

GFO-20-602 Pre-Application Workshop

**Zero-Emission Transit Fleet
Infrastructure Deployment**

Fuels and Transportation Division



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August 4, 2020
California Energy Commission



Housekeeping

- Muting on Zoom
- Zoom recording
- Questions & Answers
- Updates on solicitation documents including this presentation will be posted at the Grant Funding Opportunity's webpage:
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2020-07/gfo-20-602-zero-emission-transit-fleet-infrastructure-deployment>



Agenda

Welcome and Introductions

Solicitation Details

- Clean Transportation Program
- Purpose of Solicitation
- Available Funding
- Project Requirements
- Attachments
- Submission Process

Questions & Answers

Adjourn



Commitment to Diversity

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The California Energy Commission (CEC) adopted a resolution strengthening its commitment to diversity in our funding programs. The CEC continues to encourage disadvantaged and underrepresented businesses and communities to engage in and benefit from our many programs.

To meet this commitment, CEC staff conducts outreach efforts and activities to:

- Engage with disadvantaged and underrepresented groups throughout the state.
- Notify potential new applicants about the CEC's funding opportunities.
- Assist applicants in understanding how to apply for funding from the CEC's programs.
- Survey participants to measure progress in diversity outreach efforts.



We Want to Hear From You!



One Minute Survey

The information supplied will be used for public reporting purposes to display anonymous overall attendance of diverse groups.

Participants, please use [this link to the survey:](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=RBI6rPQT9k6NG7qicUgZToLxoNHYLs9Fs9nLlfXVBrxUME02OVFLM0xKNjBER0I5STBJM1Q0SDNaWC4u)

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=RBI6rPQT9k6NG7qicUgZToLxoNHYLs9Fs9nLlfXVBrxUME02OVFLM0xKNjBER0I5STBJM1Q0SDNaWC4u>



Thanks!



Find a Partner on EmpowerInnovation.net

Empower Innovation strives to accelerate your clean tech journey with easy access to funding opportunities from the CEC and other funding providers, curated resources and events, and connections to people and organizations.

FIND A PARTNER

Announce your interest in this funding opportunity and message other interested parties to find potential partners.

RESOURCES & TOOLS

Browse the collection of resources for clean tech innovators including Resource Libraries, Funding Sources, Tools, and Databases.

To connect with others for this GFO please go to this link:

<https://www.empowerinnovation.net/en/custom/funding/view/14066>



EmpowerInnovation.net

Please direct questions for the Empower Innovation platform to:
https://www.empowerinnovation.net/en/contact_us





Clean Transportation Program *pg. 5*

- This solicitation will award projects funded by the **Clean Transportation Program**
 - ❖ Formerly known as the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program
- Established by Assembly Bill 118 (Nunez, 2007)
- Annual budget of approximately \$100 million per year in funds
- Extended to January 1, 2024 by Assembly Bill 8 (Perea, 2013)



Clean Transportation Program *pg. 5*

“...to develop and deploy innovative technologies that transform California’s fuel and vehicle types to help attain the state’s climate change policies.”

- California Health and Safety Code 44272(a)

Complementary goals:

- Improve air quality
- Investments in low-income and disadvantaged communities (DACs)
- Promote economic development
- Increase alternative fuel use
- Reduce petroleum dependence



Policy Drivers

- **AB 32:** reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020.
- **SB 32:** reduce statewide GHG emissions to 40% below the 1990 levels by 2030.
- **SB 100:** requires that 60% of California's electricity be powered by renewable & zero-carbon sources by 2030 and 100 % by 2045.
- **Senate Bill 1275; Executive Order B-16-2012; Executive Order B-48-18:** Infrastructure to accommodate 1 million electric vehicles by 2020 etc.
- **Executive Order B-32-15:** Improve freight efficiency and transition freight movement to zero-emission technologies.
- **Innovative Clean Transit Regulation:** calls for 100 percent of all new transit buses to be zero-emission by 2029; all operating buses will be zero-emission by 2040.



Purpose of Solicitation

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The purpose of this solicitation is to fund the electric vehicle (EV) charging or hydrogen refueling infrastructure needed to support the large-scale conversion of transit bus fleets to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) at multiple transit agencies serving diverse geographic regions and populations.



Available Funding

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A total of **\$20.0 million** is available for awards under this solicitation. Applicants are divided into four categories based on the type of fleet conversion and the number of zero-emission buses supported by the proposed infrastructure.

Type of Fleet Conversion	Population	Total Buses Operated in Annual Maximum Service	Number of Zero-Emission Buses Supported by Infrastructure
Small fleet / Rural	Area with a population below 200,000*	Under 100	At least 30
Small fleet / Urban	Area with a population of at least 200,000	Under 100	At least 50
Large fleet / Urban	Area with a population of at least 200,000	100 - 250	At least 65
Small fleets / Shared	N/A	More than 100	At least 65

*As last published by the Bureau of Census before December 31, 2017.



Maximum Award Amounts

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Type of Fleet Conversion	Maximum Award Amount
Small fleet / Rural	Up to \$3,000,000
Small Fleet / Urban	Up to \$5,000,000
Large Fleet / Urban	Up to \$6,000,000
Small Fleets / Shared	Up to \$6,000,000

Projects are eligible for up to 75% of total project costs or the Maximum Award Amount, whichever is less.



Eligible Applicants

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- This is an open solicitation for public and private entities.
- Proposed project teams must include a public transit agency.
- For purposes of this solicitation, public transit agencies are defined as:
A public entity responsible for administering and managing transit services. Public transit agencies can directly operate transit service or contract out for all, or part of the total transit service provided. (CCR Title 13, Section 2020(b))
- Applicants must accept the Clean Transportation Program Terms and Conditions, without negotiation.
- Applicants are required to be [registered with the California Secretary of State](#) and be in good standing to enter into an agreement with the CEC:
<http://www.sos.ca.gov>



Project Requirements

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- CEC funding under this solicitation must be utilized for new or upgrades to existing charging or refueling infrastructure to support battery electric or hydrogen fuel cell transit buses.
 - EV Charging Infrastructure projects must include deployment of chargers for eligible vehicles.
 - Hydrogen Refueling infrastructure is limited to private-access stations only.
- All infrastructure must be utilized by eligible transit vehicles, defined as Class 3-8 on-road vehicles having gross vehicle weight ratings (GVWR) of 10,001 lbs. or greater.



Project Requirements

pg. 12

- All proposed projects:
 - must operate and fuel the number of zero-emission buses required by Type of Fleet Conversion (see Section I.F.) no later than March 31, 2025.
 - must be located in California.
- Applicants must demonstrate:
 - that the proposed projects will reduce on-road motor vehicle air emissions.
 - how proposed projects will support air quality improvements in and provide benefits to disadvantaged and low-income communities, priority populations, and/or tribal lands.



Project Requirements

For EV charging infrastructure projects only

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Section II.B8

- Electric charging infrastructure eligible for funding shall:
 - Facilitate vehicle-charger interoperability. Such connectors/interfaces may include but are not limited to SAE J1772 CCS1, SAE J3105 or others.
 - Leverage open standards-based network communications.
 - Network connectivity
 - Ability to receive remote software updates, real-time protocol translation, encryption, and decryption
 - Be capable of managing charging costs and supporting grid reliability.



Project Requirements

For hydrogen refueling infrastructure projects only *pg. 14-16*

Section II.B9

- Applicants shall commit to:
 - Developing a **Hydrogen Safety Plan** for the proposed project.
 - Participate in an early **Hydrogen Safety Design Review** by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's or Center for Hydrogen's Safety's Hydrogen Safety Panel (HSP).
 - **Reporting Safety Incidents** using the NREL Data Collection Tool (Attachment 10).

https://h2tools.org/sites/default/files/Safety_Planning_for_Hydrogen_and_Fuel_Cell_Projects.pdf



Match Funding

pg. 18 - 20

- A minimum of 25% of match funding is required.
- Match funding must meet the requirements of the Clean Transportation Program Terms and Conditions (Attachment 9). Refer to Section II.D in the Solicitation Manual for more details on match funding.
- The CEC will not reimburse for permitting, vehicle purchases and vehicle-related expenses, such as electric charging or fuel costs. These expenses may be counted towards match share only.



Application Requirements

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Each Applicant must complete and include the following:

1. Application Form (Attachment 1)

2. Project Narrative

3. Scope of Work (Attachment 2)

4. Schedule of Products and Due Dates (Attachment 4)

5. Budget Forms (Attachment 5)

6. Resumes

7. Contact List (Attachment 6)

8. Letters of Support/Commitment

9. CEQA Worksheet (Attachment 7)

10. Local Health Impacts Information Form (Attachment 8)

11. Past Performance Reference Form (Attachment 11)



Application Form (Attachment 1) *pg. 25*

- Tell us exactly what you are proposing to do in your project.
 - How many buses are currently in the fleet(s)?
 - How many buses are planned for conversion to zero-emission by 2025?
- Identify the type of fleet conversion.
- Identify the fuel type(s) you are planning to use for your fleet.
- Be sure to include all project partners and their roles.
- Complete CEQA Compliance section.
- Complete Benefits which includes CO2 emission reduction, number of jobs, benefits to DACs, etc.



Project Narrative

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This is your opportunity to explain the entirety of the project.

The narrative should explain:

- Why is your project necessary and important to California?
- What is your project approach and how will each major task be implemented?
- How will the project be completed in the term proposed?
- How will the project outcomes benefit DACs, low-income communities, priority populations, and/or tribal lands?

Respond to the scoring criteria described in Section III.D.2.a-f.



Scope of Work & Schedule of Products and Due Dates

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Scope of Work (Attachment 2):

- Tell us exactly what you are proposing to do in your project.
- Identify what will be delivered to CEC.
- Be sure to include in the technical tasks:
 - At least one product deliverable per task.

Schedule of Products and Due Dates (Attachment 4):

- Product deliverables that correspond with the Scope of Work.
- Realistic dates on when product deliverables can be completed.



Budget (Attachment 5)

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- Identify how CEC funds and match funds will be spent to complete the project.
- All reimbursable costs must be incurred within the approved term of the funding agreement.
- Subcontractors receiving \$100,000 or more of CEC funds; or 25% or more of the total CEC funds requested, whichever is less, must complete a separate budget form.



Contact List (Attachment 6)

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- Applicants must include a completed Contact List (Attachment 6) by including the appropriate points of contact for the Applicant.
- The CEC will complete the CEC points of contact during agreement development.



Letters of Support/Commitment *pg. 33*

- Follow guidelines provided for commitment and support letters.
 - Commitment letters are required for entities or individuals that are committing match funding, testing/demonstration sites, including the **Prime**.
 - Support letters describe a project stakeholder’s interest or involvement in the project.
- All Applicants must submit **at least one** support letter.
- Match funding must be supported by a match fund commitment letter.
- Any project partners that will make contributions to the project must submit a commitment letter.
- Limit to two pages per letter.



Local Health Impacts Information Form (Attachment 8)

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- Applicants must complete and submit a Local Health Impacts Information Form (Attachment 8).
- The CEC requires this information to assist in developing and publishing a localized health impacts report.



Past Performance Reference Form (Attachment 11)

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- Provide references for grants received by the Applicant or team in the last 10 years, or for similar or related types of projects completed in the last 10 years.
- References may be contacted by CEC staff.
- Applicants should fill out a separate Past Performance Reference Form for each reference addressed in the Project Narrative.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Screening

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Administrative Screening Process

1. CEC staff screens applications per criteria in Section IV.A.2.
2. Criteria are evaluated on a pass/fail basis.
3. Applicants must pass ALL administrative and technical screening criteria, or the application will be disqualified and eliminated from further evaluation.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Screening

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Technical Screening Criteria

1. The Applicant is an eligible Applicant.
2. The project is an eligible project.
3. The project meets the minimum match share requirements.
4. The Applicant passes the past performance screening criterion.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Screening

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Applicant Past Performance with CEC (Pass/Fail)

The Applicant—defined as at least one of the following: the business, principal investigator, or lead individual acting on behalf of themselves—received funds from the CEC (e.g., contract, grant, or loan) and entered into an agreement(s) with the CEC and demonstrated **severe performance issues** characterized by significant negative outcomes.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Scoring

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- **Evaluation Committee applies the scoring scale to the evaluation criteria.**
- **Applications must obtain a minimum passing score of 70 points in order to be considered for funding.**
- **Review Section IV of the manual and ensure the application provides a clear and complete response to each scoring criteria.**

Scoring Criteria	Maximum Points
1. Team Experience and Qualifications	10
2. Project Readiness and Implementation	25
3. Project Budget	20
4. Environmental and Economic Benefits	25
5. Sustainability	20
Total	100
Minimum Points to Pass	70



GFO Submission Requirements (Electronic)

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- Preferred method of delivery is the CEC's [Grant Solicitation System](https://gss.energy.ca.gov/), available at: <https://gss.energy.ca.gov/>
- Electronic files must be in Microsoft Office Word (.doc, .docx) and Excel (.xls, .xlsx) formats, unless originally provided in the solicitation in another format.
- Until further notice, any requirement in CEC contract, grant, and loan solicitations to provide a signature is waived (even if it is in the screening criteria). No signature, even electronic, is necessary.
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations>
- First-time users must register as a new user to access system.



GFO Submission Requirements (Hard Copy)

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- Due to COVID-19, hard copy submissions will only be accepted via U.S. Mail, FedEx, or UPS.
- Submit Applications with all attachments in the order specified by the due date and time listed in Section III of the manual.
- Application documents should meet formatting requirements, page limits, and number of copies specified.
- Provide one hard copy and one electronic copy (USB stick) containing electronic files of the application.
- Electronic files submitted via e-mail and FAX transmissions will not be accepted.
- In order to be consistent with orders and recommendations from state and local officials to encourage physical distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19, in-person delivery of applications will not be allowed.



Key Activities and Dates

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Activity	Date
Solicitation Release	July 22, 2020
Pre-Application Workshop	August 4, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.
Deadline for Written Questions	August 18, 2020 at <u>5:00 pm</u>
Anticipated Distribution of Questions/Answers	September 4, 2020
Deadline to Submit Applications	October 2, 2020 at <u>5:00 pm</u>
Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting	November 2020
Anticipated CEC Business Meeting	December 2020

Updates on solicitation documents will be posted at the GFO webpage:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2020-07/gfo-20-602-zero-emission-transit-fleet-infrastructure-deployment>



Questions and Answers

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Three ways to ask questions:

1. Use the raise hand function in Zoom:

- Zoom Phone Controls:
 - *6 - Toggle mute/unmute.
 - *9 - Raise hand.
- Please introduce yourself by stating your name and affiliation.
- Keep questions under 3 minutes to allow time for others.

2. Type questions in the Q&A Box in Zoom:

- Please provide name and affiliation.

3. Submit written questions:

- Send written questions to Tonya.Heron@energy.ca.gov no later than **August 18, 2020 5:00 PM.**

Note that an official CEC response will be provided in writing and posted on the GFO webpage in approximately two weeks.



Additional Questions

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Please send all questions related to GFO-20-602 to:

Tonya Heron

Commission Agreement Officer

1516 Ninth Street, MS-18

Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 654-4484

Tonya.Heron@energy.ca.gov

Deadline to submit questions: Tuesday, August 18, 2020 5:00 PM

Deadline to submit applications: Friday, October 2, 2020 5:00 PM