

What kind of funding is available?

To ensure that this funding reaches high-need communities, **EPA will prioritize rural, Tribal, and low-income school districts in the selection process.** Prioritized districts will receive more funding per bus, but non-prioritized districts are still eligible for significant funds. **School districts can apply for 25 buses in one application.** You can find out if a district is prioritized by reading the program guidance and priority applicant list on our website.

Funding for buses serving school districts that meet one or more prioritization criteria

- Electric – Class 7+ : \$375,000 per bus
 - Electric – Class 3-6: \$285,000 per bus
 - CNG – Class 7+: \$45,000 per bus
 - CNG – Class 3-6: \$30,000 per bus
 - Propane – Class 7+: \$30,000 per bus
 - Propane – Class 3-6: \$25,000 per bus
- \$20,000 in additional funding per electric bus is available for charging infrastructure for buses serving prioritized districts.

Funding for buses serving non-prioritized school districts

- Electric – Class 7+ : \$250,000 per bus
 - Electric – Class 3-6: \$190,000 per bus
 - CNG – Class 7+: \$30,000 per bus
 - CNG – Class 3-6: \$20,000 per bus
 - Propane – Class 7+: \$20,000 per bus
 - Propane – Class 3-6: \$15,000 per bus
- \$13,000 in additional funding per electric bus is available for charging infrastructure for buses serving non-prioritized districts.

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Secure Futures Solar is Offering \$50k Grants for Schools to Get Electric Buses

For K-12 Schools that Win Funding through the EPA Clean School Bus Program, Secure Futures Solar Can Provide Up to \$50,000 to Cover the Total Cost of Equipment

In the clean energy world, all the buzz today is about electric vehicles — especially EV cars like Tesla, but also EV everything else, from 18-wheeler trucks to 2-wheeler motorcycles and motorized bicycles.

Secure Future Solar's customers in K-12 schools have also caught EV fever, and for them it's all about electric school buses, vans and even fleet cars.

That's good news for kids and drivers,



Join us on July 21st at 4 pm EST for our Technology Happy Hour featuring Claire Alford from Highland. Claire will be joining us to talk about Highland's turn-key model for electric school buses!

Highland can work with your school district to provide electric school buses, upgrade infrastructure, manage charging, and deliver service. Your electric fleet can save you money as with a Highland electric fleet you will have zero fuel costs, lower maintenance costs, and no up-front cost of acquiring an electric school bus fleet all while benefiting from all of the upsides of going electric!

since [an ESB is cleaner and quieter than the traditional diesel bus](#). Breathing cleaner air leads to healthier kids. Riding in a quiet bus makes the kids less stressed and better behaved, which increases their safety in a moving bus. A quieter and cleaner bus is also good for drivers.

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Email VCC Program Coordinator, [Sarah Stalcup-Jones](#), for more information about being a featured stakeholder.

If you want to check out our past sessions visit our [YouTube channel](#).

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Under new law, some of Virginia's government fleet is poised to go electric



A new state law could jump-start the conversion of much of Virginia's government vehicle fleet from gas-powered to electric cars by asking state officials to look at a vehicle's lifetime costs rather than just its sticker price before buying.

"We believe this will drive more electric vehicles out there," Sen. Monty Mason, D-Williamsburg and the law's patron, told a Senate panel this winter. "We believe it will save money for governments."

Virginia lawmakers remain divided on party lines when it comes to incentivizing electric vehicle purchases or adopting California-developed vehicle standards that aim to push manufacturers away from the internal combustion engine.

But during this year's legislative session, they unanimously agreed to Mason's **Senate Bill 575**, a measure signed by Gov. Glenn Youngkin that orders many state agencies to buy or lease electric cars rather than gas-powered ones unless a lifetime cost calculator "clearly indicates" that the gas version is cheaper.

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Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company's First Soy-Based City Transit Tires



The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company's first soy-based city transit tires could remove up to 20 barrels of oil from the production of tires to outfit a metropolitan area's bus fleet, the company noted in its May 4 announcement of the Metro Miler G152 and G652 tires.

The majority of Goodyear Metro Miler G152 and G652 tires will now use soybean oil to displace petroleum while delivering the same performance benefits, the company said. The United Soybean Board (USB) said these are the fifth commercially available soy-based tires resulting from the USB's soy checkoff research investment with Goodyear.

"USB is excited that Goodyear has released another tire that builds on the soy checkoff's research collaboration with them," said Susan A. Watkins, director with USB and a soybean farmer from Sutherland, Virginia, US. "The availability of these tires responds to what we have heard from fleet leaders from across the nation: They want more tires with soy for sustainability and performance."

Dustin Lancy, commercial product manager, Goodyear North America, said the Metro Miler G152 and G652 tires significantly reduce the amount of petroleum-based materials needed for production.

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Blink Charging Announces Acquisition of EV Charging Leader SemaConnect

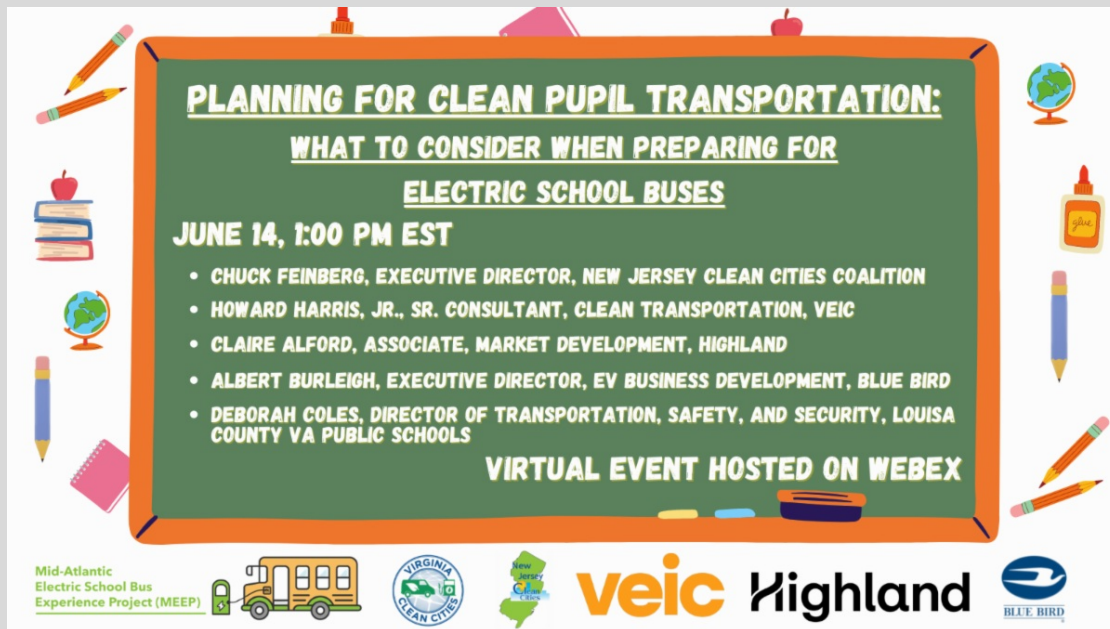
Blink Charging Co., a leading owner, operator, and provider of electric vehicle (EV) charging equipment and services, today announced the signing of a definitive agreement to acquire **SemaConnect**, Inc., a leading provider of EV charging infrastructure solutions in North America, for \$200 million subject to certain customary adjustments for working capital. The cash and common stock transaction will add nearly 13,000 EV chargers to Blink's existing footprint, an additional 3,800 site host locations, and more than 150,000 registered EV driver members.

With this acquisition, Blink Charging will be the only EV charging company to offer complete vertical integration from research & development and manufacturing to EV charger ownership and operations. This vertical integration creates unparalleled opportunities for Blink to control its supply chain and accelerate its go-to-market speed while reducing operating costs.

Blink will benefit from SemaConnect's in-house research & development, hardware design, and manufacturing capabilities. SemaConnect's manufacturing facility in Maryland will allow Blink to comply with the Buy American mandates and to position itself to significantly capitalize on the \$7.5 billion Biden Administration EV infrastructure bill and assist with the Administration's goal to build out the first-ever national network of 500,000 electric vehicle chargers along America's highways and in communities. The acquisition will also position Blink to assist the administration's development of a national EV charging network that provides interoperability among different charging companies, and is user-friendly, reliable, and accessible to all Americans.

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Webinar Recording



On June 14th, 2022 the Mid-Atlantic Electric School Experience Project (MEEP) hosted an informational webinar on what to consider when preparing for electric school buses. With an influx of funding opportunities for electric school buses, it is our goal to make sure that folks are up to speed as they begin to consider electrifying their school bus fleet.

If you were unable to attend the webinar, or would simply like to revisit the material, you you can watch the recording of it [here!](#)

If you are a school district or transportation contractor located in VA, NJ, PA, MD, or DC, who would like to get first-hand experience with electric school buses, please check out our [Mid-Atlantic Electric School Bus Experience Project](#)

[WATCH RECORDING](#)

JMU Issues Rideable Contracts for EV Chargers

In a pioneering effort for the Commonwealth of Virginia, James Madison University has issued contracts for electric vehicle service equipment (EVSE). Five state contracts are now live on JMU's [contract management system](#). These contracts allow other public universities, state agencies and local governments to purchase EVSE through the rideable (or cooperative) contracts.

The five contracts with pricing and technical specifications can be viewed

Check out Virginia Clean Cities' Online Store

online [here](#). Both Level 2 charging and direct current fast charging (DCFC) options are available in the contracts.

Several of the vendors on contract are either small businesses or minority-owned. The selected vendor contracts can be viewed below.

- **Autoflex, Inc. (contract # UCPJMU6203)**
- **Bethel Electric Construction Company (contract # UCPJMU6204)**
- **Independent Lighting (contract # UCPJMU6206)**
- **NovaCHARGE, Inc. (contract # UCPJMU6205)**
- **OpConnect, Inc. (contract # UCPJMU6207)**

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Virginia Clean Cities is excited to announce the launch of its new online store!

We only have a few designs on there at the moment, but be sure to check back in the coming months for more alternative fuel, electric vehicle, and Virginia Clean Cities merch!

Big thanks to our partners at **Bonfire** for helping us with our initial designs and getting us set up online!

[VISIT STORE](#)

New and Returning Members!



Returning Diamond Level Member!



Returning 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!

