

**DOCKETED**

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# Pre-Solicitation Workshop

ZEV Infrastructure Grant Application Technical Assistance Funding

Susan Ejlalmaneshan

Fuels and Transportation Division

March 7, 2024 9:00 a.m. (PST)



# Workshop Agenda

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- Introduction and General Housekeeping
- Clean Transportation Program Background and Overview of Workshop Objectives
- Overview of Technical Assistance Solicitation Concept, Including Desired Outcomes
- Panel Presentations
- Panelist Feedback and Discussion
- Public Questions and Comments
- Adjourn



# Introduction and Housekeeping

- Workshop is being recorded
- Workshop event [webpage](https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2024-03/pre-solicitation-workshop-zev-infrastructure-grant-application-technical):  
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2024-03/pre-solicitation-workshop-zev-infrastructure-grant-application-technical>
- Virtual participation through Zoom
  - Raise hand or Q&A feature
  - Telephone participants dial \*9 to raise your hand
- Written comments to [Docket # 24-TRAN-01](https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=24-TRAN-01):  
<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EComment/EComment.aspx?docketnumber=24-TRAN-01>
- Deadline: Thursday, April 18, 2024 by 5:00 p.m.



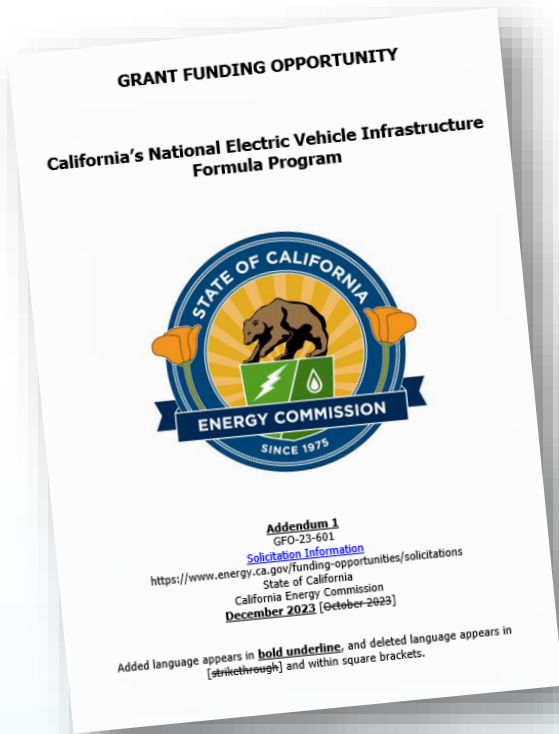
# Clean Transportation Program Background

- Reauthorized by Assembly Bill 126 (Reyes, Chapter 319, Statutes of 2023) to July 1, 2035
- \$100 million per fiscal year from vehicle registration and smog abatement fees
- Additional funding from ZEV budget packages
- **Purpose:**
  - “...to develop and deploy zero-emission technology and fuels in the marketplace where feasible...”
  - Additional preferences for projects that “reduce greenhouse gas emissions, criteria air pollutants, and air toxics...” and “provide economic benefits for California”





# Examples of Funding Solicitations



- GFO-23-601: California's National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program
- GFO-23-606: Charging Infrastructure for Government Fleets
- GFO-23-607: Tribal Electric Vehicle Infrastructure, Planning, and Workforce Training and Development
- Expected: Community Charging in Urban Areas\*

\*Pre-solicitation workshop today, March 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.!

More information at:

<https://www.energy.ca.gov/event/workshop/2024-03/pre-solicitation-workshop-community-charging-urban-areas>



# Federal Opportunity: Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program

- Competitive grant program created by Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- 10 awards (\$168.5M) in California announced in January 2024
- Additional CFI opportunities expected to follow
- Establish technical assistance tools to assist California entities
  - Local governments, Tribes, special districts, and more



# Workshop Purpose

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1. Present initial concept
2. Gather range of perspectives and experiences
3. Generate innovative ideas toward technical assistance
4. Define the desired scope of assistance
5. Enhance community engagement





# Solicitation Purpose & Objective

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- **Purpose:** Help local communities prepare to apply for future rounds of Clean Transportation Program funding and Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) program funding, as well as other ZEV-related state and federal funding opportunities
- **Objective:** Develop solicitation for third-party implementer to provide technical assistance for applicants seeking federal and state funding for ZEV infrastructure



# Challenges for Under-resourced Applicants Seeking Funding

- Lack of awareness and understanding of program goals and eligible projects
- Lack of local staff or organizational capacity, such as staff time, financial resources, and expertise/experience in applying for grants
- Lack of relationships across local agencies, partner organizations, and/or community groups



# About Technical Assistance

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## What is Technical Assistance?

“The process of providing targeted support to an agency, organization, or community with a development need or resource gap. Technical Assistance may be delivered in many ways, such as one-on-one consultation, small group facilitation, technical resources and analysis, or through a web-based clearinghouse.” (CA Strategic Growth Council)

In practice, technical assistance (TA) recipients are potential applicants or program grantees in need of implementation support, such as California Native American tribes, disadvantaged/low-income communities, community-based organizations, or other entities in need of assistance.



# TA Providers

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TA providers are third-party consultants with expertise relevant to the funding program.

Their goal is to facilitate successful applications and support project implementation that delivers meaningful benefits in under-resourced communities.



# Eligible Activities: Grant Readiness and Eligibility

- **Education and Awareness**
  - Build awareness of opportunities in an accessible format and language
- **Guidance on Eligibility**
  - Help communities understand the eligibility criteria
- **Grant Identification**
  - Conduct or support community-based need assessments for ZEV infrastructure



# Eligible Activities: Application Development and Support

- **Application Preparation** – guidance and support in preparing the application
- **Technical Expertise** – connect communities with experts
- **Project Development** – assist in developing project proposals
- **Budgeting and Financial Planning and Construction** – create realistic budgets and financial plans
- **Community Engagement** – help communities engage with residents and stakeholders
- **Capacity Building** – offer training and resources



# Eligible Activities: Compliance and Reporting

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- Guide communities on the requirements for compliance and reporting
- Help maintain eligibility, for both project and recipient



# Eligible Activities: Networking and Feedback

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- **Networking and Collaboration**
  - Connections with other organizations and agencies
- **Feedback and Iteration**
  - Provide feedback on unsuccessful grant applications
- **Public Health Education**
  - Buy-in and understanding of the benefits to public health from ZEV projects





# Desired Outcomes

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- Funding for projects in communities that have not historically received similar funding
- Achieving more equitable distribution of funding and clean air benefits
- Implementing holistic approaches that reduce unintended consequences
- Engaging under-represented populations within project development
- Developing stronger, more community-engaged projects
- Building relationships and trust between the State and local entities
- Supporting peer-to-peer networking amongst priority populations



# Define the TA Program Structure

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- Determining the TA program structure
  - Capacity building
  - Application assistance
  - Implementation assistance



# Define the Scope of Assistance

- Selecting a TA provider
  - Required qualifications? Desired qualifications?
- Prioritizing TA recipients
  - With limited funds, how should CEC/TA prioritize?
- Determining level of support for TA recipients
  - What is the appropriate level of support? Light touch vs. more comprehensive
- Funding levels
  - How much funding should the CEC make available for the solicitation?
  - How much should the TA assistance provide per supported applicant?



# Estimated Timeline

Task	Timeframe
Host pre-solicitation workshop	March 7, 2024
Public Comment Deadline	April 18, 2024
Finalize solicitation concept	June 2024
Release solicitation	August 2024



# Panel Discussion





# Panelists



Roberto Torres

Institute for Local  
Government



CALIFORNIA  
STRATEGIC  
GROWTH  
COUNCIL

Markie Price

Strategic Growth  
Council



Sohab Mehmood

Housing and Community  
Development



Larry Rillera

Air Resources Board



# Public Comments

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- Use the raise hand function in Zoom
  - Zoom Phone Controls:
  - \*6 – Toggle mute/unmute
  - \*9 – Raise hand
- Type questions in the Zoom Q&A Box
- Submit comments
  - Send written comments to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov), include docket number 24-TRAN-01
  - Deadline: April 18, 2024, 5:00 p.m. PST



# Next Steps

Task	Timeframe
Public Comment Deadline	April 18, 2024
Finalize solicitation concept	June 2024
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**Thank You!**

