

HOUSTON-GALVESTON CLEAN CITIES COALITION STAKEHOLDERS

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, May 1, 2019 – 2:00-3:30 PM
Houston-Galveston Area Council of Government Offices
3555 Timmons Lane, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77027
(Meeting Held – Second Floor, Agency Conference Room 2-A)

MEMBER PRESENT

Center Point Energy – Laura Irvine
Center Point Energy – Michael Conklin
UH TXCEF – Greg Bugosh
Electric Interstate Highway Standards Assoc. – Norm Whitton
Ensida Energy – Kyle House
J & W Energy – Mike House
Air Alliance Houston – Harrison Humphreys
Freedom CNG – Eddie Murray
Propane Education and Research Council – Tony Dale
ICOM Propane Autogas Fuel Systems – Dudley Westlake
Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Alliance – Susan Shifflett

STAFF PRESENT

Houston-Galveston Area Council – Andrew DeCandis
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Ben Finley
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Cassandra Marshall
Houston-Galveston Area Council – Gilbert Washington

BRIEFING

Overview

- a. The Houston-Galveston Clean Cities Coalition (H-GCCC) Stakeholders were presented with action items; a series of information items; and the meeting concluded with member announcements of current and upcoming activities.
- b. Visit <http://www.houston-cleancities.org/stakeholder-meetings/> to view the meeting materials.

ITEM 1A. Introductions (H-GCCC Chair, Susan Shifflett)

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 3A. Approval of Meeting Summary

The Meeting Chair entertained a motion to pass the H-GCCC Stakeholders meeting summary for Wednesday, January 23, 2019 as presented. The motion was passed with no corrections to meeting date.

ITEM 3B. Introduction of New Co-Coordinator and Assistant

1. **Ben Finley-Co-Coordinator**
2. **Gilbert Washington-Assistant**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

ITEM 4. Summary of 2018 Annual Survey Results (Andrew DeCandis)

Andrew DeCandis gave an update on the clean cities annual report which is submitted to DOE including major activities and accomplishments for the previous calendar year via an online database. To learn about how much petroleum reduction we are getting within the region. It has been done for the past 15 years. The report summarizes the impacts of using alternative fuels for Houston-Galveston Clean Cities. This year, it was completed on, March 15, 2019, it has not been approved by DOE. It is currently in draft form.

Summary of impact of alternative fuel use in Houston Galveston region

DOE survey asked about, membership, funding, projects, and activities of the coalitions. The data presents, Sales of alternative fuels, deployment of alternative fuel vehicles and hybrid electric vehicles, idle-reduction initiatives, fuel economy activities, and programs to reduce vehicle miles traveled.

NREL and DOE analyze the data and translate them into petroleum-use and greenhouse gas reduction impacts for individual coalitions and the program as a whole.

Following more research, Andrew DeCandis, will revisit at the next upcoming meeting with additional information.

ITEM 5. Current Funding Announcements and Updates -HGAC Staff

a. *CMAQ-Clean Vehicles* (Ben Finley)

Approximately \$9M in funding is available to replace heavy duty diesel class 6 to class 8 on-road vehicles. Also, up to 75% reimbursement is given for the new vehicle price and based on the age of the engine and usage commitment of 3 to 5 years in the regional area. In order to be eligible for replacement, trucks must range between age of 1994 – 2008. Infrastructure is still allowed in this program. The projects must be made available to the public.

Heavy Duty Diesel Replacement Program/ Drayage Loan Program (Ben Finley)

Drayage loan program has ended. H-GAC is using loan repayments to fund the heavy-duty diesel replacement Program (HDDRP). Approximately \$2M in funding available for replacement of heavy-duty diesel class 8 on-road vehicles, and non-road equipment. You will receive (50%) of reimbursement for a new vehicle or new equipment. As well as, (75%) reimbursement if replacement is alternative fuel. The Age of vehicle or equipment must range from 1991 – 2010. There is a 3-year usage commitment in the regional area. If you are interested in the replacement grant the vehicle must be new (2018 or newer).

b. *AERCO* (Andrew DeCandis)

No funding currently available under Aerco. Additional funding may become available in time. The nature of SEP funding makes it difficult to predict when and how much funding will be available.

c. *TERP* (Andrew DeCandis)

There are currently three open TERP-related calls for projects:

1. *Seaport and Rail Yard Areas Program (SPRY)*: Provides funding to replace drayage and cargo handling equipment with new traditional or alternative fuel models. Accepting grants until May 29, 2019.
2. *Light Duty Motor Vehicle Purchase or Lease Incentive Program (LDPLIP)*: Provides rebate funding for light-duty CNG, LPG, EV, and hydrogen vehicles. Already funded the max number of EV and hydrogen. Still accepting new CNG and LPG applications. Accepting grants until May 31, 2019.
3. *Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program (TNGVGP)*: Repower or replace medium- or heavy-duty with CNG Vehicles. The program is open to individuals, corporations, organizations, governments, school districts, businesses, or any other legal entity. The funding available is about \$7 million. Applications for grants are being accepted until May 31, 2019.

INFORMATION

ITEM 6. Volkswagen Mitigation Funding (Andrew DeCandis)

- a. *What we Know*: Andrew presented on the VW funding applications TCEQ will begin to accept VW funding applications sometime in the second quarter. The grant awarded was for \$32 million in total available in our region. The funding will be released in category specific rounds similar to TERP.

First round will begin in May, which will include School Buses, Transit Buses, and Shuttle Buses. Applications will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis. It is not known how much funding will be available for this project type.

ITEM 7. Announcements of Current & Upcoming Activities (Andrew DeCandis)

1. TCEQ has announced the first workshops to support the .application for this funding. Texas VW Environmental Mitigation Program. They are having a Webinar: Applying for Project Funding
Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 2:00pm
RSVP to VWsettle@tceq.texas.gov
2. Local Workshop in Houston TxVEMP Application Workshop
Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 9:00am
Tracy Gee Community Center
3. HGCCC is developing a coalition sponsored workshop that will focus on available funding for fleets within our region. The workshop will give an overview of available alternative fuel funding which will include: clean vehicles, heavy duty drayage, heavy duty diesel replacement, AERCO-SEP, TERP, Volkswagen, and Diesel reduction act grants. In addition, we are hoping to get other specific organization involved.
4. Texas Gas Vehicle Alliance Member meeting
Thursday, June 13, 2019
Austin, Tx
5. University of Houston-Road Mapping Workshop for the region
University of Energy Department
Thursday, May 16, 2019
8am-2pm

Next meeting will be July 24, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 3:23 P.M.