

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



[Tribal Leaders Called To Weigh In On Clean Energy Tax Credits Final Rule](#)

Tribal leaders are being invited to weigh in on proposed tax regulation rules that could impact their nations' access to clean energy tax credits. In a letter issued last week, United States Treasurer Chief Lynn Malerba (Mohegan) invited tribal leaders to an upcoming consultation where they can offer input on proposed final rules that affect how tribal governments and other eligible entities can benefit from tax credits. © Tribal Business News, 03/16/24

[Biden-Harris Administration Finalizes Strongest-Ever Pollution Standards For Cars That Position U.s. Companies And Workers To Lead The Clean Vehicle Future, Protect Public Health, Address The Climate Crisis, Saves Drivers Money](#)

Today, March 20, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced final national pollution standards for passenger cars, light-duty trucks, and medium-duty vehicles for model years 2027 through 2032 and beyond. These standards will avoid more than 7 billion tons of carbon emissions and provide nearly \$100 billion of annual net benefits to society, including \$13 billion of annual public health benefits due to improved air quality, and \$62 billion in reduced annual fuel costs, and maintenance and repair costs for drivers. © DOI Press, 03/20/24

[Tribal Company And Oregon Battery Startup Create Unique Partnership In Pursuit Of Clean Energy](#)

A startup developing long-duration batteries is teaming up with a Pacific Northwest tribe to build innovative energy storage devices. Puyallup Tribal Enterprises has signed an exclusive manufacturing deal with Portland, Ore.-based Skip Technology, and is the lead investor in a \$1.3 million round that the startup recently closed. The tribe, located south of Seattle, said it was eager to diversify its economic base beyond casinos and Skip Tech needed a manufacturer. But the partnership was a fit on an important, deeper level as well, according to leaders from each group. © Geek Wire, 04/29/24

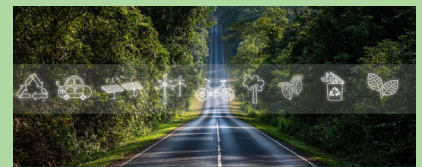
[EPA Partners with Energy Communities to Support Community-Driven Energy Transition and Economic Revitalization Goals](#)

Today, May 1, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced two communities will receive technical assistance through the Energy Communities Technical Assistance Pilot program. EPA and recipient communities will work together to develop implementable action plans that promote environmental and economic revitalization as part of their energy sector transformation. © EPA News Release, 05/01/24

[Biden-Harris Administration Announces \\$71 Million Through President's Investing in America Agenda to Electrify Tribal Homes with Clean Energy](#)

The Department of the Interior today announced the availability of \$71 million in funding through President Biden's Investing in America agenda to help Tribal communities electrify their homes. This investment is a critical step toward the goal of electrifying all homes in Indian Country with clean energy sources and advances the Biden-Harris administration's work to reach a carbon-free electricity sector by 2035. © DOI Press Release, 05/01/24

Program Spotlight



REMINDER!

Tribal Clean Transportation Program Roundtable

June 5, 2024

11AM PST | 12 AM MST | 1 PM CST | 2 PM EST

Please note start time change

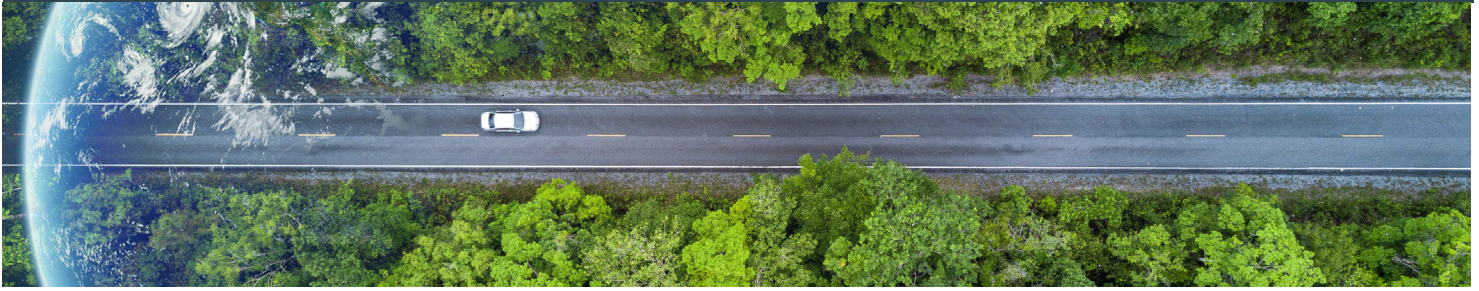


REGISTRATION FORM!

<https://bit.ly/3WrmXjz>



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.

The poster features a background image of a bear in a natural setting. At the top right, there are two circular logos: one for 'WETWIRE by TRIBAL' and another for 'National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference'. The main text reads: '2024 National Tribal and Indigenous Climate Conference (NTICC)', 'September 9-12, 2024', and 'Anchorage, Alaska'. A large yellow banner says 'Registration is Open!'. Below this is a QR code and the URL 'bit.ly/nticc2024'. To the right of the QR code, it lists 'Registration Fees: \$250 in-person / \$50 virtual' and 'Deadlines: In-person: August 19th, Virtual: September 6th'. At the bottom right, it says 'Questions? Contact us at NTICC@nau.edu'.

Funding Opportunities



[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.

[Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program](#)

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP) has up to \$225 million to grant to Tribal governments and Alaska Native entities for Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates. This program will provide up to \$14,000 per eligible household for energy efficiency and electrification home upgrades. Application deadline: **Application rolling and are open through May 31, 2025**

[Pollution Prevention Grant](#)

The purpose of the Pollution Prevention grant is to provide businesses with technical assistance (e.g., information, training, tools) and to encourage the development and implementation of pollution prevention (P2) practices. All P2 grants projects selected under this grant support at least one of the EPA's P2 Program's six national emphasis areas (NEAs). Businesses can save money by reducing their resource use, expenditures,

waste and liability costs, while also reducing their environmental footprint and helping to protect human health and the environment. **Application deadline: May 17, 2025**

[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**

[Tribal and Territory Grants: Diesel Emissions Reduction Act](#)

EPA anticipates awarding approximately \$9 million in DERA funding under this announcement. A total of \$8 million will be made available to Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages, and \$1 million will be made available to territory governments. EPA anticipates awarding twelve to eighteen grants or cooperative agreements to Tribal governments (or intertribal consortia) and Alaska Native Villages and three to five grants or cooperative agreements to territory governments. **Application deadline: December 6, 2024**

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

May

May 20-23, 2024
Las Vegas, NV

[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.

[Webinar: Reliability Strategies for Electric Vehicle Charging](#)

Virtual May 23, 2024

The Joint Office will host a webinar on recent updates from the National Charging Experience Consortium (ChargeX Consortium). Consortium leaders will present the latest findings from recent publications, including best practices for payment systems and recommendations for minimum required error codes. Experts from the Joint Office will cover cutting-edge topics and key concepts in electric-vehicle (EV) charging, including interoperability, planning resources, and new trends in the industry.

[EPA Clean School Bus Program: Joint Office Technical Assistance Webinar Series](#)

Webinar Series May –September 2024

Authorized by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, EPA's Clean School Bus Program provides \$5 billion over five years to replace school buses with low- and zero-emission school buses. Additionally, NREL's \$5 million Clean Bus Planning Awards Program provides free technical assistance to create comprehensive and customized bus electrification plans for fleets.

- **May 22 @ 1 PM ET** – Equipment Overview, Future Proofing, EVSE RFPs, and Best Practices
- **June 26 @ 1 PM ET** – Differences Between ESBs and ICE Buses, ESB Maintenance, and Bus RFP Best Practices
- **July 24 @ 1 PM ET** – Battery Overview, Recycling/End-of-Life Options, and Warranties
- **August 28 @ 1 PM ET** – Building a Case For ESBs in your Fleet including Benefits, Total Cost Of Ownership (TCO), and Emissions Calculators
- **September 25 @ 1 PM ET** – Electrification Process including a Step-by-Step Guide for New Adopters

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.