



Dallas-Fort Worth  
CLEAN CITIES

# DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official publication of Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

## October 2020

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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

#### ACT Virtual

DFW Clean Cities is proud to support ACT Virtual, a four-month online education series spotlighting the latest vehicle technology and infrastructure innovations that can help fleets achieve their economic and environmental sustainability goals. Fleet operators can register for free using code CC75 at [www.act-virtual.com](http://www.act-virtual.com).

Secure your spot today!

#ACTvirtual #electrification #hydrogen #RNG  
#sustainability #cleantech



#### Join us at ACT Virtual!

Fleets can register for  
**FREE** using the code **CC75**.



**Webinar: Preparing Your Hometown for Electric Vehicles (EVs)**

Join Louisiana Clean Fuels for a webinar to help rural municipalities prepare for an electrified future.

**Wednesday, October 14, 2020 | 2 PM CST**

**Audience:** Planning Commissions, Rural Utilities/ Co-Ops, Development Districts, Economic Development organizations, Developers & local elected officials.

**Topics:**

- EV & EVSE 101
- Understanding Batteries
- Vehicle Charging
- Site selection, land use, permitting, site design (ADA, LEED)
- Working with your utility
- Creative funding for municipal projects

**Speakers:**

- SWEPCO
- Western Farmers
- Adrienne Jaynes / Tulsa Clean Cities
- Ann Vail, Executive Director of LCF
- Francis Energy

To receive more information and register for the webinar visit Louisiana Clean Fuels [website](#).

### **Fleet Forward Conference: More Session Topics Announced!**

The Fleet Forward conferences, prepared by Automotive Fleet, Business Fleet, Government Fleet, Fleet Forward, Heavy Duty Trucking, and Work Truck magazines has announced new topics to be discussed. The agenda including presentations over Fleet Electrification, Commercial Vehicle Trends, Lessons Learned from Commercial Fleet Electrification Deployments, and more. This event will take place from November 9-13. View a complete list of topics and register [here](#).

## **Regional News**

### **New Timeline for Local Government Energy Reporting - 2020 Update**

**NEW FOR 2020:**

Many local governments in DFW are required to submit this report every year. Please note that all 2020 reports will not be due until **February 1, 2021** and will include electricity consumed during **CALENDAR** year 2020.

For more information on the Local Government Energy Reporting (LGER) program and annual report, visit the SECO LGER [webpage](#) for further updates. If you have questions about reporting requirements, please email [energy@nctcog.org](mailto:energy@nctcog.org)

the Road Garage is a tech-focused collision and repair center which intends to fix cars affordably, while tackling underemployment and transportation challenges among vulnerable populations. The first location in Irving is now open, and applications for technology-forward apprenticeships and training are online.

Learn more about On The Road Garage [here](#).

### **City of Grapevine Adds Hybrid Police Vehicles**

The City of Grapevine is one of the first cities in North Texas to implement hybrid police vehicles. The hybrid vehicle offers many environmental benefits and cost savings, while also meeting the

numerous demands of a police vehicle. The vehicles are outfitted with lithium-ion batteries that will allow the gas engine to shut off while still running cameras, radios, computers, and the air conditioning.

Read more about the new vehicles [here](#).

### DART Awards CNG Fuel Contract to Texas GLO

Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) has contracted the Texas General Land Office (GLO) over 4 million dollars to achieve fuel price stability over the next year. DART has 674 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) transit buses.

Read more about the contract [here](#).

### Trinity Metro is patrolling this Fort Worth train station with...a robot?

Transit agency Trinity Metro has recently begun using an autonomous robot to boost security at Fort Worth's Central Station. This 5-foot robot, named Sundance, has already drawn a lot of attention from the community. It is electrically powered and can patrol for up to 18 hours a day, 7 days a week. Read more about Sundance [here](#).

### High Potential Regions for Electric Truck Deployments

The North American Council for Freight Efficiency, in partnership with Rocky Mountain Institute have developed a report to identify the most efficient areas for regional haul trucking operations to transition to electric vehicle usage. In this report, the Texas Triangle was identified as one of the areas of particularly high potential for electric truck deployments. The Guidance Report proposes a three-part framework that the industry can use to prioritize regions for electric truck deployments:

- Technology – Identify the regions that are most favorable to the unique attributes of the technology itself.
- Need – Identify the regions that exhibit the greatest need for the technology.
- Support – Identify the regions that provide the most support for the technology

Find the full report [here](#).

## Industry Updates

### Corn Growers Help Grow Higher Ethanol Blends

For the past three years, the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) has been partnered with Wayne Fueling Systems to support the development of infrastructure for fuels containing up to 25% ethanol. This partnership has led to the sale of 50,000 pumps across the nation. Now, the NCGA is working with the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) to help fuel retailers expand use of higher blend fuels like E15 and E85 with a \$100 million fund.

Read more about these efforts [here](#).

### Calculating TCO for EVs: Where to Find the Greatest Long-Term Cost Savings for Medium and Heavy-Duty Vehicles

Several factors should be considered when determining the total cost of ownership (TCO) for medium and heavy-duty electric vehicles. Electric vehicles can offer maintenance and fuel savings of several thousand dollars per year but have a much higher upfront cost and require

charging infrastructure. These additional costs may be alleviated by state and local funding programs, further reducing the TCO. Early adopters of medium and heavy-duty electric vehicles can take full advantage of these programs as well as the long-term fuel and maintenance savings.

Read more about calculating TCO [here](#).

### Fleet Adoption of Alt-Fuel Technology Growing, New Report Shows

A new report indicates fleets have increased acquisition of alternative fuels over the past several years. Many fleets cited sustainability as the driving factor in purchasing alternative fuel vehicles, with greater interest being shown towards renewable natural gas and battery electric vehicles. Fuel savings and reduced maintenance costs were also considered when purchasing electric vehicles.

Read more [here](#).

### Blue Bird Increasing Production of Electric School Buses

Due to increasing demand, Blue Bird will be increasing their production capacity of electric school buses. Currently, nearly half of all Blue Bird's school bus sales are alternative fuel and electric. Electric school buses are an attractive opportunity for Independent School Districts due to many benefits including zero emissions, minimal maintenance costs, no fuel costs, and offering Vehicle to Grid (V2G) technology.

Read more about Blue Bird's advancements [here](#).

### Estes, Clean Energy Partner to Expand Natural Gas Vehicle Fleet

Estes Express Line, a privately owned freight carrier, is adding 50 new renewable natural gas (RNG) vehicles to their fleet. The RNG fuel is made from the decomposition of organic waste, helping capture the methane that would otherwise be released into the atmosphere. Depending on the source of the RNG it can reduce climate-harming greenhouse gases by 70% to 300%.

Read more about these vehicles [here](#).

## 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 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.

Eligible applicants:

- Governments or Governmental Subdivisions or Agencies
- Individuals

- Corporations
- Organizations
- Business trusts
- Partnerships
- Associations
- Other legal entities
- All applicants must be eligible to do business in Texas.

#### **Eligible Activities:**

Purchase and installation of new light-duty electric vehicle Level 2 charging equipment.

#### **Funding is available statewide for equipment installed:**

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 will be made 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%**

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

## **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](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

## 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 [InGevity](#)!



GPSINSIGHT

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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).