DFW Clean Cities Newsflash
Official publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

June 2019

In This Issue

Upcoming Events | Regional News |
Industry Updates | Funding Opportunities
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

Open Now: Texas Environmental Excellence Awards

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is now accepting applications for the 2020 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards. The awards honor achievements in environmental preservation and protection. The deadline to apply is September 27, 2019.

Click here for more details and for information about the separate Environmental Educator of the Year Award.

June 30: Texas Association for Pupil Transportation Conference & Trade Show

The annual Texas Association for Pupil Transportation Conference & Trade Show will be held from Friday, June 28 through Sunday, June 30. If you plan on attending, stop by and say hello - NCTCOG will be with the Propane Council of Texas and the Propane and Education Resource Council. This year’s conference theme is “Bridging the Gaps; Improving Education Together.” The conference will be held at Hilton Anatole in Dallas, and the COG booth will be there 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, June 30.

Visit this page for more information.

July 2: 2019 Green Fleet Awards
100 Best Fleets has opened applications to enter the 12th annual Green Fleet Awards. The contest is free to enter and is open to both governmental and commercial fleets anywhere in North America. Results will be announced at a pre-conference for the Sustainable Fleet Technology Conference on August 6 in Durham, North Carolina, and are then published in the NAFA publication “Fleet Solutions.” The deadline to enter is July 2, 2019.

Read more [here](#), and register at this [link](#).

**July DFWCC Annual Meeting - Need a Host Location!**

The DFW Clean Cities Annual Meeting and Fleet Recognition Awards are coming up at the end of July, and we’re requesting a little help. NCTCOG is getting a makeover, which means our meeting rooms are under construction. So how can you help? Glad you asked! We are looking for one lucky person to help host this year’s Annual Meeting and Fleet Recognition Awards. The room should be able to accommodate approximately 80 people, and since our region is so large, a semi-centralized location is ideal so that everyone is easily able to attend.

Please email [cleancities@nctcog.org](mailto:cleancities@nctcog.org) if you think you would be able to house this event. We appreciation everyone’s understanding and help through this. Thank you for supporting DFW Clean Cities!

**Regional News**

**Dart Readies for New CNG Buses**

41 new compressed natural gas (CNG) buses will be hitting the streets soon under Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART). As of May 8, 13 New Flyer XN-40 40 ft. buses had been delivered, with an additional three to arrive each week. Bus operators can expect cleaner, smoother, quieter rides, a barrier door shield, automatic passenger counters and a new on-board battery management system. Commuters will also have USB ports located at 33 of the seats. Starting
in August, DART plans to focus the new buses on peak schedule adjustments by straightening out, simplifying and improving access on several routes in and around Dallas.

Read more here.

**Trinity Metro Debuts New Electric Bus**

Trinity Metro debuted its new electric bus called "The Dash" at the Kimbell Museum on Tuesday morning. The bright red buses will operate from downtown Fort Worth to the city’s cultural district along the 7th Street corridor. One bus and a charging station have been delivered to Trinity Metro, and three additional buses are expected to be delivered by the end of May. Service will begin on September 22, and fare structure will be the same as other local buses: $2 for a one-way trip, and $5 for an all-day pass.

Read more about The Dash here.

**DCTA Approves $2.4M in on-call Mobility-as-a-Service Contracts**

The Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) has expanded its transit offerings with a new Mobility-as-a-Service (MaaS) contract model. In April, DCTA’s Board of Directors approved a new suite of on-call contracts that will allow the allocation of up to $2.4 million of its annual operating budget to offer a variety of mobility services via task orders. In January, DCTA issued a request for proposals (RFP) to solicit proposals from firms to provide options to implement flexible, efficient and effective mobility services. Of the 37 firms that responded, 31 were selected to become a part of DCTA’s MaaS contract model.

Read more about DCTA’s Mobility-as-a-Service contract model here.

**Industry Updates**

**UPS Announces Renewable Natural Gas Agreement with Clean Energy**
UPS announced Wednesday an agreement with Clean Energy Fuel Corp. to purchase over 170 million-gallon equivalents of renewable natural gas (RNG) through 2026. The agreement represents the largest commitment for use of RNG to date by any U.S. company. RNG will be a key part of UPS's goal to increase alternative fuel consumption to be 40 percent of total ground fuel purchases by 2025. UPS has used more than 28 million gallons of RNG in its ground fleet since 2014, meaning that the company will now be using nearly as much RNG in one year as it has used over the past five years combined.

Read more about UPS's RNG commitment [here](#).

**United Airlines Launches "Most Eco-Friendly Commercial Flight"**

United Airlines made history last week with the departure of Flight for the Planet, the most eco-friendly commercial flight of its kind in aviation history. On the Flight for the Planet, United became the first known airline to demonstrate all of the following key actions on a single commercial flight: utilization of sustainable biofuel, zero cabin waste efforts, carbon offsetting and operational efficiencies. United is using the Flight for the Planet to evaluate key components of flying as sustainably as possible using current technology, resources and fuel-saving procedures. United's use of a biofuel blend in its flight achieves a greater than 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions on a lifecycle basis.

Read more about United's Flight for the Planet [here](#).

**Fiat Chrysler Proposes Merger with Renault**

Fiat Chrysler announced a proposal in late May to merge with France's Renault to create the world's third largest automaker, worth $40 billion, and combine forces in the race to make electric and autonomous vehicles. The merged company would produce some 8.7 million vehicles a year - surpassing General Motors and trailing behind only Volkswagen and Toyota. Renault's board met at its Headquarters outside of Paris and said afterward that the company will study the proposal "with interest."

Read more about the possible merger [here](#).

**ChargePoint and Electrify America Announce "Roaming" Partnership**
Electric vehicle charging networks have posed a challenge for on-the-go electric vehicle owners as each charging network has its own system with memberships. For EV owners, that can mean a handful of standalone apps or RFID dongles used to activate and pay for charging but charging an EV in America is about to get a little less painful. Earlier this week, ChargePoint and Electrify America announced a "roaming" partnership that will allow drivers to access public chargers on either the ChargePoint or Electrify America networks without having to create new memberships, registrations or payment configurations. The plan, set to begin later this year, will connect more than 30,000 Level 2 and DC fast chargers from Electrify America and ChargePoint across the U.S.

Read more about the groundbreaking partnership [here](#).

### Funding and Incentives News

**Volkswagen Funding Still Open**

The Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program has opened the first round of funding for projects to replace or repower old diesel school, transit, and shuttle buses. $11,684,806 in funding is available to the Dallas-Fort Worth area, including the counties of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. Check the link below for status updates on remaining funds in the DFW area and list of received applications.

Click [here](#) for more information about TxVEMP.

**Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects**

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has approximately $2 million in grant funding available through the Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects! Eligible applicants include local governments and private companies that contract with local governments. Eligible activities include the replacement of on-road diesel vehicles and of non-road diesel equipment. Funding levels are as follows:

- 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

A Call for projects webinar will be held on July 09, 2019, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

Visit [www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding) for more information and to apply.

---

**Clean Cities Sponsorship**

DFW Clean Cities (DFWCC) relies on sponsor support to fund its initiatives, including education and outreach to municipalities, community groups, and citizens, as well as advocating for alternative fuels vehicles and infrastructure in the North Texas region. To read more about becoming a sponsor or proposing a Clean Cities project please visit the [DFWCC website](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding).

Thanks to our current Level 2 DFW Clean Cities Sponsors!

---

**Resources**

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

---

**Contact Us**

Lori Clark
Clean Cities Coordinator
cleancities@nctcog.org

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