



Connecticut Equity and Environmental Justice Advisory Council (CEEJAC)
January 13, 2025, 6:00-7:30 PM
Air & Transportation Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Recording Link: https://ctdeep.zoom.us/rec/share/tC-el3qk_jy2looBEdSj_xQ0xTNtdyBSwFIZEjVN4MNokMQ3hLmfmwQSxkr8lHyX.7MQhBSRjdO5Pc1Xg

Disclaimer: Please note this is not a word for word translation

I. Welcome & Announcements - Introduction by Alex Rodriguez

II. Presentation about Environmental Justice Electric Vehicle Collaborative (EJEVC) Study Tenaya Taylor, Nonprofit Accountability Group

- Surveys conducted by Hispanic Health Council, Junta for Progressive Action, Nonprofit Accountability Group
- 99 results – 54% Hispanic/Latino; 42% of people had one car or other vehicles
 - 12% did drive EVs
 - 32% of respondents said that there was no impact of air pollution on their health
 - 41% were excited about the technology
- Conclusions – not every community is the same, and there are diverse accessibility concerns
 - Education is key: people don't think that adopting clean air initiatives are important or how interconnected it is to health in their communities.

III. Presentation about CHEAPR Paul Farrell, Tracy Babbidge, and Pete Babich CT DEEP Air Bureau

- 52,000 total active EV registrations for July 2024 – trending upward, continued EV adoption, the majority are complete EVs and next is plug-in hybrid EV
- Tesla Model Y and 3 are the most popular vehicles being purchased
- CHEAPR program – cash incentives when you purchase a car, reduces up front purchase price of the vehicle
 - Issued \$11K for 5300 vehicles (Jan – Nov 31 2024)

- Used EVs are only 16.5% of Rebate+
- Incentive Level Changes
 - Jan 1, 2025 – incentive levels have changed, battery EV standard went down, increased incentive for Rebate+ New/Used, and PHEV Rebate+ Used
 - Overall, increasing the Rebate+ Used incentives
- Interested in hearing feedback that you might have on the outreach materials
- For Rebate+ Program, you can qualify through means-tested programs. We’ve added two new programs: Winter Protection Program and Home Energy Solutions
- EBike Voucher program – about 3600 applications received during 2-week open period, about 2700 were Voucher+ (income-qualified)
 - 600 applications were selected by lottery; have issued 500 vouchers (good for 240 days)
- DOE Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) – DEEP submitted an application for \$2 million for fleet program for municipalities across the state (waiting to hear back)
 - Funding could be used to provide \$5-20K vouchers for municipalities to purchase fleets
- State DERA solicitation (available)
 - Changing diesel vehicles with electric counterparts (ie. Trash trucks, street sweepers)
 - Up to \$1 million available
- Clean Fuels Infrastructure Grant from Federal Transportation Highway Administration (received)
 - Installing fast-charging electric chargers across the state
- Looking to track any changes to federal EV, such as emission standards for cars and trucks, or waivers for CA standards in other states. These will impact CT directly and indirectly.

IV. EV and eBike Ownership Videos from Nonprofit Accountability Group (NAG)

- [Interview with an EV Owner — Karamo Kourouma](#)
- [Interview with an EV Owner — Omar Green](#)
- [Interview with an EV Owner — Kristen Barendregt-Ludwig](#)

V. Q&A and Discussion w/CT DEEP, EJEVC, and NAG

- Omar Green – EVs have longer ranges, good trends that can help us answer the questions and concerns that people might have.
- Dr. Mitchell – Pleased that we got a large Latino representation taking the survey. Was surprised about how much interest there is from people about the technology.

We want to make sure that we can educate people about the accessibility of EV's. We saw in the survey that people of color are more concerned about the health effects – this should be a part of our messaging. Was also surprised to learn that there are more than 30 charging stations in Hartford – need to educate people on the accessibility.

- Anstress Farwell - about EV recharging stations — another number to know would be the number of chargers per vehicle. And how many gas stations are there per conventional vehicles? (The financing of gas stations and EV station is very different — consider that most gas stations also sell other items - food, cigarettes, household goods...
- Omar Green – for the new chargers, has it been decided where they will be located? Work with different businesses in the area who wouldn't mind having a charger in their area. There are certain 'dead areas' where there aren't chargers located for a big area. Would be good to look at those areas to prioritize.
 - Towns have been decided, for the application we gave proposed locations within those towns, but we will need land-use agreements for those.
- Daphne Dixon – are outreach materials available in Spanish?
- Jeremy Schulick - Are the CFI chargers still expected to come online around midway through the year?
 - 2-3 year process because we need to issue RFP's for construction
- Sharod Blizzard – went through the process to apply CHEAPR to Tesla Model 3. Live in Waterbury, CT and think it provides a great tailwind with the federal credit. Are there plans to expand the range of vehicles that are allowed on the list? In Waterbury, they are going to buy used because they don't have the income or the credit to buy new. Used vehicles to qualify for federal has to be less than \$25,000, but you need to look at 2021 vehicles – to stack the incentives.
 - Have to balance statutory requirements, uncertainty about market and how long batteries will last to put forward for used vehicle market. Look to leverage federal and state programs to ensure that communities are better able to access the used rebate.
- Jeremy Schulick, Clean Transportation Communities of Southern CT – did research on cost comparison on new EVs and gas burning cars, with the 2 rebates combined (state and federal) Hyundai Kona for under \$21K vs conventional Hyundai Kona would be \$36K. Combining the 2 rebates means that EVs are just cheaper, and it really is a no-brainer. What could we be doing education-wise? Organization is looking to hire a staff member to go into EJ communities to take surveys and education materials.

- Sharod Blizzard – if you live in Waterbury, and you’re middle class (<\$150K) you’re eligible for the federal and by living in Waterbury you can access CHEAPR+ New. Programs aren’t just intended for low-income people, but you still have the barrier of finding a vehicle that fits your needs and also fits within the program requirements.

Closing: Subcommittee Events This Year - wanting to hold an EV/eBike discussion with other communities – want to highlight new community leaders. Also want to bring together folks who are working on Clean Air campaigns in their communities.

List of Registrants

Diane Lauricella	Paul Farrell
Paul Aresta	Tracy Babbidge
Ms. Halle Lisette Pierce	Chris Schweitzer
Rebecca Andreucci	Emma Cimino
lynne bonnett	Ian McDonald
Kellie Kingston	jay stange
Jeremy Schulick	Anstress Farwell
L Stephenson	jaimeson sinclair
Sarah Huang	Marc Gonzalez
Erin McBride	Robert Goodrich
Kayla Du-Bois	Sharod Blizzard
Sonya Carrizales	Karen Kitsis
Cara Radzins	Omar Green
Doris Johnson	Aaron Goode
Fleur D	Mark Mitchell MD
Paul Wessel	David Michel
Katherine Bennett	Daphne Dixon
Pete Babich	kassandra vazquez-felipe
Stephen Hale	Florencia Bugatti
Kallysia Raymond	Emily Bigl
Alex Rodriguez	
Sheila Barney	
Terry Adams	
Brenda Geer	
Tenaya Taylor	
Luke Daniel	
Stephanie Camp	
Maritza Bond	
Ryan Boggio	
Emily Pysh	