

LA Metro Countywide Clean Truck Initiative

Metro should lead a Countywide Clean Truck Initiative to reduce toxic emissions from the movement of goods by diesel-powered trucks throughout Los Angeles County. The Initiative can accomplish this goal by securing funding, developing and advocating for supportive policies and programs, and fostering partnerships to accelerate the delivery and use of clean medium- and heavy-duty trucks. Accelerating the deployment of cleaner truck technologies and supporting infrastructure, particularly around high volume trade corridors in LA County, can help improve air quality and public health in equity-focused communities and is consistent with the Governor's Executive Order N-19-19, which calls for aligning transportation investments with the State's emissions goals through a wide deployment of clean vehicles.

A successful Countywide Clean Truck Initiative will feature several hallmarks. First, the Initiative will be built upon Metro's partnership with local, state, and federal agencies, and private entities such as the trucking industry, original equipment manufacturers for vehicles and charging infrastructure, and energy suppliers. Second, the Initiative will increase federal and state investment into LA County, lower the cost of zero emissions trucks, and facilitate the development of a market environment that further stimulates the acceleration and market penetration of clean vehicle technology. Third, the implementation of the Initiative will help advance a variety of individual clean truck programs - including the programmatic element of the I-710 EIR, which would unlock additional transportation enhancements along critical trade corridors and accelerate the delivery of public and private benefits. Finally, the Initiative will further cement Metro's position as a leader in developing and implementing innovative solutions that improve community, sustainability, public health, and goods movement challenges.

This Countywide Clean Truck Initiative will complement, enhance, and leverage existing efforts already underway in Los Angeles County. These efforts include the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach Clean Air Action Program (and associated Clean Truck Program), LA Cleantech Incubator programs, Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee investments, the AQMD Community Air Protection Program (AB617), and others. Metro's ability to provide regional leadership and collaboration through this Initiative and ability to complement and enhance existing programs while incorporating the input and needs of surrounding communities, the market readiness of clean fuels and technology, and the operating requirements of the trucking industry will be critical success factors of the overall Countywide Clean Truck Initiative.

Key Strategies & Actions

1. Establish a formal, recurring Countywide Clean Truck Initiative Working Group consisting of representatives from community groups, the trucking industry, air quality regulators, the ports, utilities, researchers, and manufacturers.
 - a. Ensure affected communities are actively engaged in the design, development, and implementation of the program throughout its lifespan

- b. Identify equity issues related to Initiative development and implementation, focusing on avoiding unnecessary financial, operational, and emotional burden on any given communities
 - c. Develop subcommittees to focus on equity implications, coordination with existing regional efforts, technology, and funding/financing
 - d. Ensure that planning, development and deployment of vehicle technologies and supporting infrastructure take place in a concerted and simultaneous manner
 - e. Ensure that LA County will have a sufficient labor pool with appropriate skillsets to meet the increasing demand for new technology-based vehicle and infrastructure maintenance and operations
 - f. Identify and prioritize specific clean truck programs to be developed through the Initiative.
 - g. Propose governance and delivery mechanisms to oversee and implement the Initiative's various programs.
2. Develop an information clearinghouse in partnership with other agencies for Countywide clean truck programs
 - a. Develop a collaborative structure for maintaining an information clearinghouse with regional partner agencies
 - b. Collect, maintain, and distribute information on regional truck programs (e.g., scope, eligibility, available funding) to impacted parties
3. Establish revenue streams to fund the Countywide Clean Truck Initiative
 - a. Secure Metro-controlled funding as "seed funding"
 - b. Identify opportunities to leverage seed funding
 - c. Develop or advocate for additional, new revenue streams to support ongoing implementation of clean truck technology countywide
4. Develop scope, funding eligibility, funding methods, evaluation processes, performance metrics, and performance monitoring mechanisms for programs developed through the Countywide Clean Truck Initiative
 - a. Coordinate with other established programs
 - b. Define eligibility requirements and evaluation process
 - c. Finalize funding levels and financing options
 - d. Identify delivery mechanisms and governance needs
 - e. Develop performance metrics to measure success
 - f. Develop performance monitoring system
5. Develop and implement the 710 Clean Truck Program on the I-710 corridor
 - a. Develop program parameters and evaluation process
 - b. Receive and incorporate feedback and input from community groups into the design of the program
 - c. Coordinate the implementation and evaluation with Metros Highway Program, the Gateway Cities COG, and other stakeholders
 - d. Identify lessons learned and recommend modifications to Countywide Clean Truck Initiative and other clean truck programs