Upcoming Events

- **Accelerating Virginia's Electrification of Trucks, Buses & Delivery Vans** 12/9 @ 9 a.m. EST
- **Virginia Clean Cities Beam Solar EV Charger Ribbon-Cutting**, 12/14 @ 2 p.m. EST
- **New Clean Transportation Funding Opportunities for Small & Rural Communities**, 12/15 @ 4 p.m. EST
- **Hampton Roads International Auto Show**, 1/7-1/9 2022

Solar Powered EV Charger, Cookies, and Coffee: VCC's New Beam Global EV Arc Ribbon-Cutting!

Join VCC and [Climate Action Alliance of the Valley](#) for an official ribbon-cutting ceremony of a new Beam Global EV ARC solar charging station at 1401 Technology Drive on December 14th from 2-3 pm. This innovative, off-the-grid charging solution was made possible by a federally-funded program to install EV infrastructure across the Mid-Atlantic Region.
Inaugural Drive Electric Virginia Forum Recap

Virginia Clean Cities hosted the Inaugural Drive Electric Virginia Forum on November 17th with an amazing lineup of speakers covering a wide range of topics on the current state of electric vehicles (EVs) in Virginia plus efforts underway to make EV adoption and charging accessible and equitable. We were excited to hear from the following speakers who shared their experiences, lessons learned, and initiatives they are currently working on.

**Highland Electric Fleets: Providing School Districts a Path to Electric School Buses**

Yellow school buses have long been an iconic symbol of the American education system. Today, in the United States, they transport over 25 million school children every day. These buses are vital to transporting children to and from school, and are also statistically the safest way to make these trips. Unfortunately, traditional diesel-powered school buses emit harmful local pollutants, including NOx and particulate matter.

These airborne pollutants are especially harmful to young children, as they have higher activity levels and rates of respiration, and their smaller bodies put them at ground level, where peak concentrations of the pollutants are found. The issue is further exacerbated by poor ventilation on diesel school buses, which can allow pollution concentrations inside the bus to reach up to 10 times that of ambient levels outside the bus.

**Fredericksburg City Public Schools Welcomes an Electric School Bus Demo**
On November 30th a Blue Bird electric school bus quietly made its way into Fredericksburg, Virginia and on December 1st it made some noise with a demonstration event for Fredericksburg City Public Schools. Fredericksburg City Public Schools, ABM, and Virginia Clean Cities came together to host an electric school bus demonstration event with Blue Bird Bus Sales of Virginia to show how electric school buses can serve the school district and its surrounding communities.

With the Fredericksburg City Councils’ pledge to power all city operations with renewable energy by 2035, and recent announcements in funding and support for electric school buses at the state and federal level, this demonstration came at an ideal time for the school district. While an electric school bus does come in at about three times the cost of a diesel bus, there are a variety of funding programs and incentives available and more coming down the pipeline. To move forward to a cleaner, green future, the city and schools are working together with ABM on an energy performance contract to finance their investments in clean energy projects such as the transition school bus electrification.

Virginian’s support a modern, electrified transportation system

As the world finds itself in this decisive decade to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, Generation180 developed this report to make the case for a

Electric School Bus Training Connections: Instrument Clusters

Interested in learning about what an
clean mobility future that will help to revitalize transportation in Virginia—bringing jobs, new economic investment, and growth along the way.

**Key Findings**
- 73% of Virginians think it is important for Virginia to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels and transition to clean energy.
- 70% of Virginians support state investments in modernizing and electrifying its transportation sector.
- 79% of Virginians have a positive view of electric vehicles.
- 58% of Virginians are likely to consider an electric vehicle for their next car.
- 67% of Virginians support implementing the Transportation and Climate Initiative Program.

Learn the basics about electric school buses with our Electric School Bus Training Connections Series! In this video, we review the instrument cluster on a Jouley electric school bus and highlight some of the differences between instrument clusters on diesel and electric school buses.

Learn more about the Thomas Built Jouley Electric Bus here.

Learn about our project to bring electric school bus demonstrations to schools in Virginia, Washington DC, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania here!

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**DOE funds EMPOWER Workplace Charging project**

On Nov. 1, 2021, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Vehicle Technologies Office announced the winners of the FY’21 “Low Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Vehicle Technologies Research, Development, Demonstration and Deployment” funding opportunity. Included in this year’s round was a Topic Area of “Electric Vehicle Workplace Charging.” One of the announced winners was the Columbia-Willamette Clean Cities Coalition (CWCC) and their EMPOWER proposal – “Equitable Mobility Powering Opportunities for Workplace Electrification Readiness.”

Leveraging their experience with the Drive Electric USA program, East Tennessee Clean Fuels is providing administrative support and project management guidance for the EMPOWER program.

This proposal included 30 DOE Clean Cities Coalitions as a large workforce that
would lead the boots-on-the-ground implementation of a new national workplace charging alliance. The work will begin with a year’s convening of diverse transportation electrification representatives that will share experience, listen and craft a program that will encourage participation by workplaces in diverse communities across America.

Interested in participating in an upcoming auto show?

HAMPTON ROADS INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW

VCC is partnering with the Virginia Auto Dealers Association supporting electric vehicle exhibits at two upcoming auto shows in Virginia Beach in January and in Richmond in February. If your company is interested in participating in these high profile events, please contact us today.

New and Returning Members!

Returning Coalition Level Member!

New Gold Level Member!

Interested in becoming a Virginia Clean Cities Member? Check out our membership page here or contact us with any questions!

Already a VCC member? Send us an email with any late breaking news or announcements that you want featured in next months newsletter!