

Valley Sky-Lines

October 2006
Volume 5 Issue 3

Coordinator's Corner



Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition

FUTURE MEETINGS

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October 5, 2006
RTC of Southern Nevada
600 Grand Central Pkwy.
Room 108
11:30 a.m. - Board of Directors
1:30 p.m. - Stakeholders Mtg.

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December 7, 2006
Hofbrau House
4510 Paradise Rd.
Annual Holiday Luncheon
10:30 a.m. - Board Meeting
(Thomason & Assoc. Offices)
12:30 p.m. - Luncheon
(Hofbrau House)

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February 1, 2007
RTC of Southern Nevada
600 Grand Central Pkwy.
Room 108
11:30 a.m. - Board of Directors
1:30 p.m. - Stakeholders Mtg.

Education, Once Again, Is the Key

In 2005, groundbreaking legislation was passed by Congress and signed into law by the President to encourage government entities, businesses and consumers to purchase and operate alternative fueled vehicles (AFVs). For some government agencies and businesses, the incentives defined by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 total hundreds of thousands—even millions—of dollars.

For consumers, the incentives take the form of federal income tax credits of up to \$4000, depending on the vehicle purchased.

You would think that alternative fueled vehicle manufacturers and fuel providers would have customers knocking down their doors to purchase vehicles and procure fuel, right?

Wrong. In some ways, the incentives made available by the Energy Policy Act of 2005 are the best kept secret in the country. Granted, those who are interested in purchasing vehicles that qualify for the incentives have to do their homework. Businesses need to contact vehicle manufacturers and fuel providers to learn what products and fuels best meet their needs. Consumers need to research the types of vehicles available and also choose the vehicles that are right for them.

However, my experience is that most agencies, businesses and consumers have no awareness of the availability of

the incentives provided for by the legislation. And so, once again, education is the key.

Funding the upfront cost of transitioning to alternative fuels and vehicles has been a major market barrier for more than a decade. Now that Congress has provided incentives for alternative fuel vehicle purchasers, we need to get the word out in a major way or the incentives will be useless.

Effective education and awareness programs directed to target audiences would include workshops and demonstrations, public service announcements, billboards and even paid advertising. These items are critical if the incentives are to actually increase the use of alternative fuels and vehicles in the Las Vegas Valley—and indeed the country.

Nevada is one of only four states in the U.S. that has no legislation to incentivize the purchase of AFVs. Now that the federal government is providing incentives, the time has come for an AFV initiative to educate our citizens and business owners about the availability of the incentives provided for in the Energy Policy Act.

It's the right thing to do...at the right time...for the right reasons.

Dan Hyde, Coordinator

Rep. Jon Porter Pays Tribute to LVRCC Coordinator

Dan Hyde got his day on “The Hill.” On July 28, 2006, in the House of Representatives, Rep. Jon Porter (R-NV) honored Dan Hyde for his work and service in coordinating the City of Las Vegas Alternative Fuel Program.

The program was the winner of The Innovation Groups’ (IG) 2006 J. Robert Haylick Award for Innovation in Local Government. The award was presented to the city of Las Vegas during the June 1st IG conference in Dayton, Ohio.

Las Vegas received this honor for the success of the Department of Field Operations’ alternative fuel program.

Dan has made the city’s alternative fuel program a passion of his since taking over as the fleet manager for the City of Las Vegas. Rep. Porter touted Dan’s achievements as stemming from his commitment to alternative fuel sources. Because of this passion, Las Vegas is emerging as a leader in the development of a new culture of alternative fuels predominantly derived from domestic energy sources.



LVRCC Executive Director, Dan Hyde

“I am honored to recognize Dan Hyde on the floor of the House. I commend him for his contributions...and thank him for his continued service to the residents of Southern Nevada.”

*Rep. Jon C. Porter (R-NV),
House of Representatives,
July 28, 2006*

In 1993, Las Vegas was the fifth city in the nation to become a member of the Department of Energy’s Clean Cities Program. That same year, the Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition was introduced with Dan as its coordinator. In 2000, Dan began his role as the LVRCCC’s Executive Director.

Thanks to the efforts of the LVRCCC, Las Vegas is recognized as a leader in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Eighty-seven percent of the City’s non-emergency fleet runs on alternative fuels and account for a significant portion of the 7000 alternative fuel vehicles in use in Southern Nevada.

In addition to his work with the alternative fuel programs in the city, Dan is active in the community, serving on various committees including the National Schools to Careers program and the City of Las Vegas Air Quality Team. He also volunteers for the Radio Service with KNPR-FM radio, and participates in the PAL Mentoring Program.

Headlines Around the World

The alternative fuel industry abounds with headlines around the world these days. Here are just a couple stories making recent news...

GM to Launch More Than 100 Fuel Cell SUVs World Wide

General Motors will launch a fleet of more than 100 hydrogen fuel-cell powered Chevrolet Equinox’s in the US, Europe and Asia in the fall of 2007, the automaker said. The aim is to have commercial distribution by 2010 of the clean-burning cars that emit nothing but water from the tailpipe.

Source: Yahoo Technology

Auto Makers See Future in Hybrids, Diesel Engines

Auto industry executives said sustained consumer interest in alternative fuel vehicles will depend on U.S. gas prices staying high. They noted that gas-powered hybrids, diesel engines and vehicles that run on gasoline-ethanol blends will jockey for market position for most of the next decade.

Source: Reuters News Service/Planet Ark

CCSN Hosts Nevada's National AFV Day Odyssey

Community College of Southern Nevada-Cheyenne Campus will host Nevada's leg of a nationwide event set on educating American motorists about the benefits of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs).

On October 12, the National Alternative Fuel Vehicle Day Odyssey, coordinated by the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium, will kick off its third event with more than 50 sites signed on to participate. A biennial event started in 2002, the program hopes for continued growth in location sites and cities.

The National AFV Day Odyssey is meant to raise awareness and enthusiasm for AFVs and to bring attention to cleaner, more energy efficient choices in the rapidly growing alternative fuel technologies market.

The CCSN Cheyenne Campus turns out to be the perfect place to hold an alternative fuel event.

On September 20, ground was broken on the first phase of a \$17.5 million Transportation Technology Building. The building will expand the college's automotive services program, which will include an alternative fuels program. The first phase is scheduled to be complete in fall 2007 and the final phase in fall 2009.

The Las Vegas Odyssey event will feature renowned guest speakers, an opportunity to view, ride and drive the latest AFVs on the market and to ask questions of the experts in the industry.



Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition, along with Clark County, the City of Las Vegas and Desert Honda Las Vegas, are the local sponsors of the event. Nationally the event receives support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The event is from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 12.

The Cheyenne Campus is located at 3200 East Cheyenne Ave., North Las Vegas, NV 89030.

For more information, contact CCSN at (702) 651-4287 or (702) 651-4837.

Upcoming AFV Events

October 12, 2006

National AFV Day Odyssey
Las Vegas, NV
Hosted by Community College of Southern Nevada
Phone: (702) 651-4287
Website: www.nationalafvdayodyssey.org

November 7-9, 2006

IANGV - International Association for NGVs Annual Conference
Cairo, Egypt
Sponsored by NGV 2006
Phone: +22-2-2734433
Website: www.iangv.org

October 10-12, 2006

Natural Gas Vehicle Safety Training Course
Downey, CA
Hosted by the Natural Gas Vehicle Institute
Phone: (800) 510-6484
Website: www.ngvi.com

November 14-16, 2006

Hybrid Truck Users Forum
San Diego, CA
Hosted by ISE Corp., Maxwell Technologies & Siemens
Phone: (626) 744-5655
Website: www.calstart.org

November 2-3, 2006

CNG Fueling Station Design Certification Course
Downey, CA
Hosted by the Natural Gas Vehicle Institute
Phone: (800) 510-6484
Website: www.ngvi.com

November 28-30, 2006

Future Fuels USA 2006
Washington, DC
Hosted by The CWC Alternative Energy Series
Phone: (207) 978-0075
Website: www.thecwcgroup.com

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Las Vegas Hosts WRAP Diesel Retrofit Boot Camp

Are you ready to kick your emissions reduction program into high gear?

The Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) is holding its Diesel Retrofit Boot Camp on October 3 and 4 at the Hampton Inn Tropicana in Las Vegas.

The program is designed by Emissions Advantage, LLC and sponsored by the WRAP to be a "comprehensive, interactive training approach" for fleet operators and technicians that are involved with planning and implementing emissions reducing programs.

The two-part event will cover everything from engine operation, fuel types and different types of emission reduction strategies to program development processes, along with holding breakout sessions and a variety of exercises.

Part I (Oct. 3) will present the various strategies, technologies and engine applications that are most successful in reducing emissions. WRAP advises that Part II (Oct. 4) will be valuable to organizations involved with planning programs and projects on emissions reduction, along with sharing the elements needed to run a successful program.



Some of the case study breakout sessions will include a panel of experts and group discussion of off-road equipment and on-road vehicle sectors discussing actual field experience with implementing emission reduction projects.

WRAP was formed in 1997 as a voluntary organization of western states, tribes and federal agencies to improve visibility in national parks and wilderness areas on the Colorado Plateau and all Western Class I areas.

To see the detailed agenda for the event click on the following link:

<http://www.wrapair.org/cal/calendar.php?op=view&id=579>
or visit WRAP's website at www.wrapair.org.

LVRCC to Host AFV Briefing for Nevada Legislators

With the elections concluding November 7, and state legislators headed to Carson City shortly after the first of the year for the 2007 session, it's a perfect time to update legislators about alternative fuels and vehicles. After all, transportation fuel prices are high (they've been higher, but are predicted to rise again), supplies are tight and getting tighter, and oil imports continue to increase.

The briefing will be held November 30 at The Orleans Hotel. All Nevada legislators will receive an

invitation in the mail. The agenda will include an overview of the current status of alternative fueled vehicles (AFVs) in Clark County, highlights of some of the key outreach programs by the Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition, and an outline for the Clean Transportation Education Initiative that would provide public education and awareness programs supporting the use of AFVs in Nevada.

For more information, contact Annalloyd Thomason at 702-254-4180.



Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition

Valley Sky-Lines is published quarterly for the Las Vegas Regional Clean Cities Coalition by Thomason & Associates, Inc., a Las Vegas-based alternative fuel consulting firm since 1989. We welcome your news stories and appreciate your comments and suggestions.

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