



April 2021 Stakeholder Newsletter



2021 Energy Independence Summit Wrap Up

Virginia Clean Cities and Coalition Stakeholders recently completed a successful round of meetings with Virginia's Congressional delegation to educate our federal policy makers about the need to expand America's use of alternative fuels, including biofuels, electricity, natural gas, and propane autogas, all of which are available as renewable fuels today.[\[read more\]](#)



Tazewell County Electric School Bus Demonstration with Blue Bird

You are invited to attend an electric bus demonstration and presentation by Blue Bird Buses and Nuvve Vehicle-to-Grid charging technology. Come check out this exciting new technology at an upcoming event in your region. VCC will be recording one bus demo for use as a webinar in order to educate a broader audience.

All events will be held in a safe, socially-distanced manner. Masks are required for attendance. Lunch will be provided for attendees.

Please RSVP as soon as possible!

**April 14, 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tazewell Career and Technical Center
260 Advantage Drive Tazewell VA
Indoor and Outdoor**

Register Today!



2021 Virginia General Assembly Wrap Up

The Commonwealth of Virginia advanced several bills that promote clean transportation policies during the 2021 General Assembly session. The following bills **were enacted into law** and will go into effect on July 1, 2021 and will benefit Virginia's economy, improve our environment, and improve our energy security.

- **HB 1850** - Motor vehicle weight limits; vehicles powered primarily by electric battery power
- **HB 1919** - Local green banks; authorizes a locality, by ordinance, to establish. (Can be used for alternative fuel vehicles and fueling stations)
- **HB 1965**- State Pollution Control Board; implementation of low emissions vehicle program
- **HB 1979** - Electric vehicle rebate program; creation and funding
- **HB 2054** – Comprehensive plan; provision for transit-oriented development
- **HB 2118** - Virginia Electric Vehicle Grant Fund and Program
- **HB 2282** - State Corporation Commission; transportation electrification, utility recovery of certain costs.
- **SB 1223** - Va. Energy Plan; amends Plan to include an analysis of electric vehicle charging infrastructure
- **SB 1282** - Greenhouse Gas Emission inventory
- **SB 1284** – Commonwealth Clean Energy Policy

F\$180 Million in FTA Grant Funding for Lo-No Emission Transit

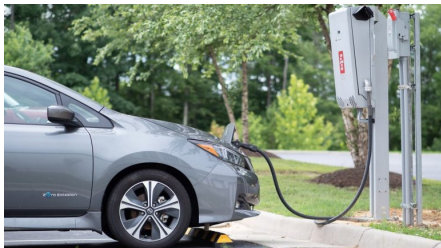
The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) recently announced availability of \$180M for FY2021 under its Low or No Emission Program (Low-No Program). The funding can assist transit operators to purchase or lease low- or no-emission vehicles, acquire related refueling or charging equipment and upgrade facilities. Funds can also cover costs incidental to the project, such as workforce development and training. The funding also appears to allow for relevant technical assistance. Applicants must provide 15% cost-share for buses and 10% for related equipment and facilities.

[\[read more\]](#)



**Help Expand EV Adoption Through
EV WATTS!**

We are recruiting public and private partners to contribute plug-in electric vehicle and charging data. We will facilitate your anonymized data contribution by the installation of a telematics device (device and installation provided for by the project) or data transfer from your existing platform. Contact VCC's **Marc Lemmond** today or visit our **EV Watts webpage**.



Seeking Fleets to Test Electric School Buses!

Is your school district interested in a multi-week "test drive" of a new electric school bus? The U.S. Department of Energy's Mid-Atlantic Electric School Bus Experience Project is working with Virginia Clean Cities, school bus manufacturers and other partners to provide free electric school buses for six to eight week demonstrations in school fleets over the next two years.

[\[read more\]](#)

Biden Unveils the American Jobs Plan, Pledges Billions for Transportation Modernization and Clean Transportation Initiatives

On March 31, President Joe Biden unveiled the American Jobs Plan Act which seeks \$2 trillion to create a more resilient grid, repair thousand of roads and bridges, modernize public transit, kickstart American electric vehicle manufacturing, improve air quality and public health outcomes, and create good jobs while putting American on the path to achieving 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2035. Read more about this and other potential clean transportation initiatives in this recent article from **White House Summary of the American Jobs Plan Act**.



Secretary of Transportation and Governor Northam Announce Major Milestone for Transforming Rail in Virginia

Governor Ralph Northam today announced the Commonwealth has



Roanoke Taking Charge!

Some Virginia cities are taking a proactive stance in improving air

finalized agreements with Amtrak, CSX, and Virginia Railway Express, launching a \$3.7 billion investment to expand and improve passenger, commuter, and freight rail in Virginia and create a vital connection in America's national rail network between the Northeast and Southeast corridors.

[\[read more\]](#)

quality and ensuring good stewardship of city resources by taking action in the clean transportation revolution. The City of Roanoke, for example, is using electric vehicles in city operations and helping to highlight that usage by participating in a project called EV-WATTS.

[\[read more\]](#)

New and Returning Stakeholders



Upcoming Events

- **Tazewell County Electric School Bus Demonstration - April 14**
- **Green Bus Summit - April 20 - 22**
- **Webinar: Preparing Rural Communities for Electric Vehicles - The User Experience - April 21**
- **Virginia Green Travel Conference - April 28-29**

VCC Calendar of Events

1401 Technology Drive, MSC 4115
Harrisonburg, VA 22807

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9/2/2021

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