



South Carolina Electric Transportation Network June Newsletter

In the News

The Kingstree News: Biden-Harris administration announces \$9,335,000 in rebates for Clean School Buses Across South Carolina

“Recently, the Biden-Harris Administration announced the recipients of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) 2023 Clean School Bus Program rebate competition, funded by President Biden’s Investing in America agenda. The rebates will help selectees purchase over 44 clean school buses in eight school districts across South Carolina,” according to a submitted report from The Kingstree News.

[\(Read More\)](#)

The Post and Courier: City of Charleston seeks grant funding for its first electric garbage trucks

“The city of Charleston recently applied for a federal grant to help finance the purchase of two new electric-powered garbage trucks, which will help the city start to eliminate emissions from its fleet of vehicles,” Andrew Brown of The Post and Courier reports.

[\(Read More\)](#)

The Post and Courier: Volvo celebrates production launch for all-electric EX90 SUV at \$1.2B SC campus

“Volvo Cars has started production of the battery-powered EX90 at its Ridgeville plant, with the first electric sport-utility vehicle scheduled for delivery to an unnamed U.S. customer later this year,” writes David Wren with The Post and Courier.

[\(Read More\)](#)

Electrification Coalition: CFI Second Round NOFO: Top 10 Takeaways

“On May 30, 2024, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the second round of Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant. This grant will build a better America by deploying tens of thousands of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations throughout the U.S. in urban and rural communities and along alternative fuel corridors,” according to an article written by the Electrification Coalition.

[\(Read More\)](#)

The New York Times: Electric Cars Are Suddenly Becoming More Affordable

“Regarded by conservative politicians and other critics as playthings of the liberal elite, electric vehicles are fast becoming more accessible. Prices are falling because of increased competition, lower raw-material costs and more efficient manufacturing. Federal tax credits of up to \$7,500

for new electric cars, often augmented by thousands of dollars in state incentives, push prices even lower.," writes Jack Ewing with The New York Times.
([Read More](#))

Bloomberg: Long-Range EVs Now Cost Less Than the Average New Car in the US

"The automotive industry has entered a fiercely competitive phase in the electric vehicle transition, and it's producing an intriguing result for US car buyers: the first long-range EVs that are cheaper to buy than the average gas-powered car. At least three manufacturers – Tesla, Hyundai-Kia and General Motors – now offer EVs with more than 300 miles (480 kilometers) of range for less than the cost of the average new vehicle sold in the US," Tom Randall with Bloomberg reports.
([Read More](#))

Events

June 17

1:00-5:00 PM

[Virtual Joint Office EV Working Group Meeting](#)

June 18

2:00-3:30 PM

[Joint Office Webinar: Engaging Utilities: Rural Cooperatives Working to Deploy EV Charging](#)

June 20

11:00 AM

[SC Electric Transportation Network Call](#)

June 20

2:00 PM

[Electrification Coalition Webinar: Scaling EVs: Working with Utilities to Support Electrification](#)

June 25

4:00 PM

[Joint Office Webinar: Discover the National Zero-Emission Freight Corridor Strategy](#)

July 10

Madren Center

Clemson, SC

8:00 AM-7:00 PM

[SC Rural Transit Day](#)

July 24-25

JW Marriott

Austin, TX

[EV Charging Infrastructure South Conference](#)

July 24
2:00-6:00 PM
Trident Technical College- Palmer Campus
Charleston, SC

[Powering the Palmetto State: Advancing Freight Electrification](#)

August 27-29
Philadelphia Marriott Downtown
Philadelphia, PA
[Zero-Emission Bus Conference](#)

Opportunities

The Energy Office finalized a Request for Proposals (RFP) for its Electric Vehicle (EV) Awareness Campaign. The solicitation is available through **June 25, 2024**, on the [South Carolina Procurement Services website](#). The Energy Office seeks assistance in developing an EV Awareness Campaign for South Carolina. This public information campaign was recommended in the [2022 SC EV Stakeholder Initiative Report](#) to provide South Carolinians with helpful resources and to aid in EV adoption.

[SC Electric Vehicle Awareness Campaign Request for Proposals Posted](#)

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, through the Department of Energy, has made available \$54M in federal funding for:

- Investments at the local level that address key barriers to expanding access to electrified mobility options for individuals without home charging.
- Accelerating the transition to electrified fleets.
- Maturing the implementation of managed charging systems to mitigate impacts and optimize usage of the grid.

Full Applications due **July 16, 2024**.

[Communities Taking Charge Accelerator](#)

The Inflation Reduction Act invests \$1 billion to replace existing non-zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles, support zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, and train and develop workers. EPA is providing two separate sub-program competitions under this single Notice of Funding Opportunity:

- The School Bus Sub-Program for applicants replacing school buses.
- The Vocational Vehicles Sub-Program for applicants replacing non-school bus Class 6 and 7 vehicles - including box trucks, refuse haulers, dump trucks, street sweepers, delivery trucks, bucket trucks, and utility trucks.

The NOFO is open now! The application deadline is 11:59PM (ET) on July 25, 2024.

[Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant Program](#)

The Biden-Harris administration announced a historic \$1.3 billion funding opportunity for electric vehicle (EV) charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in urban and rural communities and along designated highways, interstates, and major roadways. This is the largest single funding opportunity for EV charging in the nation's history, and it will accelerate public and private investment in the places people live, work, and play. The funding opportunity is made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's signature EV charging investments: the [\\$2.5 billion Charging and Fueling Infrastructure \(CFI\) Discretionary Grant Program](#) and a 10% set-aside from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program designated for funding charger reliability.

Applications are due in grants.gov by **August 28, 2024**

[Biden-Harris Administration Opens Applications for \\$1.3 Billion in Funding to Continue Expanding National Electric Vehicle Charging Network](#)

The Environmental Protection Agency has announced \$2 billion in funds for environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until

November 21, 2024.

[IRA Community Change Grants Program](#)

Miss our last meeting?

May 16, 2024: [Watch it here](#)

Questions?

Email Evan Renshaw at Evan@CVSC.org