

Spokane Regional Clean Transportation Coalition

Meeting Notes

July 18, 2024

In attendance: Rendall Farley, Jami Hayes, Jackie Churchill, Kelly Thomas, Rick Giddings, Brandon Paschal, Christian Bigger, Adam Jackson, Bob Turner, Michael Redlinger, Jason Lien

- Agenda Item 1 – Announcements / Updates
 - Jason provided a few general updates:
 - The [Green Transportation Summit & Expo](#) is next month – Aug 20-22 in Tacoma. Jami asked for a report back from those that attend (add to the September Coalition agenda).
 - Lewis County Transit, based in Centralia, WA, is currently testing hydrogen fuel cell buses. The first bus fleet to do so in the state. Christian noted that Lewis County presented at the NW Renewable Hydrogen Conference that was held in Spokane in June.
 - WA Dept of Commerce is launching an EV Instant Rebate Program this August. Qualified low-income residents are eligible for the rebate when purchasing new or used electric cars.
- Agenda Item 2 – New Grant Opportunities / Coordination
 - WA Dept of Ecology Grants
 - [Air Quality Clean School Bus Grant Program](#) – open now and due 8/15/24.
 - [Charge Where You Are: Level 2 EV Charging](#) – \$3.52 million available. NOFO released on 7/9/24 and applications due 8/29/24. Private businesses are eligible as well as public entities.
 - [Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program](#) (CFI)
 - FHWA program authorized through the BIL. Round 2 NOFO out on 5/30/24. \$1.3 billion available for publicly accessible EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure. Applications due 8/28/24.
 - [National EV Infrastructure Program](#) (NEVI)
 - Upcoming opportunity in late 2024 through WSDOT. Formula funding awarded to states through the BIL. WA has been allocated \$71m over 5 years. Funding to support DCFC installation along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors.
 - WSDOT will release these funds through 3 RFP rounds. The first round will come later this year with around \$25m available. Additional funding rounds are planned for 2025 and 2026.
 - Eligible corridors in our region include I-90, US-2, US-195, and US-395.
 - WA State EV Charging Program

- Upcoming opportunity through WA Dept of Commerce with expected NOFO release in September 2024 and applications due in December 2024. Provides funding for EV charging sites.
 - Avista has had success with this program in the past and plans to submit in this next round. Reach out to Rendall Farley if you'd like to partner with Avista on any projects.
 - Rendall noted that the previous round of this program awarded funds for EVSE at several schools, universities, and some multi-family housing sites in our greater region.
- Agenda Item 3 – Smart Mobility
- Jason gave a brief recap of the Smart Mobility work that SRTC is leading, which will focus on the use of technology in the region's transportation system. An element of the work is an update to the regional EV charging buildout plan—this work will begin soon.
- Agenda Item 4 – Next Meeting
- General information was shared at the end of the meeting:
 - Christian noted that STA is using renewable diesel in its bus fleet. Rick added that the city is also using this, though they switch to conventional diesel in the winter to avoid the clogging/freezing that can occur in vehicles during very low temperatures. It is possible to blend renewable diesel with conventional.
 - The meeting ended at 3:35pm. Jason will send an invite for the next meeting in September 2024. The planned agenda includes a guest talk by STA on its fleet transition plan.