



Quarterly

January 1- March 31, 2025

Happy Spring!

In this issue a special thanks, a poll on school bus electrification in NY, EV training opportunities, upcoming events, and more!

A thank you note from the Director

Dear GRCC community members,

We've nearly completed our Stakeholder outreach initiative and we just want to thank you for taking the time to meet with us. Meetings like this are invaluable to our mission and to the wider community as we learn how to support each other and collectively move the needle closer to achieving our regional and state energy and climate goals, and help our region thrive economically and environmentally. We're grateful to be a part of this community!

We doubled our survey response rate this year! Thanks to all of you so much for taking the time to answer yet another survey. Recording your activities in the alternative fuel sector helps us understand how our region is making the transition to cleaner fuels, and how much of an impact we are having in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and gasoline gallons used.

At the federal level, Clean Cities and Communities partnerships have been advancing clean transportation solutions since 1993, amidst many changing administrations and federal priorities. We will remain focused on our mission and will continue to support our stakeholders in advancing energy security and resilience, and mitigating the effects of greenhouse gas emissions. Onward!

~ Olivia Arnone, Director, GRCC
Senior Program Manager, Causewave Community Partners

Industry News

NYSERDA Clean Transportation Prizes Announced

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has been actively supporting clean transportation initiatives through various programs. In March 2025, NYSERDA announced \$2.9 million in awards to 29 community-led projects under the Clean Mobility Program. Each project received up to \$100,000 to conduct feasibility studies on shared electric transportation solutions, such as e-bikes, e-scooters, on-demand electric vehicle ride-hailing, and shared electric vehicles, aiming to enhance mobility and reduce emissions across the state. See the announcement on NYSERDA's website [here](#) for details.

The Global Origins of Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Understanding the origins of greenhouse gas emissions is crucial for developing effective strategies to mitigate the effects on our health and the environment. A recent analysis by the World Resources Institute (WRI) sheds light on this by breaking down emissions by sector: **Energy Production**, (in which transportation contributes 13.7% of emissions globally); **Agriculture; Forestry and Land Use; Industrial Processes; and Waste Management**. Review WRI's analyses and insights [here](#).

The Future of Electric School Buses in New York State

New York's 2035 mandate to electrify all school buses is facing growing pressure due to financial uncertainties and policy pushback. A recent [WSKG article](#) highlights the challenges local districts face in meeting this goal, particularly amid unclear federal funding and proposed state legislation to allow opt-outs.

As highlighted in Education Week (Feb. 2025), districts like Little Rock, AR, were forced to halt electric school bus rollouts after decommissioning older diesel buses—anticipating federal rebates that never came. These funding freezes have disrupted plans to modernize fleets, especially for students with disabilities, and threaten progress on clean transportation initiatives. The cuts underscore the growing gap between climate goals and the financial support districts need to meet them. Read more [here](#).

Do you support school bus electrification, regardless of a state mandate? We'd like to know what you think. Respond to our ONE MINUTE poll [here](#)!

Funding

The Joint Utilities of New York offer a range of programs to support fleet electrification through the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Make-Ready Program. This initiative provides incentives that can cover up to 90% of utility-side infrastructure costs and a portion of customer-side costs to help fleets transition to electric vehicles. Additional support may be available for publicly accessible charging stations, disadvantaged communities, and transit bus depots.

More information on these programs can be found on the Joint Utilities' website: [Joint Utilities of NY – Fleet Electrification Programs](#)

NY School Bus Incentive Program

Incentive program to accelerate the deployment of zero-emission school buses. NYSBIP now includes Visiting ESB Charging Vouchers, mileage exceptions for older buses, and updated fleet certification requirements. More info [here](#).

For a list of incentives and funding opportunities available by state or fuel type, visit the **AFDC laws and incentives** page [here](#).

For information on a variety of funding and incentives relevant to our stakeholders, see **GRCC's Funding and Incentives** web page.

Webinars

State of Sustainable Fleets presents

Integrating Charging Into Fleet Management.

Join industry experts from US Foods, First Student, Penske, and Geotab as they share insightful case studies on optimizing charging operations for maximum uptime through strategic planning and technology integration. **Wed, Apr 9, 1:00 - 2:00 PM EST.**

For more information and registration, visit [here.](#)

Charge at Home Roundtable Series

Virtual education and technical assistance-focused sessions designed to support multifamily housing (MFH) stakeholders interested in EV charging at their properties.

April Roundtable. **Thurs, April 24, 1:00 pm EST.**

Register [here.](#)

Building EV-ready Communities to Accelerate Adoption

FORTH presents key strategies, programs and partnerships that support the expansion of EV charging access in both urban and rural areas. Best practices for promoting workplace charging and expanding charging infrastructure in multifamily housing.

Additionally, a spotlight [Charging Smart](#), a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)-funded program that provides guidance on EV and EV charger education for commercial property owners.

Tues, May 13, 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM EST.

More information and registration [here.](#)

In case you missed it....

Here's the recording from the March 19 webinar with GreenSpark Energy, Greater Rochester Clean Cities, Plug In America, and NYSERDA: [Power Up Your Business: The Benefits of Solar & Electrification](#) covering incentives and solutions.

Events and Opportunities



Conference: April 28-May 1

Expo: April 28-30

Anaheim Convention Center

ACT Expo is North America's largest commercial transportation event spotlighting the clean vehicle technologies and fuels driving economic and environmental fleet sustainability. Industry leaders convene at the annual event to unveil vehicles, products, and services, and announce new partnerships and first-of-their-kind projects.



Roadmap Conference

Detroit, MI, October 14-16, 2025



Attend the premier electric transportation conference in the United States, October 14-16 in Detroit, Michigan.

***Free Online Electric Vehicle Safety and Service Course**

The Trucking Association of New York (**TANY**) in partnership with the Consortium for Worker Education (**CWE**), Bronx Community College, and CALSTART is pleased to offer TANY members a **free** online electric vehicle safety and service course. Online instruction is being offered for ASE Test Prep for Level 1 and Level 2 Electric Vehicle Safety Certification. This 25 hour course, to be completed at your own pace within a 3-month period, is designed to equip fleet technicians with the practical knowledge needed to excel in the certification tests. More information [here](#).



Electric Vehicle Essentials ONLINE:

EV Training for Technicians and the Related Workforce

4 Wednesdays starting April 9 or May 7

Introduction to electric vehicle (EV) and hybrid-electric vehicle (HEV) technology, systems, and safety to a variety of workers involved in the vehicle maintenance, service, and repair sectors. More information and registration [here](#).



The Deadline to submit your fleet and charging station updates has been extended to April 15!

[Complete our questionnaire](#) to contribute to our regional clean transportation inventory!

