



# Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Roundtable

Joaquin Escalante May 27, 2025

# Who We Are

Regional Planning Agency



Metropolitan Planning  
Organization (MPO)



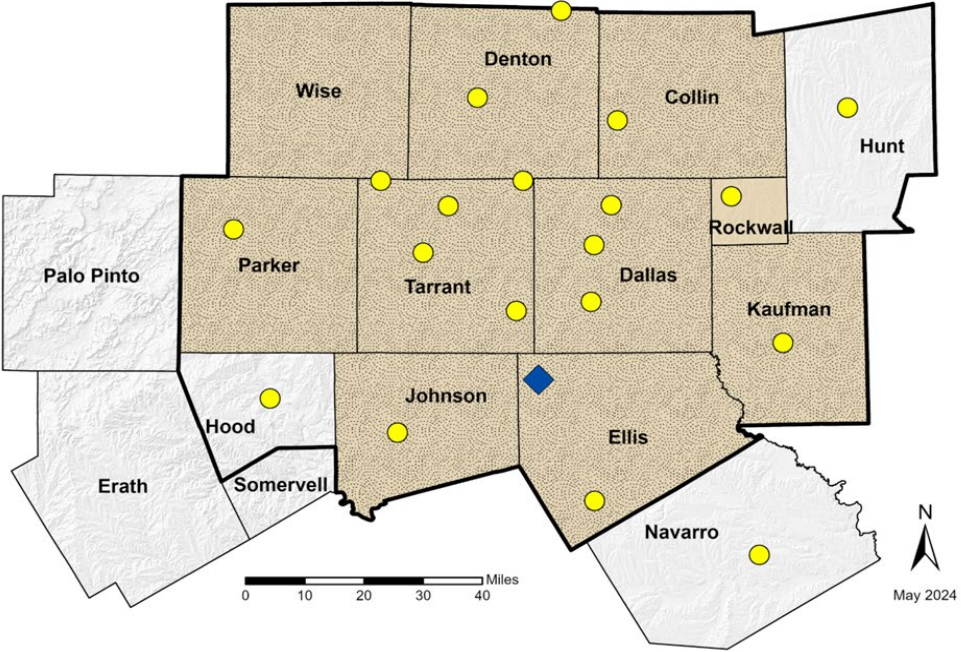
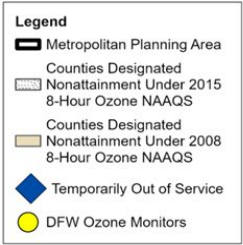
Department of Energy-  
Designated Clean Cities  
Coalition



*Sister Coalitions in Texas:*  
*Alamo Area Clean Cities (San Antonio)*  
*Houston-Galveston Clean Cities*  
*Central Texas Clean Cities (Austin)*



EECBG Roundtable



# Dallas Fort Worth Clean Cities

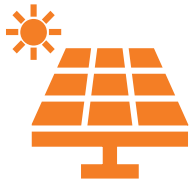
## Key Focus Areas & Goals



Clean Vehicle Initiatives



Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Initiatives



Energy Integration & Community Readiness

Go to [www.dfwcleancities.org](http://www.dfwcleancities.org) for more information



EECBG Roundtable

## What We Do



Funding Support



Technical Assistance



Planning the Future



Raising Awareness

# Welcome & Housekeeping

1. Please keep you microphone muted.
2. If you have a question, put it in the chat or use the “Raise Your Hand” feature.
3. Please put your name and organization in the chat.
4. The presentation will be recorded up until we reach the Q&A and open discussion portion.
5. The webinar slides and audio recording will be posted on the Conserve North Texas website under News/Events → Event Archive at the link below.  
Follow-up emails to come. <http://conservenorthtexas.org/event-archive>





# Webinar Sponsor



NCTCOG receives funding through SECO to work on energy management and efficiency projects within the region. As part of this work, we have provided workshops, webinars, and technical assistance on a variety of energy management, energy efficiency, water efficiency, and renewable energy topics.



# Agenda

- Overview
- City of Farmer's Branch – EECBG
- City of Arlington – EECBG
- Q&A
- Energy Efficiency Funding and Resources
- Transportation Electrification Funding and Resources
- Proposed TX Legislation Impact on Local Government Energy Efficiency
- Additional Information, Resources, and Funding



# EECBG Background

- To help cities, counties, states, and tribal governments reduce energy use, lower energy costs, and support clean energy goals
- Formula funding (based on population size and energy use) already allocated for eligible recipients
- Eligible projects include:
  - Replacing HVAC systems or lighting in city buildings
  - Installing solar panels or EV chargers
  - Upgrading street lighting
  - Purchase EVs for municipal fleets
  - Etc.







# Farmers Branch – EECBG Voucher – EV Purchase

## Electric Vehicle Purchase

- Purchased two EVs for city fleet
  - F150 Lightning and Equinox EV

## Benefits

- Reduction of air pollution and GHG emissions
- Decrease in environmental exposure

## Reporting Used

- Replaced 16- and 19-year-old vehicles
  - Right sized vehicles for job use
- Fuel usage comparison (fleet software)

## Implementation

- Vehicles have already entered service
  - Solid Waste and Health divisions

## Next Steps:

- Waiting for DOE reimbursement



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FARMERS  
BRANCH

# City of Arlington – EECBG Streetlight Retrofits Program

## Project/Process/Program:

- In 2015, the City of Arlington initiated a citywide retrofit program, replacing high-pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures with energy-efficient LED lighting. The initial phase prioritized both major and minor thoroughfares, laying the foundation for a comprehensive lighting upgrade across the city.
- By 2017, the program expanded into residential neighborhoods. Existing high-pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures were systematically upgraded to LED technology, further extending the reach of the city's energy efficiency efforts

## Benefits:

- Achieved significant cost reductions through decreased energy consumption, enhanced lighting efficiency to improve safety, realized substantial annual savings on energy expenditures, and increase life expectancy significantly.

## Energy Analysis/Reporting Used:

- The City of Arlington, through a service agreement with Oncor has significant cost savings by converting high-pressure sodium (HPS) fixtures to energy-efficient LED lighting. This transition has reduced costs by \$0.50 per major thoroughfare streetlight and \$0.51 per residential streetlight, resulting in annual savings of over \$20,000.

Streetlights on Cooper St



EECBG Roundtable



City of Arlington

# City of Arlington – EECBG Streetlight Retrofits Program

## Implementation:

- Leveraging the City’s asset management system, Cartegraph, streetlight technicians were assigned targeted locations, ensuring a comprehensive retrofit process in which every fixture was accounted for.
- Utilized various sources—including the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)—to support energy efficiency initiatives

## Next Steps:

- The City of Arlington has successfully achieved 100% LED lighting conversions of all City owned streetlights. Ongoing routine maintenance will continue, with the expectation that the enhanced longevity of LED technology will sustain long-term performance and reliability.

Streetlights on Cooper St



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City of Arlington

# Attendee Introductions



Name



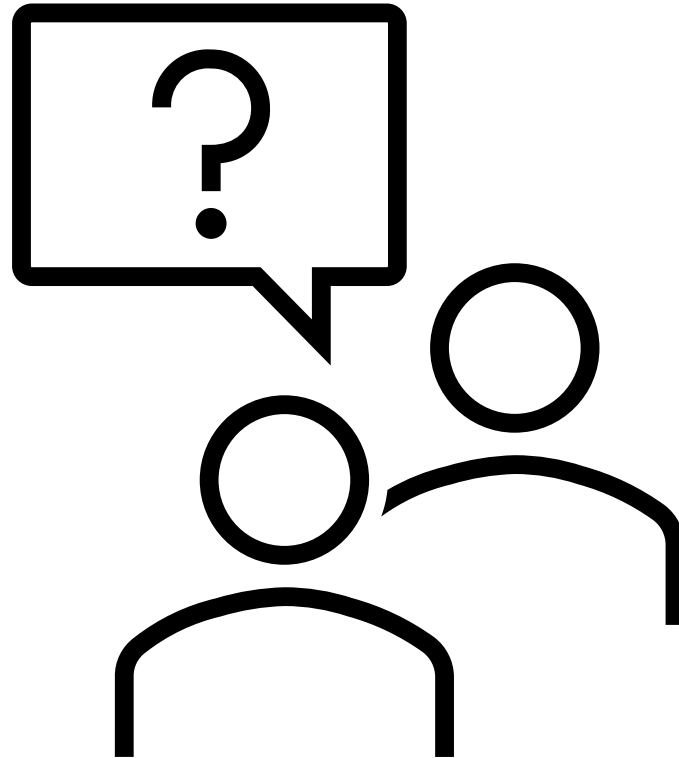
Organization



What Energy Efficiency Efforts Is Your Organization Interested In?



# Q & A: City of Arlington and Farmers Branch



# Discussion Questions

- What went into deciding the project you selected for your EECBG project?
- Were there any additional programs that assisted you in applying for the grant or helped you determine what improvements to make?
- Have there been any additional opportunities to improve energy efficiency for another area of your department/local government due to the work done through EECBG?
- Has acquiring an EV, changed your organization's perspective on them?
- Were there any other reasons outside of cost on why the department chose retrofit over complete replacement?
- Have you been able to measure any air quality impacts from your energy efficiency efforts?
- What is the associated maintenance with your upgrades?
- Do you have plans for other streetlight retrofit upgrades due to the results of your project?







# Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy Funding

| Program/Incentive                                     | Eligible Activities   | Funding Amount  | Key Dates                    |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Texas LoanSTAR Revolving Loan Program</a> | Provides low-interest loans for projects that reduce energy consumption at your facilities  | Up to \$6 million for State Energy Program (SEP) funds<br><br>Up to \$8 million for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds | Deadline August 31, 2025     |
| <a href="#">Texas PACE Authority</a>                  | Pay for permanent improvements to the property that are intended to decrease water or energy consumption or demand                                  | Up to 35% of property's value   | Rolling Application          |
| <a href="#">Lone Star PACE</a>                        | Low-cost, long-term financing for energy efficiency, water conservation and renewable energy improvements at new and existing commercial properties | Up to 25% of property's appraised value   | Rolling Application          |
| <a href="#">New Technology Implementation Grant</a>   | Funds technologies that reduce emissions of pollutants from facilities and other stationary sources   | Up to 50% of project cost   | Closed; Expected Spring 2027 |



# Commercial Building Incentives

[Energy Efficient Commercial Building Deduction](#) - Funding for energy efficiency improvements through tax-deduction

## Eligible Applicants:

- Owners of qualified commercial buildings
- Designers of Energy Efficient Commercial Building Property (EECBP) or Energy Efficient Commercial Building Retrofit Property (EEBRP) installed in buildings owned by tax-exempt entities

## Qualifying Buildings:

- EECBP: Certified as being installed as part of a plan to reduce total annual energy/power costs by 25% or more
- EEBRP: Originally in service at least 5 years before the building's qualified retrofit plan was established and certified as meeting certain energy savings requirements

## Qualifying Improvements:

- Interior lighting; HVAC; Hot water systems; Building envelope

## Amount of Deductions on Property:

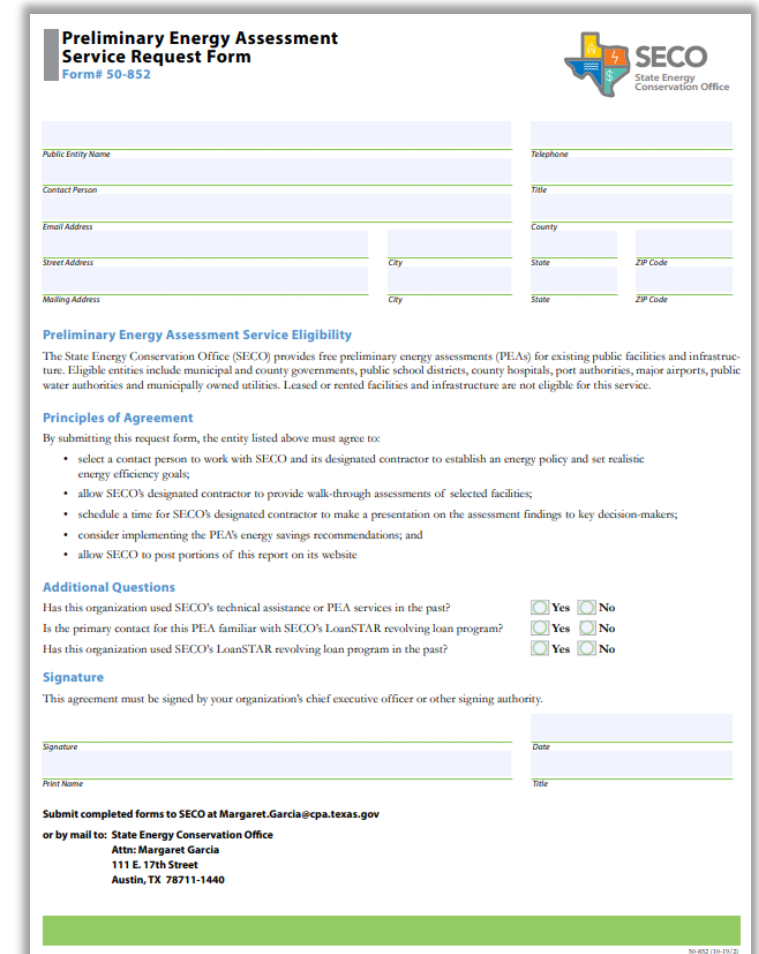
- Built before 2022, up to \$1.80 per square foot for achieving at least 50% energy savings
- Built 2023 or after, base deduction: \$0.50 to \$1.00 per square foot, depending on energy savings achieved (25% minimum)



# Preliminary Energy Assessments (PEAs)

Preliminary Energy Assessments are provided by the State Energy Conservation Office and offer cost effective resource efficiency measures entities can implement to decrease energy consumption at **no cost to you!**

- Help guide the development of an energy management policy
- Provides facility benchmarking using ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager
- Recommended maintenance procedures
- Develop efficiency level guidelines for equipment purchases



The image shows a 'Preliminary Energy Assessment Service Request Form' from the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO). The form is titled 'Form# 50-852' and includes a header with the SECO logo. It contains several sections for data entry: 'Public Entity Name', 'Contact Person', 'Email Address', 'Street Address', 'Mailing Address', 'Telephone', 'Title', 'County', 'State', and 'ZIP Code'. Below these fields is a section titled 'Preliminary Energy Assessment Service Eligibility' which states that SECO provides free preliminary energy assessments (PEAs) for existing public facilities and infrastructure. This is followed by 'Principles of Agreement' which lists four points: selecting a contact person, allowing SECO's designated contractor to provide walk-through assessments, scheduling a time for a presentation, and allowing SECO to post portions of the report. The 'Additional Questions' section contains three yes/no questions about previous SECO services, familiarity with the LoanSTAR program, and past use of the LoanSTAR revolving loan program. A 'Signature' section requires a signature and date from the chief executive officer or other signing authority. At the bottom, it provides contact information for Margaret Garcia at SECO, including an email address and a physical address in Austin, TX. The form number '50-852 (10/19/2)' is printed in the bottom right corner.

Source: SECO



# Possible 89th Texas State Legislature Impacts

| Bill Number                    | Topic   | Status                               |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><u>SB 1036</u></a> | Require solar panel sales companies and individual salespersons to register with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation.  | 05/26/2025 H Signed in the House     |
| <a href="#"><u>HB 3511</u></a> | Relating to the interconnection of electric vehicles to the ERCOT power grid. - enable the PUC to create programs that allows EV owners to participate in the ERCOT market by providing power stored in EV batteries back to the grid, or vehicle-to-grid (V2G) | 04/30/2025 S Received from the House |
| <a href="#"><u>HB 3237</u></a> | Relating to certain energy consumption goals for institutions of higher education and certain governmental entities.  | 05/05/2025 S Received from the House |
| <a href="#"><u>SB 783</u></a>  | Relating to certain regulations adopted by governmental entities for the construction or alteration of residential or commercial buildings  | 05/20/2025 E Effective on 9/1/25     |



# Electric Vehicle Funding Opportunities

## Federal:

### Commercial Clean Vehicle Tax Credit:

- Up to \$40,000 for qualified clean vehicles

[www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/commercial-clean-vehicle-credit](https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/commercial-clean-vehicle-credit)

Other funding potentially available depending on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act Funding

## Local- North Texas Council of Governments:

### North Texas Diesel Emissions Reduction Call for Projects

Deadline June 13, 2025

[www.nctcog.org/trans/funds/cfps/ntdercfp](https://www.nctcog.org/trans/funds/cfps/ntdercfp)

### North Texas Zero-Emission Vehicle Project Call for Projects

Coming June 2025

[www.nctcog.org/NTxZEV](https://www.nctcog.org/NTxZEV)

For more information on available funding go to [www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](https://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding)





# Electric Vehicle Funding Opportunities

Rebate Grants - Expected  
Summer 2026

Texas Clean School Bus  
(TCSB) - Expected Spring 2026

Texas Clean Fleet Program  
(TCFP) - Expected Spring 2027

Seaport and Rail Yard Areas  
Emissions Reduction (SPRY) -  
Expected Spring 2027

Texas Volkswagen Environmental  
Mitigation Program - All-Electric  
Grant Round - Open; August 31,  
2025

Emissions Reduction Incentive  
Grants (ERIG) - Expected Fall  
2026

Light-Duty Motor Vehicle  
Purchase or Lease Incentive  
Program - Expected Fall 2025


Governmental Alternative Fuel  
Fleet Grant (GAFF) - Expected  
Spring 2027



# Electrification Resources - AFDC


- Find Available Vehicles
- Fleet Benefits
- Charging EVs
- EVs in Fleet Applications
- Selecting Fleet EVs
- Installing Infrastructure
- EVs for Fleets Fact Sheet


<https://afdc.energy.gov/>







### Alternative Fuel and Advanced Vehicle Search





Find and compare alternative fuel vehicles, engines, and hybrid/conversion systems. Some of the light-duty vehicles may count toward vehicle-acquisition requirements for [federal fleets](#) or [state and alternative fuel provider fleets](#) regulated by the Energy Policy Act. For downloads of past model years, see the [publications search](#).





Light-Duty Vehicles 

All Vehicles 

#### Vehicles by Type



 Sedan/Wagon
  Pickup
  SUV
  Van

 Step Van
  Vocational/Cab Chassis
  Street Sweeper
  Refuse



 Tractor
  Passenger Van/Shuttle Bus
  Transit Bus
  School Bus

#### Vehicles by Manufacturer

Light-Duty



All  


Medium- and Heavy-Duty

All  

#### Engines and Hybrid/Conversion Systems

For medium- and heavy-duty vehicles:

ENGINE & POWER SOURCES  CONVERSION & HYBRID SYSTEMS 


 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY

Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

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## Alternative Fuels Data Center

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## Electricity Basics

## Benefits & Considerations

## Stations

## Vehicles

## Availability

## Conversions

## Emissions

## Batteries

## Electric Vehicles for Fleets

Electric vehicles (EVs) can fulfill many daily driving needs, making them a great solution for fleets. They offer many benefits and can fill roles in light-duty (LD), medium/heavy-duty (MD/HD), and even off-road applications.

The unique fleet environment presents considerations beyond those that consumers must address before "going electric." For example, fleet managers must understand the impacts of charging multiple vehicles while maintaining fleet operations and that larger MD/HD vehicles bring with them additional factors to consider. See [EVs in Fleet Applications](#) for more information on these considerations.

## Fleet Benefits

### Lower Costs

In addition to federal, state, or local incentives that can lower their purchase price, EVs offer high fuel economy, which translates to lower operating costs. Light-duty all-electric vehicle operation and maintenance (O&M) averages about 3 cents per mile according to the [U.S. General Services Administration](#). EVs achieve their best fuel economy during stop-and-go driving conditions typical of many applications. Electricity prices are also less volatile than those of gasoline/diesel, making it easier to predict fuel costs over time. Finally, lower off-peak electric rates may be available for charging, which further reduces EV fuel costs.



For a summary handout, download the [Electric Vehicles for Fleets fact sheet](#).

## Fleet Electric Vehicle Implementation Checklist

Use this checklist to ensure your fleet is prepared to implement electric vehicles and charging infrastructure.

### Selecting Vehicles

- ☐ Assess the fleet's driving/duty requirements, including daily driving requirements, environmental factors, heating/cooling loads, and auxiliary loads
- ☐ Assess applicable mandates or policies
- ☐ Explore federal, state, and local incentives, and determine budget
- ☐ Determine which [EVs are available](#) (considering both all-electric vehicle and PHEV options) that meet the requirements above
- ☐ Work with the vehicle provider(s) to verify the vehicle's:
  - ☐ Availability, cost, and warranty (including battery coverage)
  - ☐ Applicability to fleet needs
  - ☐ Charging needs and options for the number of vehicles needed
  - ☐ Maintenance and support, including local servicing availability and repair/maintenance beyond the warranty period



# Contact Us



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