



February 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

- [Energy Independence Summit](#), DC/virtual, Feb. 13 - 15
- [Technology Happy Hour: VA Transformer](#), virtual, Feb. 16
- [Virginia International Auto Show](#), Richmond, Feb. 17 - 19
- [Ready for EVs Workshop VA Beach](#), virtual, Feb. 22
- [Clean Energy Schools Symposium](#), DC, March 26 - 28

Click the events for more info!

Note from the Executive Director

This month marks the observance of Black History Month, and it's important to take time to reflect on the many generations of Black Americans who struggled with adversity to become full citizens and leaders of our country. We celebrate contributions by Black Virginians in our field of clean transportation and green fleets. From elected officials to fleet directors to operators to transportation technology integrators, I am honored to work with so many community-building citizen rock stars.

The Virginia Clean Cities Coalition was designated and ceremonially launched by [Hazel O'Leary](#) in October 1996. An American lawyer, politician and university administrator, O'Leary served as the seventh US Secretary of Energy from 1993 to 1997 as the first woman and first African American to hold that post.

VCC was recently selected by US Department of Energy for a multi-year Energy and Environmental Justice Pilot Program. There's much more work to be done, and we welcome your leadership with these efforts.

This month also marks the Valentine's Day holiday, and we at VCC would like to send our love to all of our stakeholders and members! See you in DC on February 13 -14 for the Energy Independence Summit and mark your calendars for April 6 for the Rally in Richmond at the Main Street Station.

Sincerely,

Alleyn Harned

US DOE Vehicle Technology Office Funding Opportunities

The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) intends to issue, on behalf of the Vehicle Technologies Office, a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled "Fiscal

Year 2023 Vehicle Technologies Office (VTO) Program Wide Funding Opportunity Announcement” (# EE0002892). Building a clean and equitable energy economy and addressing the climate crisis is a top priority of the Administration. This anticipated FOA will advance goals to achieve carbon pollution-free electricity by 2035 and to “deliver an equitable, clean energy future, and put the United States on a path to achieve net-zero emissions, economy-wide, by no later than 2050 to the benefit of all Americans.” The Department of Energy is committed to pushing the frontiers of science and engineering, catalyzing clean energy jobs through research, development, demonstration, and deployment, and ensuring environmental justice and inclusion of underserved communities.

EERE plans to issue the FOA this month via the [EERE eXCHANGE website](#). You can view the seven page Notice of Intent below.

[View PDF](#)

VCC recognized at Clean Fuels Conference



Virginia Clean Cities and other clean cities coalitions were recently recognized with the Impact Award at the Clean Fuels Conference. Held annually this conference brings together energy companies, clean cities coalitions, agriculture groups and government officials to discuss the latest innovations in biofuels.

Representing biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel, the sponsoring organization Clean Fuels Alliance America advances the interests of its members by supporting sustainable biodiesel, renewable diesel and sustainable aviation fuel industry growth.

Photo courtesy of Clean Fuels Alliance America.

This April: Rally in Richmond returns



VCC honors Virginia's green fleets and stakeholders with this special event held at the Main Street Station in Richmond. VCC will also hold a legislative awards program, technology workshop and present the stakeholder of the year. This event is an annual fundraiser to raise program funds to advance clean alternative fuel programs in Virginia. Your participation in this event will further our accomplishments. Join vendors, industry leaders, and fellow enthusiasts. Event includes vendor booths, an awards ceremony and more.

[READ MORE](#)

FTA Low-No and Bus Competitive Grant Programs



Join FTA this month to learn about a competitive funding **opportunity** for nearly \$1.7 billion that will support state and local efforts to modernize aging transit fleets with low- and no-emission buses, renovate and construct bus facilities, and support workforce development.

Potential applicants to the FY23 **Low or No Emission (Low-No) Program** and **Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Program** are welcome to attend either of the two scheduled webinars. Webinar attendees will learn about program eligibility, evaluation criteria and selection considerations, and the submission process.

The first webinar will be held on February 16, 2023, and will be a general session for all applicants. The second webinar will be on February 28, 2023, and will have a Q&A session focused on questions from rural and tribal applicants.

Applicants are encouraged to attend the webinars linked below to learn more and how to apply before the application deadline on Thursday, April 13, 2023.

FY2023 Low-No and Bus Webinar

Thursday, February 16, 2023 | 1:00-2:30 p.m.

FY2023 Low-No and Bus Webinar

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 | 2:00-3:30 p.m.

VCC welcomes Kat Thompson!



Show your VCC pride with new gear!



Kathleen "Kat" Thompson recently joined the VCC and JMU Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Energy (CASE) teams as the Administrative and Finance Coordinator.

She has a background in research and conservation and is excited to use her skills to help improve environmental quality throughout Virginia. Kat has a Bachelor's Degree in Environment and Society from Florida State University and a Master's Degree in Conservation Technology from Florida Tech. In her free time, she enjoys reading, baking and playing with her cat, Daniel.

Want to show your support for VCC and alternative fuels in Virginia? Check out our online store selection with **new, reduced prices!**

Our apparel features electric and other alternative fuel pump handles in a snazzy circle design that will get people talking to learn more.

Big thanks to our partners at Bonfire for helping us with our initial designs and getting this store set up online.

[ONLINE STORE](#)

EV demo vehicle available through Rural Reimagined



VCC is a partner in the [Rural Reimagined project](#), which is bringing electric vehicles (EVs), outreach and education to the rural Appalachian region spanning the states of Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee and West Virginia. If you are a part of local government in the Southwest Virginia region and are interested in borrowing a Chevrolet Bolt EUV for two to six weeks at no cost, let us know! Additionally, we will provide the resources you need in order to keep the vehicle charged, as well as help you find information on installing an EV charging station in your area.

[SIGN UP](#)

New and Returning Members!



Returning Platinum Level Member!



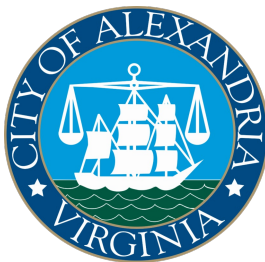
Returning Platinum Level Member!



Returning Diamond Level Member!



Returning Gold Level Member!



Coalition Stakeholder Level!



Coalition Stakeholder Level!

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!

Virginia Clean Cities



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