

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to ITEP's Tribal Clean Transportation Program's Monthly Newsletter with information about Tribal clean transportation projects, funding sources, news stories/analysis, policy updates, and upcoming event/conferences. If this landed in your email inbox, you have been added to ITEP's TCTP listserv! If you wish to discontinue this, please send an unsubscribe request to heather.bartlett@nau.edu

Featured News



State of the US Clean Energy Transition: Recent Progress, and What Comes Next

The U.S. clean energy sector received massive legislative wins in recent years, particularly with the Inflation Reduction Act, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and CHIPS Act. But are these laws and the investments that come with them resulting in enough carbon-free power? While we've seen a good deal of momentum over the last year — such as record-breaking EV sales, new energy capacity dominated by renewables, and promising policy movements on key issues such as transmission — significant obstacles remain. Rising interest rates and project costs, permitting and siting challenges, and persistent supply chain issues are holding clean power development back at a time when it needs to be surging ahead. © World Resources Institute, 02/07/24

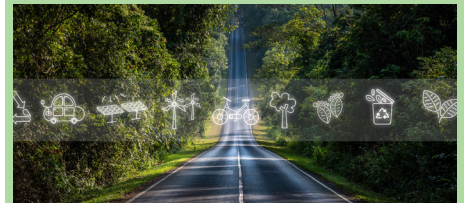
A Bumpy Road for Electric Vehicles

Extreme weather, long driving distances and a shortage of charging stations can discourage use of electric vehicles on many reservations. Speakers at a recent Tribal Clean Transportation Program roundtable discussed solutions. The pros and cons of electric vehicles on tribal nations sparked nearly two hours of discussion during a Feb. 7 roundtable on the Tribal Clean Transportation Program. The online roundtable, hosted by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals, attracted 65 participants from tribal nations and those interested in assisting them. Jaclyn Robinson, planning director for the Hoopa Valley Tribe in northern California, talked about the \$600,000 the tribal nation secured in grant funding for electric vehicle charging stations. © Native Science Report, 02/15/24

Clean Bus Planning Awards Support Fleet Electrification With Custom Transition Plans

Transit and school bus fleets across the nation are working hard to incorporate clean transportation solutions that help communities meet decarbonization goals and improve local health outcomes. However, planning for and deploying zero-emission fleets is a tall order, leaving many fleet managers with more questions than answers. To help solve the problem, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) announced the \$5 million Clean Bus Planning Awards (CBPA) program on February 20, which is funded by the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office). ©NREL, 02/20/24

Program Spotlight



REMINDER!

Tribal Clean Transportation Program Roundtable

April 3, 2024 | 10AM PST | 11AM MST | 12 PM CST | 1 PM EST



REGISTRATION FORM!

<https://forms.office.com/r/c10ep4xfm8>



Click on image to register!

Resources



Calculate Your Carbon Footprint- National Indian Carbon Coalition

When tribal governments, enterprises, members and employees use energy or products made with fossil fuels, they generate carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) that contribute to climate change. The combination of emissions containing carbon caused by work, home, transportation and daily life is called a 'carbon footprint.' Do you know what yours is? You can find out by using the TiCO2e Carbon Calculator. It's quick and easy to determine how your travel affects the environment, and to do your part to help offset the impact. The calculator also generates donations that help support tribal carbon mitigation projects, protect the environment and preserve Indian land for future generations.

Electric Nation: An Upper Midwest Intertribal Electric Vehicle Charging Community Network

The upper Midwest Inter-Tribal Electric Vehicle Charging Community Network (or "Electric Nation," the name created by the project team to unify project partners and tribal communities) is a Native-led public-private partnership to advance electric vehicle (EV) use and reduce barriers to clean, affordable transportation in tribal communities. The tribes involved include Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Red Lake Nation, and 21 other tribal Nations in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The project's high-level objectives are to bring clean, affordable transportation options to underserved tribal communities while also testing the effectiveness of EVs on rural, cold-climate tribal lands. Community-level objectives include increasing communities' access to essential services (e.g., medical, retail, and government), building long-lasting relationships, and reviving a sense of collaboration among the different regional tribes on clean energy and transportation.

Introduction to the Automotive Trends Report

This annual report is part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) commitment to provide the public with information about new light-duty vehicle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, fuel economy, technology data, and auto manufacturers' performance in meeting the agency's GHG emissions standards. Since 1975, EPA has collected data on every new light-duty vehicle model sold in the United States either from

testing performed by EPA at the National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory in Ann Arbor, Michigan, or directly from manufacturers using official EPA test procedures. These data are collected to support several important national programs, including EPA criteria pollutant and GHG standards, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards, and vehicle Fuel Economy and Environment labels. This expansive data set allows EPA to provide a uniquely comprehensive analysis of the automotive industry over the last 45+ years.

California's Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP)

The Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP) is a significant part of the LCTI portfolio. Administered by California's Air Resource Board (CARB), STEP's overarching goal is to increase transportation equity in California's disadvantaged and low-income communities. STEP awards support community-driven planning and capacity-building efforts as well as larger efforts to implement a community's previously identified transportation mobility solutions.

NATIONAL TRIBAL & INDIGENOUS CLIMATE CONFERENCE

September 9-12, 2024
Anchorage, Alaska

CALL FOR PROPOSALS OPEN!

NTICC is now accepting proposals for the 2024 conference!

Proposal Types Include:

- [Presentations](#)
- [Trainings](#)
- [Working Groups](#)
- [Climate Conversations](#)

Applications due by April 17, 2024

Questions? Email
NTICC@nau.edu

Click on image for more information

Funding Opportunities



Notice of Funding Opportunity for the Rural Business Development Grant Program to Provide Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems for Fiscal Year 2024

The Rural Business- Cooperative Service (RBCS or Agency), a Rural Development (RD) agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is issuing this notice to invite applications for grants to provide technical assistance for passenger Rural Transportation (RT) systems under the Rural Business Development Grant (RBDG) program and the terms for such funding. Grant funds will provide technical assistance for RT systems including designated funds to provide technical assistance to RT systems operating within Tribal lands of Federally Recognized Native American Tribes (FRNAT) (collectively “Programs”). This notice is being issued in order to allow applicants sufficient time to leverage financing, prepare and submit their applications and give the Agency time to process applications within fiscal year (FY) 2024. **Application deadline: April 1, 2024**

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over 5 years, 2022-2026. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Over \$3 billion is still available for future funding rounds. Funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2024 SS4A grant program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to support planning, infrastructure, behavioral, and operational initiatives to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets involving all roadway users, including pedestrians; bicyclists; public transportation, personal conveyance, and micromobility users; motorists; and commercial vehicle operators. **Planning and Demonstration Grant applicants have three deadlines:**

- **Thursday, April 4, 2024, 5:00 PM (EDT)**
- **Thursday, May 16, 2024, 5:00 PM (EDT)**
- **Thursday, August 29, 2024, 5:00 PM (EDT)**

Implementation Grant applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM (EDT) on Thursday, May 16, 2024.

Clean Bus Planning Awards

The Clean Bus Planning Awards (CBPA) program reduces barriers to zero-emission bus deployment by providing school and transit bus fleets with free technical assistance to develop comprehensive and customized fleet electrification transition plans. CBPA is managed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) and funded by the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office). CBPA connects transit and school bus fleets with technical experts to support planning for bus electrification. Fleets also have the option to receive free deployment assistance from NREL at the completion of their plan. CBPA is not an incentive program, and fleets do not receive direct funding—rather, selected applicants will be allocated technical assistance resources by NREL. **Application deadline: accepting on a rolling basis**

Additional Funding Resources and Opportunities:

1. [Joint office of Energy and Transportation](#)
2. [Federal Transit Administration \(FTA\)](#)
3. [Office of Indian Energy Policy and Programs](#)
4. [Build American Bureau](#)
5. [Transportation Funding Opportunities for Tribal Nations](#)
6. [NDN Collective](#)
7. [Interagency Working Group in Coal & Power Plant Communities & Economic Revitalization](#)

Upcoming Events

March

March 18-21, 2024

Tulsa, OK

[Tribal Energy Equity Summit](#)

The Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy (the Alliance) is an Indigenous-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting Native American tribes and Alaska Native Villages in transitioning to clean energy systems. Originally known as Covenant Tribal Solar Initiative and later as Indigenized and Indigenous Energy Initiative (IEI), the organization evolved into the Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy over nearly a decade. This transformation was fueled by insights gained while assisting tribal leaders and members nationwide, responding to the expressed needs of many Native American tribes.

March 25- June 18, 2024

Virtual

[U.S. Department of Transportation Climate Change Center 2024 Webinar Series](#)

The USDOT Climate Change Center is hosting a 2024 webinar series on climate change and transportation topics, ranging from greenhouse gas reduction strategies to climate resilience activities to research and technology advancements. Since 1999, the DOT Climate Change Center has led policy, research, and action across the US Department of Transportation to address the nation's most pressing challenges on climate change and transportation. Upcoming webinars include:

- Transit-Oriented Development
- Intermodal Freight Decarbonization
- Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Transportation
- Climate Change Research & Technology

May

May 6-9, 2024

Harrah's Cherokee Casino & Resort, North Carolina

[National Tribal Forum on Air Quality](#)

Join the national conversation on how tribes are implementing the Clean Air Act in partnership with the US EPA to improve air quality in our communities. For more information, please contact NTFAQ@nau.edu

May 20-23, 2024

Las Vegas, Nevada

[Advanced Clean Transportation Expo](#)

For more than a decade, ACT Expo has been uniting the transportation sector in its effort to reduce emissions from goods movement, the service industry, and passenger transportation while also driving economic sustainability. This annual event offers attendees access to the latest technologies, services, and vehicles driving the transition to low- and zero-emission transportation solutions.

August

August 25-29, 2024, Durant, OK

[Early Bird Registration! National Transportation in Indian Country Conference](#)

The National Transportation in Indian Country Conference is a one-stop-shop transportation conference for tribes by tribes. NTICC offers access to relevant training and an opportunity for Tribal transportation professionals to engage with federal officials and their Tribal transportation peers regarding Tribal transportation issues and challenges. NTICC provides information and resources for all who are committed to improving the transportation infrastructure of Indian Country and the safety of those who live, work, and travel the roadways of Alaska Nation and Native American lands.

Virtual, August 28, 2024

[National RTAP Learn about TACL: The Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library](#)

TACL, the [Transportation Technical Assistance Coordination Library](#) helps rural and tribal transit agencies access information about public transportation coordination. The session instructs on how to use TACL and includes a Resource Feature by N-CATT Director Andrew Carpenter on [GTFS Flex](#).

September

September 9-12, 2024, Anchorage, AK

[National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference](#)

We are pleased to announce the 2024 Biennial National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference (NTICC). This event will convene knowledge holders on climate change and resilience efforts with an emphasis on the intersection, inclusion, and honoring of Traditional and Indigenous Knowledge. We welcome and encourage all U.S. Tribal and Indigenous nations and Indigenous Peoples from throughout the world, including our Elders and Youth. Come listen, learn, and share our collective efforts to protect our culture, non-human relatives, and environment.

September 9-12, 2024, Anaheim, CA

[RE+ 24 Renewing What's Possible](#)

RE+ is the evolution of SPI, ESI, and Smart Energy Week. Originally developed by the nation's leading solar energy organizations to engage the business community, the Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA), and the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA), RE+ reflects an ongoing entrepreneurial approach to renew best practices across the clean energy landscape as the marketplace evolves. Registration to RE+ gives you access to solar, energy storage, hydrogen, EV infrastructure, grid edge technology, and wind power education sessions and exhibiting companies, along with multiple days packed with networking events.