

# Treasure Valley Clean Cities Coalition Stakeholders Meeting Summary

3/21/06

Update on Clean Cities Program and Designation – Beth Baird reviewed the status of the Clean Cities Program at DOE; the Clean Cities Program is now under the Freedom Car Program, the Seattle regional office will close at the end of June and move to Golden, CO, there will likely be no SEP grants offered this year. The TVCCC Program Plan is being reviewed by DOE staff in D.C., but there is no word regarding designation. The group generally accepted the concept of proceeding with coalition organization activities anticipating designation at some point.

TVCCC Organizational Efforts - A Board of Directors has been elected. Paul Mann is President, Mark Carnopis is Vice President, and Beth Baird is Secretary/Treasurer. Other members include Leonard Herr, John Crockett, Russ Hendricks, Jim Glancey, and Julie Shain. One position on the Board is still open. Beth indicated that a Canyon County member would be a good addition. Sharla Arledge with the City of Nampa will consider the opportunity.

The TVCCC has been incorporated as the Treasure Valley Clean Cities Coalition, Inc. The Employee Identification Number paperwork will be filed shortly with the IRS and the non-profit tax exemption papers will follow. It was noted that the Treasure Valley Partnership is kindly providing the filing fees for these documents.

After discussion it was decided to try quarterly meetings and also try some noon brown bags meetings. Next meeting will be June 20 at noon. Efforts will be made to provide speakers for these meetings.

The TVCCC has a web site that currently contains basic information on the Coalition. Efforts will be made to expand the site. Anyone with something to post was invited to provide the information for incorporation into the site. The web address is [http://air/idaho.gov/clean\\_cities/cc\\_main.htm](http://air/idaho.gov/clean_cities/cc_main.htm).

Patti Best provided a summary of her research on the membership structure for other local non-profit organizations. Membership structure for the TVCCC will be further considered by the Board of Director's and stakeholders will be kept apprised. (Attachment)

Biodiesel Mural Project - Craig Ballhagen and Leonard reported on the biodiesel mural project. The eleven panels of the mural have been sponsored by different local organizations and are being developed by the Boise School District junior and senior high school art students. Willie Nelson's son, Micah, has provided a "BioWillie" drawing that will be part of the mural. The final plans for the "opening" of the mural have not been finalized but it is expected that a ceremony/media event will be held near/on Earth Day, April 22. Sharla Arledge will assist Craig and Leonard with the planning for this.

Biodiesel Infrastructure Grants – The Idaho Energy Division has released a RFP for biodiesel infrastructure proposals. The grants are available statewide. John Crocket of the Idaho Energy Division indicated that this will be a very easy proposal process and it is hoped the TVCCC stakeholders will respond. \$289,000 is available for projects requests between \$10,000 and \$100,000 that can provide a 50% match. The time frame for the grant is very tight; DOE is requiring that all work be completed by September 2006. Cal Gillis of BSU and Charley Jones of Sticker Stations indicated interest in providing proposals for possible grants. (Attachment)

Biodiesel Use in Emergency Vehicles in the Treasure Valley – As requested at the previous stakeholders meeting, Beth Baird provided as summary of B20 use in local emergency vehicles. ITD Incident Response units have been using B20 since 2002 without any major problems. City of Boise Fire Dept. began using B20 in December 2005 in some of their engines and other response vehicles. No problems have been encountered.

Round table on alternative fuel use and related activities - Those present reviewed their organization's activities. Only brief summaries are provided.

Leonard Herr and Patti Best, DEQ - discussed DEQ's diesel retrofit project, Clean Air Zone activities (school bus anti-idling program)

John Crockett, ID Energy Division - referred to the biodiesel grant opportunity, and mentioned the biodiesel facility going in at New Plymouth.

Russ Hendricks, Farm Bureau - summarized the history of failed E10 bill.

Sharla Arledge, City of Nampa - indicated Nampa's interest in using B20 and E85 if access to the fuels was more convenient.

Bob Ford, Sen. Crapo's State Office - offered to contact DOE regarding TVCCC designation status.

Cal Gillis, BSU - expressed interest in establishing some type of alternative fuel fueling site on the BSU campus. BSU may apply for a biodiesel infrastructure grant.

Dennis Baird, Baird Oil - said that he has had interest in biodiesel from private citizens, fuel costs were discussed.

Symantha Miller, SSC - said that SSC continues to use B20 and supports the TVCCC in SSC's newsletter.

Selena O'Neal, Ada County - indicated that she will continue to discuss the possibility of using alternative fuels in County vehicles and asked for supporting information from the group. Patti Best said she would provide the information.

Charley Jones, Stinker Stations - indicated that he would be revising the E85 price structure and will be seeking multiple biodiesel infrastructure grants.

Paul Mann, Bio[Fuels & Mass] Consulting - reported that the University of Idaho study should be out soon and that he has been working with the New Plymouth biofuels facility.

Craig Ballhagen - provided the update on the biodiesel fence project earlier in the meeting.

Beth Baird, City of Boise - reviewed the additions of biodiesel tanks at City facilities. Current there are 3 Public Works Dept. B20 tanks and 1 Fire Dept. tank. Fire Dept. vehicles also fuel at the card lock facilities and at Public Works tanks. E85 is being used in some of the flex-fuel vehicles. Convenience and the problems with Ford Taureses keep the remainder from using E85.

Other – Beth passed out information on a sustainable energy panel discussion sponsored by BSU to be held on April 3. (attachment) Symantha Miller said she would contact the Idaho Statesman about an environmental business article for the TVCCC.

Next meeting will be held June 20 at noon. Either a guest speaker or a trip to the New Plymouth biofuel plant is planned.