

2023 Clean Cities Training Workshop

Managed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Thursday, September 7 – Friday, September 8, 2023

Hilton McLean Tysons Corner
7920 Jones Branch Dr.,
McLean, VA

Thursday, September 7, 2023

All plenary sessions held in International Ballroom A

8:30 a.m.	Meeting Welcome	Alleyn Harned , Virginia Clean Cities Antoine Thompson , Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Wendy Dafoe , NREL
9:00 a.m.	Introductions and Icebreaker	Victoria McGarril , Energetics
9:30 a.m.	DOE Updates The DOE team will present Vehicle Technologies Office updates related to Clean Cities. Learn about DOE investments in Clean Cities, energy and environmental justice activities, and the latest information on the Clean Cities branding efforts. The DOE team will also be joined by Bill Schankel, CEO of the National Association of Fleet Administrators who will provide an update on a special collaboration opportunity.	Margaret Smith , DOE Neil Kirschner , NETL Grace McGinnis , DOE Alycia Gilde , DOE Mark Smith , DOE Bill Schankel , NAFA Sam Spofforth , DOE
10:45 a.m.	MORNING BREAK	
11:00 a.m.	DOE Updates Continued The DOE team will continue their update with an overview of the impact of coalitions through the coalition cooperative agreement and the latest activities within the strategic framework for strengthening Clean Cities. This session will also include information on future Clean Cities priorities for discussion during the post-lunch facilitated breakout session.	Neil Kirschner , NETL Margaret Smith , DOE Sam Spofforth , DOE
12:00 p.m.	LUNCH	
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Thursday Breakout Sessions – Round 1 – Facilitated Breakouts Clean Cities of the Future <i>Clean Cities coalitions and program staff will move into groups to discuss a vision for the future of Clean Cities. Facilitators will lead each breakout group through a discussion about draft goals, encouraging all attendees to share feedback and ask questions. Participants will also have the opportunity to share ideas and priorities through an online form. Dialogue from this session will help shape future strategic priorities and resources. Representative from each breakout group will share discussion takeaways later in the day.</i> Breakout Groups: Group 1: Northeast and Northwest Regions – Facilitators: Dan Nardoizzi, NETL & Victoria McGarril, Energetics <i>Continental Ballroom A</i> Group 2: South Central and North Central Regions – Facilitators: Neil Kirschner, NETL & Grace McGinnis, DOE <i>Continental Ballroom B</i> Group 3: Mid-Atlantic Region – Facilitators: Nicole Kirby, NETL & Lauren Reichelt, NREL <i>Continental Ballroom C</i> Group 4: California and Southeast Regions – Facilitators: Brett Aristegui, NETL & Walt Zalis, Energetics <i>International Ballroom A</i>	

	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday Breakout Sessions – Round 2 – Coalition Peer Sharing Focus</p> <p>1. Maintaining Multiple Revenue Streams (Continental Ballroom A) Maintaining multiple revenue streams adds stability to coalitions and can lead to increased impacts (and staff). This session will feature coalition directors with a track record for building funding sources and offers the opportunity for you to hear about their proven strategies and ask questions.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chuck Feinberg, New Jersey Clean Cities • Lisa Thurstin, Minnesota Clean Cities • Tyler Herrmann, Louisiana Clean Fuels <p>2. Convenient and Efficient Strategies for Transportation Decarbonization (Continental Ballroom B) USDOT, DOE, EPA, and HUD are jointly implementing the US National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization. The Blueprint includes strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transportation through three strategies of increasing convenience, efficiency, and the proliferation of clean vehicles. Convenience means implementing system-level and design solutions. Efficiency means supporting modal optionality and more efficient vehicles. The agencies are currently working on detailed action plans for the convenience and efficiency strategies. This workshop will share updates on the convenience and efficiency strategies and provide an opportunity for feedback and information-sharing through discussion of best practices, challenges, and opportunities.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aaron Hula, EPA • Liya Rechtman, USDOT • Tina Hodges, USDOT • Morgan Ellis, DOE <p>3. Decarbonizing Off-Road, Rail, Marine, and Air (DORMA) (Continental Ballroom C) U.S. National Blueprint for Transportation Decarbonization aims to decarbonize the rail, marine, and off-road sectors. Learn how DOE is approaching this important area, working with federal agency partners and the next steps for implementing strategies and how Clean Cities activities can play a vital role. The panel will also include Clean Cities directors sharing their experiences in helping operators shift to cleaner transportation technologies.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin Stork, Vehicle Technologies Office • Carl Lisek, Drive Clean Indiana • Michael Graham, Western Washington and Columbia-Willamette Clean Cities • Aspen Nero, Southeast Louisiana <p>4. Coalition Strategic Planning Discussion (International Ballroom A) Featured coalition directors will share elements of their strategic planning processes and the lessons they've learned, followed by an opportunity for participants to choose their own adventure: participate in a peer-consulting session to workshop the challenges they are facing, or work independently on their strategic plans with support from peer experts in the room. Participants will also hear from NETL and NREL on the goals of the strategic planning activities and the resources and trainings that are available to support coalitions.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonnie Trowbridge, Drive Clean Colorado • Jacob Beeman, Capital District Clean Cities • Michelle Merchant, Tulsa Clean Cities
3:35 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.	AFTERNOON BREAK
3:50 p.m.	Report out

4:10 p.m.	<p>Clean Cities Coalition Council Introduction Learn about the 2023 Clean Cities Coalition Council.</p>	<p>Council Don Covert, Valley of the Sun Clean Cities Alleyn Harned, Virginia Clean Cities Alisha Lopez, Southeast Florida Clean Cities Peggy O'Neill-Vivanco, Vermont Clean Cities Abbie Christophersen, Iowa Clean Cities Bonnie Trowbridge, Drive Clean Colorado Taylor York, Western Riverside County Clean Cities</p>
4:20 p.m.	<p>Coalition Building In this session Sam Spofforth, Clean Cities Project Leader, will provide an overview of DOE's Coalition Building initiative, supported by NREL. This will include discussion of types of Coalition Building, current projects, tools and resources, and longer-term goals over the next three to five years. The session will feature remarks and discussion with two coalition directors and one co-director who are working actively on current projects today.</p>	<p>Joy Gardner, Empire Clean Cities Alleyn Harned, Virginia Clean Cities Annie Lee, Triangle Clean Cities</p>
5:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p>Day 1 Closing Remarks and Q&A</p>	<p>Neil Kirschner, NETL</p>

Friday, September 8, 2023

All plenary sessions held in International Ballroom A

8:30 a.m.	Agenda Overview and Morning Announcements	
8:40 a.m.	Celebrating Clean Cities Coalition Successes and Recognizing Directors DOE will highlight Clean Cities director successes and honor Benjamin Watson awardee.	Sam Spofforth, DOE Margaret Smith, DOE Alycia Gilde, DOE Grace McGinnis, DOE Michael Laughlin, DOE
9:25 a.m.	Gather for Group Picture , remaining time for Morning Break	
9:50 a.m.	<p style="text-align: center;">Networking Session with Experts</p> <p>During this networking session, attendees will have the opportunity to talk with program staff from DOE headquarters, national laboratories, and other subject matter experts (SMEs) about various topics of interest. Attendees can also use this time to ask previous presenters questions, or network with fellow attendees. SMEs will be stationed at networking tables throughout the general session room and are available to answer attendee questions throughout the session. Note: While Clean Cities Coalition Directors and staff are also SMEs for many topics, only program staff SMEs are stationed at networking tables. This provides all attendees the opportunity to actively participate in this session.</p> <p>Networking Topics – Descriptions for each topic found on last page of Agenda.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Clean Cities Branding (SME: Mary Beth Florentine, LMD; Mollie Putzig, NREL)2. Clean Cities Coalition Re-Designation Process (SME: Ellen Bourbon, AST)3. Clean Cities University Workforce Development Program (SME: Lisa Heineman, ANL)4. Non-road activities, and Clean Cities Ports and RNG Working Groups (SMEs: Kevin Stork, DOE; Marcy Rood, ANL; Andy Burnham, ANL; Marianne Mintz, ANL)5. Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice Initiative (SMEs: Grace McGinnis, DOE; Sara Lechtenberg-Kasten, ANL; Mariah Stanley, ANL)6. EPA Office of Community Revitalization (SMEs: Wendy Dafoe, NREL; John Thomas, EPA; Reyes Barboza, EPA)7. Clean Energy to Communities Funding Program (SMEs: Lauren Reichelt, NREL)8. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Vehicle and Infrastructure Funding Programs (SME: Mike Scarpino, DOT Volpe, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation; Bridget Gilmore, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation)9. Technical Assistance for Clean Cities (SMEs: John Gonzales, NREL; Ryan Frasier, NREL)10. Connect with your RM – South Central and North Central (SMEs: Neil Kirschner, NETL; Jordan Foster, NETL)11. Connect with your RM – California and Northwest (SMEs: Brett Aristegui, NETL; Dan Nardozi, NETL)12. Connect with your RM – Mid-Atlantic and Southeast (SMEs: Nicole Kirby, NETL; Trev Hall, NETL) <p>***Northeast coalitions are welcome to attend any of the “Connect with your RM” tables</p>	
11:20 a.m.	Break	

	<p style="text-align: center;">Friday Breakouts – Coalition Activity and Success</p> <p>1. Best practices for hosts and boards (Continental Ballroom A) In this session Sam Spofforth, Clean Cities Project Leader, will provide an overview of a new resource: Best Practices for Coalition Hosts and Boards. DOE has developed this based on input from and discussion with coalition directors from some of the coalitions that have consistently demonstrated excellence in these regards. The session also features remarks from three coalition directors on the qualities and activities they believe exemplify these best practices, and how they help the coalition perform at a high level and achieve strong impact. The three speakers come from the three basic types of coalitions: Hosted, Standalone, and Hybrid (elements of both Hosted and Standalone).</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maggie Stritz-Calnin, Michigan Clean Cities • Lorrie Lisek, Wisconsin Clean Cities • Jon LaBier, Granite State Clean Cities • Alex Economou, Central Coast Clean Cities <p>2. Forming successful project partnerships (Continental Ballroom B) For the Clean Cities Program and coalition missions to be successful, we know that solid partnerships are needed in the work that we do. In this session we are going to share in best practices for facilitating successful project partnerships. We will follow along discussions/ (and presentations) from three Coalition Directors to share their thoughts and experiences and allow time for Q&A at the end.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tammie Bostick, Utah Clean Cities • Jonathan Overly, Tennessee Clean Fuels • Abbie Christopherson, Iowa Clean Cities <p>3. Coalition Websites/Social-Media (Continental Ballroom C) Participants will hear examples of how coalitions approach their online communications to reach their stakeholders through coalition websites and social media. Using a few case studies, three coalitions will illustrate how they tackled specific challenges for their digital communications to develop engaging content, redesign websites, and produce effective social media campaigns. Join this session to learn from the success of other coalitions with online outreach and to start building a digital communications strategy for your coalition.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jon Gagne, Maine Clean Communities • Laurel Mack Wilson, Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition • Daphne Dixon, Connecticut Southwestern Area Clean Cities <p>4. Stakeholder Engagement (International Ballroom A) Presenters will discuss best practices and lessons learned working to engage stakeholders, outreach, collaboration, and the social aspect of business/stakeholder engagement. Learn how Coalitions stimulate stakeholder engagement and activities by creative and relationship building strategies.</p> <p><u>Speakers/Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alisha Lopez, Southeast Florida • Mark Bentley, Alabama Clean Cities • Taylor York, Western Riverside
11:30 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.	<div>12:40 p.m. – 1 p.m.</div> <div>Day 2 Closing remarks</div> <div>Clean Cities Leadership</div>

Thank you to the Clean Cities Coalition Council members (Peggy O'Neill-Vivanco, Alisha Lopez, Taylor York, Don Covert, Abbie Christophersen, Bonnie Trowbridge, and Alleyn Harned) for their efforts to collect coalition staff suggestions for this training.

Staffed Networking Tables:

These tables will all have signs with respective topic and expert names so coalitions can navigate appropriately. We will also provide a map of the room identifying where each topic will be located.

1. **Clean Cities Branding** (SME: Mary Beth Florentine, LMD; Mollie Putzig, NREL) – Clean Cities’ new branding strategy is a result of months of research and collaboration. DOE will present an update on the branding effort on Thursday morning.
At this table, talk with DOE’s branding consultant and NREL’s communications expert to learn more about the branding process, discuss next steps, and share coalition input.

2. **Clean Cities Coalition Re-Designation Process** (SME: Ellen Bourbon, AST) – DOE grants official Clean Cities designation to coalitions that exhibit broad commitment to, and support for, implementing alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies. Each Clean Cities coalition is required to undergo re-designation every five years to:
 - Ensure that expectations align among the coalition, VTO, and if applicable, its host agency
 - Reaffirm commitment from stakeholders, the board of directors, steering committee members, and host organization
 - Build momentum through quantitative evaluation and planning
 - Enhance the relationship with VTO
 - Inform VTO of accomplishments and funding needs.

At this table, ask questions and provide feedback about the re-designation process, how it can strengthen your coalition, available resources to help coalitions through the process, and the approximate timing of your coalition’s re-designation.

3. **Clean Cities University Workforce Development Program** (SME: Lisa Heineman, ANL) – For over 10 years, DOE has provided Clean Cities coalitions interns through the Clean Cities University Workforce Development Program (CCUWDP), managed by ANL.

At this table share input and ask about the application process, high-impact work plans for interns, and the type of support ANL provides during the hiring and onboarding process.

4. **Non-road activities, and Clean Cities Ports and RNG Working Groups** (SMEs: Kevin Stork, DOE; Marcy Rood, ANL; Andy Burnham, ANL; Marianne Mintz, ANL) – ANL hosts a monthly Clean Cities Ports Working Group and a monthly Clean Cities Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Working Group. Learn how to get involved in these working groups.

Talk with SMEs about Clean Cities activities at ports (airports, inland ports, marine ports, etc.) and RNG projects across the country. At this table you can also learn more about the investments that DOE’s Vehicle Technologies Office is putting into research and development through its Decarbonization of Offroad, Rail, Marine, and Aviation (DORMA) program.

5. **Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice Initiative** (SMEs: Grace McGinnis, DOE; Sara Lechtenberg-Kasten, ANL; Mariah Stanley, ANL) – Clean Cities coalitions are collaborating with DOE and its national laboratories to help ensure the benefits of federal investments in clean transportation reach underserved and overburdened communities as part of Justice40. To accomplish this, the Clean Cities Energy and Environmental Justice Initiative (EEJI) was created

to provide coalitions with training and resources on how to take a community-first approach to developing transportation projects.

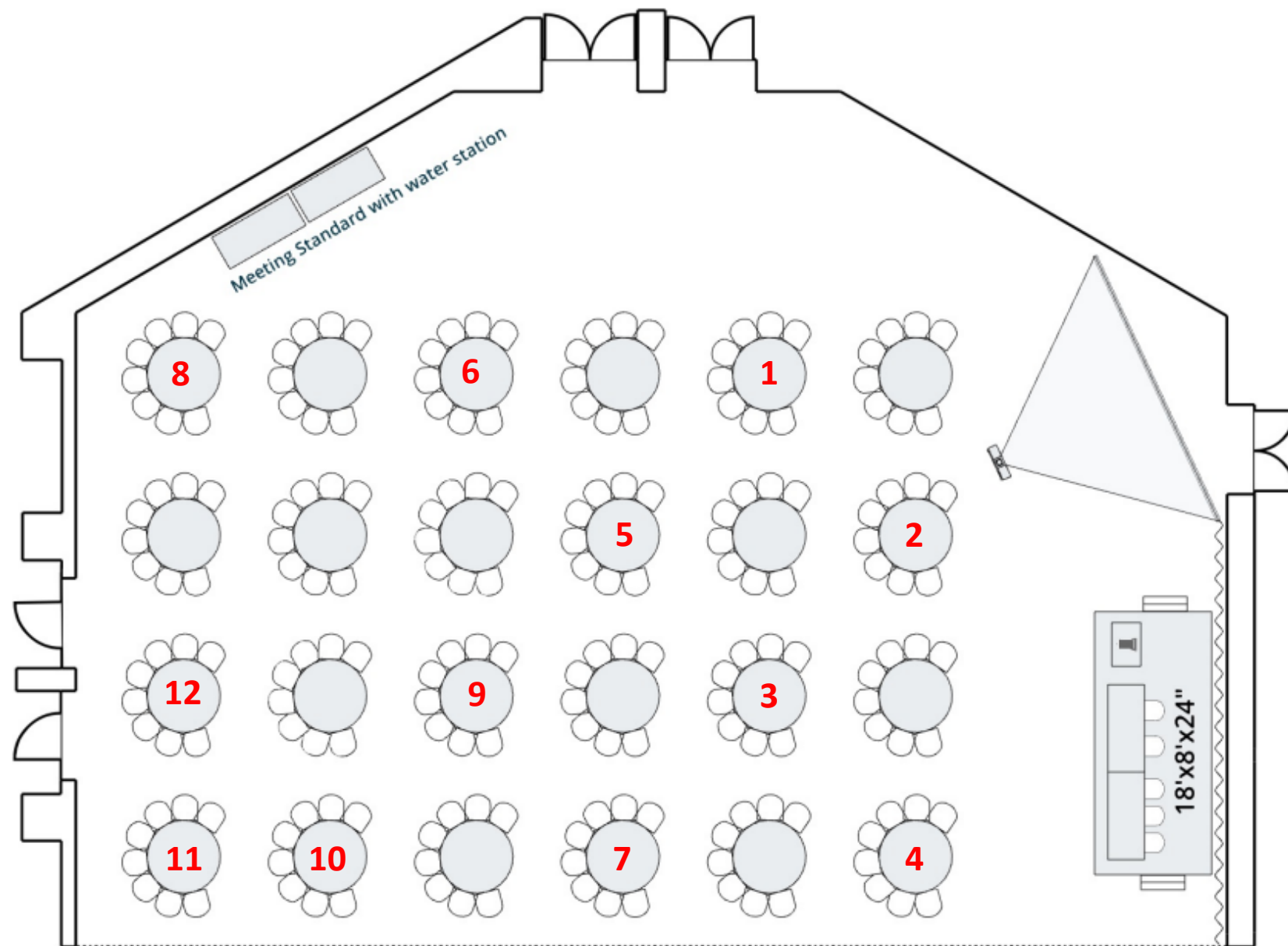
Network with EEJ leaders, ask questions, provide input, and brainstorm ideas.

6. **EPA Office of Community Revitalization** (SMEs: Wendy Dafoe, NREL; John Thomas, EPA; Reyes Barboza, EPA) – EPA's Office of Community Revitalization (OCR) supports locally led, community-driven efforts to protect the environment, expand economic opportunity, and revitalize neighborhoods. Since 2005, its technical assistance has helped hundreds of communities to identify and implement strategies to achieve local priorities.
Talk with EPA staff about a recent technical assistance pilot program in partnership with Clean Cities, VTO, and the Joint Office to convene community members to discuss transportation electrification strategies. Discuss opportunities for further collaboration between EPA and Clean Cities coalitions.
7. **Clean Energy to Communities Funding Program** (SMEs: Lauren Reichelt, NREL) – Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) provides innovative, cross-cutting technical solutions to municipalities, tribes, utilities, and community-based organizations around the United States that will help them identify and implement solutions across clean power, mobility, buildings, and grid. Clean Cities Coalitions can receive funding to provide support and technical assistance to participants in C2C peer-learning cohorts and C2C expert match, while also enhancing coalition skillsets and knowledge. Coalitions bring essential local context to these engagements and help communities to take broad learnings and turn them into tangible deliverables. Join this table to ask questions about upcoming C2C opportunities for Clean Cities coalitions and how to access funding to support communities in your region. C2C is funded by DOE and managed by NREL.
8. **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Vehicle and Infrastructure Funding Programs** (SME: Mike Scarpino, DOT Volpe, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation; Bridget Gilmore, Joint Office of Energy and Transportation) – The Joint Office supports the buildout of a nationwide network of electric vehicle chargers, zero-emission fueling infrastructure, and zero-emission transit and school buses by aligning resources and expertise to achieve this strategic goal through unifying guidance, technical assistance, and analysis for the following programs:
 - **National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program:** This DOT program provides \$5 billion for states to build a national EV charging network with stations spaced no more than 50 miles apart and within one mile of the interstate exit or highway.
 - **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program:** This program provides \$2.5 billion in grant funds to strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in communities where people live and work.
 - **Low or No Emission Vehicle Program for Transit:** This DOT program provides \$5.6 billion in support of low- and no-emission transit bus deployments.
 - **Clean School Bus Program:** Through this program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is providing \$5 billion in support of electric school bus deployments.

At this table, share your input and ask questions about these funding programs.

9. **Technical Assistance for Clean Cities** (SMEs: John Gonzales, NREL; Ryan Frasier, NREL) DOE invests in a broad range of alternative fuel vehicle and infrastructure technical assistance activities available to Clean Cities coalitions ranging from the Technical Response Service to hands-on Tiger Teams support. Ask SMEs about how to access technical assistance resources and share input on how technical assistance for Clean Cities can be improved.
10. **Connect with your RM – South Central and North Central** (SMEs: Neil Kirschner, NETL; Jordan Foster, NETL) – Coalitions from the South Central and North Central regions are welcome to connect with their respective regional managers and discuss items such as the cooperative agreement or other coalition activities.
11. **Connect with your RM – California and Northwest** (SMEs: Brett Aristegui, NETL; Dan Nardozi, NETL) – Coalitions from the California and Northwest regions are welcome to connect with their respective regional managers and discuss items such as the cooperative agreement or other coalition activities.
12. **Connect with your RM – Mid-Atlantic and Southeast** (SMEs: Nicole Kirby, NETL; Trev Hall, NETL) – Coalitions from the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast regions are welcome to connect with their respective regional managers and discuss items such as the cooperative agreement or other coalition activities.

*** Northeast coalitions are welcome to attend any of the “Connect with your RM” tables



Networking Session Table Topics

- Clean Cities Branding** (Mary Beth Florentine, LMD; Mollie Putzig, NREL)
- Clean Cities Coalition Re-Designation Process** (Ellen Bourbon, AST)
- Clean Cities University Workforce Development Program** (Lisa Heineman, ANL)
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