost analysis activities. Activities that result from the FOA will support EERE's [H2@Scale](#) vision and leverage capabilities at DOE National Laboratories through close collaboration with the Million Mile Fuel Cell Truck and H2NEW consortia.
- **Vehicle Technologies Office (VTO) FOA (up to \$60 million):** This FOA supports priorities in batteries and electrification, advanced engine and fuel technologies, materials, mobility systems, and transportation and energy analysis. Some topics also support [DOE's Energy Storage Grand Challenge](#), which draws on research capabilities of the DOE National Laboratories as well as universities and industry to accelerate the development of energy-storage technologies

The two-phased application process for each FOA will include a concept paper, followed by a full application. Deadlines are as follows:

- BETO FOA: Concept papers are due on February 1, 2021, by 5:00 p.m. ET, and full applications are due on April 5, 2021, by 5:00 p.m. ET.
- HFTO FOA: Concept papers are due on January 15, 2021, by 5:00 p.m. ET, and full applications are due on March 8, 2021, by 5:00 p.m. ET.
- VTO FOA: Concept papers are due on February 5, 2021, by 5:00 p.m. ET, and full applications are due on April 7, 2021, by 5:00 p.m. ET.

For more information, please refer to the BETO, HFTO, and VTO FOAs on [EERE Program Information Center](#) and [Grants.gov](#).

EPIC link: <https://epicweb.ee.doe.gov/EPICWeb/#/public/submission/opportunityDetail/2311>  
Grants.gov: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=330301>

## Training Resources

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](http://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](mailto: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: the [Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Alliance](#), [GPS Insight](#), and [InGeivity](#)!





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## Resources

[Air North Texas](#) | [Air Quality Funding](#) | [Electric Vehicles North Texas](#)

## Contact Us

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For a complete list of Clean Cities staff, visit [www.dfwcleancities.org](http://www.dfwcleancities.org).