

**(Southeastern) Corridor Council –  
Zoom Webinar Notes**  
32<sup>nd</sup> webinar – 11/18/21



Call started at 2:00pm ET / 11am PT.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The “Southeastern Corridor Council” is in the middle of working to expand nationwide during the fall of 2021. With appropriate responses from other states, the plan is to become just the “Corridor Council” in 2022.

Notes and attendance taken by Rose, Overly, Vail. Overly and Bentley are the current co-chairs.

Asterisks (\*) denote that this was the first meeting attendance for those people and entities.

**Attendees (52):**

**STATE DOTs & FHWA REPS (and related)**

FLDOT = Tanner Martin

Iowa DOT = Vicki Elscott\*

KSDOT (\* all) = Brian Gower, Matt

Messina, Allison Smith

KS FHWA = Javier Ahumada\*

KYDOT = Jahan Khan

MnDOT = Josie Tayse\*

NCDOT = Heather Hildebrandt

OK SWODA (RTPO) = Julie Sanders\*

TDOT = Brianna Benson, Eric Jackson,

Susan Steffenhagen, Scott Wolfe

TxDOT (\* all) = Michael Chamberlain,

Ryan Granger, James Kuhr, Jackie

Ploch, Ezekiel Reyna, Bob White

TX FHWA = Justin Morgan\*

WV DOT = Perry McCutcheon\*

U.S. DOT = Michael Scarpino,

Stephen Costa

**CLEAN CITIES COALITIONS & FHWA/DOE-CC REPS**

AL = **Mark Bentley**, Michael Staley,

Phillip Wiedmeyer

CA = Tim Taylor

FL = Doug Kettles, Alexander Kolpakov,

Alisha Lopez

GA = Sumner Pomeroy

KS/MO (\* all) = David Albrecht, Tami

Alexander, Brandt Hertenstein, Emily

Wolfe

KY = Emily Carpenter

LA = *Ann Vail*

MN = Lisa Thurstin\*

NC = Sean Flaherty, *Caitlin Rose*

SC = Ben Kessler

TN = Shauna Basques, **Jonathan**

**Overly**

TX (DFW, \* all) = Soria Adibi, Lori Clark,

Bethany Ross

UT = Ethan Morris\*

WV = Kelly Bragg\*

WY/MT = Alicia Cox\*

**AGENDA**

*From email reminder for webinar:*

**Review the IIJA (Infrastructure Investment & Job Act) funding and discuss the many aspects of it that relate to corridor work.**

- ✓ How does this impact our current corridor work?
- ✓ Does this change stances on signage deployment?
- ✓ What new opportunities might this present and/or do we want to and how might we collaborate across multiple states on future funding opportunities?

This is an exciting time, and we believe our shared knowledge and relationship-development time will only bolster our work as a connected community. *Please pass this along to any interested parties if desired, and if I've left off any state DOT or Clean Cities staff that need to be receiving future emails or invites for our meetings, just let me know.*

(Michael Scarpino was invited at the last minute to share a recent presentation he made on IIJA.)

## NOTES

### A. SCC intro/overview for new coalitions

- a. Jonathan went over impetus for Corridor Council, explained expansion of the group to Coalitions outside the Southeast region
- b. Roles of other coordinators on the call
- c. Mark Bentley and Michael Staley intros
- d. Intros of new Coalitions staff on the call
  - i. New members recorded in attendance sheet

### B. IJJA EV and Electrification Programs (Mike Scarpino)

- a. Infrastructure Bill main pieces /national goals
  - i. \$7.5 B for building out EVSE network, goals of accelerating EV adoption, address climate change, create jobs
  - ii. Deploy EVSE along highway corridors, within communities, emphasis on EEJ/disadvantaged communities
- b. Funding availability
  - i. \$2.5 B for all alternative fuels (FHWA program fuels): Discretionary, **competitive grant program**
    1. Eligible fuels: EV, CNG, LNG, LPG (m.hd only), H2
    2. Funding publicly accessible sites along FHWA designated corridors (pending or ready)
    3. Emphasis on taking corridor-pending and converting to corridor-ready
    4. Where corridor-ready, add redundancy to meet demand and reduce congestion
    5. Community piece: any public road or publicly accessible locations -- Priority given to rural, LMI, low ration private parking to households or high ration of MUDs
  - ii. \$5 B National EV **Formula Program**: for corridors
    1. \$1B per year for FY 22-26
    2. Acquisition and installation of EVSE, can pay for operations and maintenance of infrastructure, collecting data to share along with best practices
    3. Has to be located along designated alt fuel corridor. If a state determines / DOT certifies that corridors are fully built out (definition still benign worked on), states can use remaining funds for community charging (similar to above community piece)
    4. State required to submit EV infrastructure deployment plan to DOT by some yet to be established deadline. If state does not submit plan, USDOT can award those funds on competitive basis to local jurisdictions within state
    5. Justice 40 provisions to be included
    6. Can use \$\$\$ for infrastructure for highway and on-premise signage, infrastructure, install and maintenance, mapping and analysis, some others
    7. 90 days of IJJA enactment, DOT/DOE to develop guidance about these funds (in works now)
  - iii. Creation of joint DOT / DOE office to support funding recipients with tools and technical assistance
    1. Providing tools/technical assistance to funding recipients
    2. Hasn't been established yet (logistics being worked out) but hopefully will be in early 2022
    3. All funding will flow through state DOTs
    4. Funding should be issued in next 6-12 months
- c. Other infrastructure programs of interest
  - i. Truck emission reduction at ports program (\$250M0)
  - ii. Low emitting or EV ferry program
  - iii. Low-no program for buses (transit) - transit agency plans to transition to electric

- iv. EV working group
- v. EPA Clean School Bus Program
- d. Alt fuel corridor round 6
  - i. On hold for now while IIJA gets worked out, BUT required to update and redesignate corridors within 180 days
  - ii. One year from now, new category of corridor to designate: M/HD EV freight corridor
- e. General comments
  - i. Everything has to be public to qualify for this funding
  - ii. Buy America: becoming a greater discussion at the top levels of government - understanding that it is an impediment to the implementation of this program (recognize its an issue for some states)
  - iii. Justice40: need to be thinking about this NOW
  - iv. Think of this like CMAQ (multiple categories of eligibility)
  - v. Required to calculate emission reduction using AFLEET for competitive programs
    - 1. Question of whether you have to use full tool or can use the online simplified version - no answer yet
    - 2. Argonne working on getting AFLEET ready for all the alt fuels
    - 3. Comment from Lori about AFLEET not able to do infrastructure very well, ask for better features there and not just for vehicles
  - vi. Can a state establish its own network of corridors (state roads) and give better shot for these corridors to become FHWA designated? → Detail that hasn't been worked out yet

### C. MUTCD / Signage with IIJA now law (Michael Staley)

- a. Section 1129 - standards
  - i. Broadens criteria for approving signs - includes mobility as part now; interpret this as access to fuels
  - ii. Requires update to manual in 18 months after IIJA enactment - seems like it will continue to modify/morph as a result of the infra bill
- b. Section 11401 - AF corridor grant program → Authority for grant recipient to install signage (traffic control devices), have to be MUTCD-compliant
- c. EV formula program
  - i. Can have traffic control devices in right of way
  - ii. Unclear if limitations with general service signage apply
- d. EV working group → Calls for EV signage discussion
- e. Discussion
  - i. SC signage installs (ID signage), Overly asked all states about what signage installs would look like in their states
    - 1. Kansas (Brian) - follow MUTCD, once MUTCD comes out (currently in draft), have 2 years to adopt (Kansas typically has adopted in second half of year 2) - follows whatever MUTCD allows for
  - ii. Clean Cities can work with DOTs for corridor designation, are well equipped to help with the planning piece as well (we're a resource)
  - iii. Ben encouraged people to look at designated evacuation routes

### D. Next steps

- a. Overly explained schedule of calls / requested that new states ask to be invited to meetings
- b. Next joint meeting in Jan. 2022
- c. Suggests Ride and Drives for state DOTs to demonstrate technology

Future 2021 meetings: 12/16

Suggested 2022 dates: 1/20\*, 2/17, 3/17\* ^, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16\*, 7/21, 8/18, 9/15\*, 10/20, 11/17, 12/15\*

\* = calls w/state DOTs

^ = JO will not be able to attend

## CHAT

14:13:17 From Emily Wolfe : The actual Emily Wolfe is on as well. :) I am with Metropolitan Energy Center. We house the Kansas City Regional and Central Kansas Clean Cities Coalitions.

14:15:08 From Jonathan G Overly : Gotcha Emily!

14:15:09 From Tami Alexander : Thank you to all the people from the I-35 Corridor group and Kansas DOT for joining!

14:17:55 From Soria Adibi, NCTCOG/DFWCC : Will these slides be shared after the meeting (sorry if it was already mentioned and I missed that)

14:25:54 From Kelly Bragg : Any idea how the formula will be allocated, that is, any rules of thumb for amounts we can expect?

14:26:23 From Michael Staley - Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition : kelly the white house put out fact sheets indicating how much each state should expect through the formula fund program

14:26:42 From Kelly Bragg : Oh, thanks! I forgot about that. I do have that.

14:27:43 From David Albrecht : Hah! There you are, Emily! Sorry to duck out early, but I have DOE regional call at 1:30 - looking forward to the link to the remainder of the session. Question - how much of Mike's presentation or other parts of today's sessions are good for public release? Would love to start getting the word out ASAP on these opportunities. Thanks, all

14:29:08 From Brianna Benson : Is it possible to share that slide deck with the group, Mike?

14:30:02 From annvail : If you want a copy of the slide deck, please put your email in the chat and one of us will share it with you

14:30:19 From Brianna Benson : Brianna.Benson@tn.gov - Thank you :)

14:30:24 From Michael Chamberlain : Michael.Chamberlain@txdot.gov

14:30:30 From Alisha Lopez : alopez@sfrpc.com

14:30:38 From Vicki Elscott : vicki.elscott@iowadot.us

14:30:39 From TANNER MARTIN : tanner.martin@dot.state.fl.us

14:30:43 From Alexander Kolpakov : Kolpakov@cutr.usf.edu

14:30:44 From Susan Steffenhagen : Susan.Steffenhagen@tn.gov - thank you!

14:30:49 From Josie Tayse : josie.tayse@state.mn.us

14:30:50 From Alicia Cox : alicia@ytcleancities.org

14:30:51 From Emily Carpenter : Ecarpenter@kentuckycleanfuels.org

14:30:54 From Allison Smith, Committee Member : allison.smith@ks.gov

14:31:01 From Tim Taylor - Sacramento Clean Cities : ttaylor@cleancitiessacramento.org

14:31:11 From Perry McCutcheon WVDOT : perry.j.mccutcheon@wv.gov

14:31:18 From Bethany Ross (DFWCC/NCTCOG) : bross@nctcog.org

14:31:41 From Julie Sanders, Southwest Ok RTPo : Julie@swoda.org

14:34:21 From Jackie Ploch, TxDOT : Jackie.ploch@txdot.gov

14:35:02 From Lori Clark, NCTCOG & DFW Clean Cities : I don't think the simple online AFLEET does infrastructure very well, just vehicles. The infrastructure portion in the spreadsheet is a little clunky. A streamlined version for infrastructure would be EXCELLENT if y'all can work with Andy to make that happen.

14:38:08 From Tami Alexander : In Kansas, US-400 has been designated as an alt fuel corridor. It is not an interstate.

14:38:11 From Benjamin Kessler Gaa : To follow on Michael's point, I would also push cultural/heritage corridors and scenic byways that cross rural communities

14:38:29 From Sean Flaherty (Triangle J COG) : Seems like a good incentive to move quickly in deployments

14:40:35 From Tim Taylor - Sacramento Clean Cities : Please recirculate the slides and the link to the recording.  
14:51:07 From Ryan Granger : ryan.granger@txdot.gov  
14:51:09 From Ezekiel Reyna : zeke.reyna@txdot.gov  
14:53:30 From Sean Flaherty (Triangle J COG) : Inclusion in MPO's planning process... 2050 MTPs, etc  
14:54:31 From Sean Flaherty (Triangle J COG) : Triangle Clean Cities is working w/ our region's 2 MPOs to include designated and pending Alt Fuel Corridors in the 2050 MTP  
14:59:21 From Benjamin Kessler Gaa : that's a great idea Jonathan  
14:59:41 From Kelly Bragg : Thanks, JO.