



# STAKEHOLDER UPDATE

AUGUST 2019

## U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$85 Million in Grants for Projects Nationwide to Expand Advanced Bus Technologies



WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) today announced \$84.9 million in grant selections through the [Annual Low- or No-Emission \(Low-No\) Grant program](#), which funds the deployment of transit buses and infrastructure that use advanced propulsion technologies. [Thirty-eight projects in 38 states](#) will each receive funding through the program.

"These grants will help communities nationwide bring the next generation of bus technology to enhance their transportation systems," said Secretary Elaine L. Chao.

Eligible projects include the purchase or lease of buses powered by modern, efficient technologies. These include hydrogen fuel cells, battery electric, and related infrastructure investments such as charging stations. "Since its establishment, FTA's Low-No program has funded over \$300 million in new buses, infrastructure, and training, helping create and maintain American jobs in a fast-growing industry," said FTA Acting Administrator K. Jane Williams. [{more}](#)

## Alternative Domestic Fuels for a Secure America

PLATINUM





Part of our nation's independence comes from relying on domestic energy. We continue to beat the drum about the importance of energy security. We're a country rich in oil, natural gas and propane. Using these domestic energy resources will help to better insulate us from the instability that plagues the globe today. Guest Article from T. Mouw [{more}](#).

## 15 New Jobs in Pulaski County for BMW Supplies

Governor Ralph Northam announced that BimmerWorld, a leading BMW parts supplier, will invest \$1 million to expand its operation in Pulaski County. The company will increase warehouse space to accommodate its customer service center and growing demand for parts. The project will retain 25 jobs and create 15 new jobs. [{more}](#).

## EPA Releases DERA Fourth Report to Congress



This fourth [report](#) summarizes the activities and progress we have made in fulfilling EPA's responsibilities under the DERA program. From FY 2008 to 2016, EPA has awarded \$629 million to retrofit or replace 67,300 engines or other pieces of equipment from port, airport, transit and school bus, rail, long and short haul truck, drayage truck, marine vessel, agriculture, construction, and other fleets. Over 454 million gallons of fuel has been saved as a result of DERA projects. EPA estimates that total lifetime emission reductions achieved through this DERA funding are 15,490 tons of particulate matter (PM) and 472,700 tons of nitrogen oxides (NOX). These reductions have created up to \$19 billion of health benefits. [{more}](#).

## Major Automakers and CARB Reach Agreement to Achieve 50 MPG by 2026

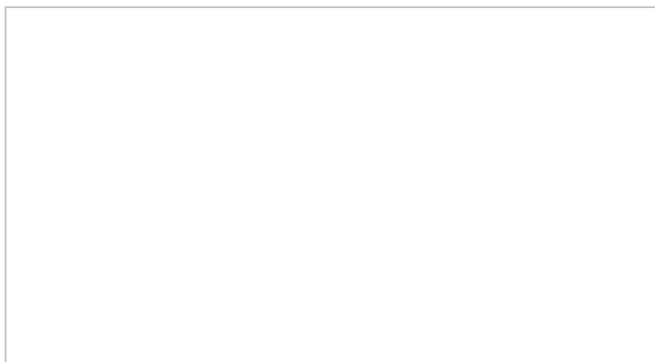


DIAMOND



GOLD





(From Washington Post) Four automakers from three continents have struck a deal with California to produce more fuel-efficient cars for their U.S. fleets in coming years, undercutting one of the Trump administration's most aggressive climate policy rollbacks. [{more}](#)

Related:

## Virginia Elected Officials and Leaders Speak Out Against Rolling Back America's Clean Car Standards

Virginia Delegate Schuyler VanValkenburg (District 72) and Virginia community leaders gathered for a press conference in Richmond to support vehicle efficiency standards and oppose the proposed rollback of America's standards by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Andrew Wheeler and U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Deputy Administrator Heidi King. [{more}](#)

## Matching Funds Available for Biodiesel Vehicle Wraps



The National Biodiesel board has launched its annual Vehicle Wrap Program and accepted applications through July 26, 2019. If you power your fleet or vehicles with biodiesel reach back to them for consideration next year. Let your community and customers know that you care about the environment by applying for matching funds to be used for promotional vehicle wraps. [{more}](#)

## Volvo Expands: 777 New Jobs in Pulaski County



DUBLIN-Governor Ralph Northam today announced that the Volvo Group will invest nearly \$400 million to expand its Volvo Trucks North America New River Valley (NRV) assembly operation in Pulaski County. Major components of the investment include a new 350,000-square-foot building that will ultimately house truck cab welding operations; an expansion of the existing plant to allow for further improvements to the facility's paint operations and overall material/production flow; and a variety of equipment upgrades, including installation of several state-of-the-art dynamometers for vehicle testing. Volvo considered sites in multiple other states for the expansion project, which will create 777 new jobs within approximately six years. [{more}](#)

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## Governor Northam Announces Dedication of Over \$12 Million for Electric Transit Buses



Governor Ralph Northam announced that more than \$12 million in state funding awarded to deploy electric transit buses in three Virginia localities, using nearly \$9 million from the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust (VW Trust) that the Commonwealth received as part of its settlement with Volkswagen. In total, 17 electric buses and charging infrastructure will be deployed by local transit systems in Alexandria, Blacksburg, and Hampton Roads. [{more}](#)

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## Donate Your Vehicle to VCC and Earn a Tax Deduction!



Virginia Clean Cities is a certified motor vehicle charity consigner! If you have a vehicle rusting away in your parking lot that you need to be rid of, and want a tax-deduction for it, we'd love to take it off your hands! [{more}](#)

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### **Support VCC with a Monthly Contribution of \$10, \$25 or \$50**

We count on a growing membership base to support the organization and its activities, and you can help our operation by joining us as a stakeholder, sponsor, or partner.

For more information about Coalition Membership, please visit the Coalition's [Join Us](#) membership page.

You can now support Virginia Clean Cities with a recurring monthly donation of as little as \$10. Your generous support helps VCC deploy EV charging stations, propane schools buses, and CNG transit vehicles. [{more}](#)

## **New and Returning Stakeholders**



Metropolitan Washington  
**Council of Governments**





## Upcoming Events

**August 21, 2019:** [National Clean Cities Conference](#) - Salt Lake City, UT

**September 17, 2019:** [Virginia Clean Energy Summit](#) - Richmond, VA

**September 14-22, 2019:** [National Drive Electric Week](#) - Various Locations

- [Richmond](#): September 14 9am-1pm
- [Leesburg](#): September 14 12pm-5pm
- [Charlottesville](#): September 15 10am-2pm
- [Herndon](#): September 17 4pm-7pm
- [Blacksburg](#): September 21 1pm-3pm

For a full list of upcoming events, please visit  
<http://www.vacleancities.org/events>

Thank you for your support of our organization, and we hope you enjoy this newsletter!

For more information from Virginia Clean Cities, please contact Alleyn Harned at [aharned@vacleancities.org](mailto:aharned@vacleancities.org) or (540) 568-8896.

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