



Alternative Fuel
Information Series

Clean Cities Award Winning Coalition

May 1999

U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY
OFFICE of ENERGY EFFICIENCY and RENEWABLE ENERGY

San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition

Setting High Standards

San Diego residents can count on their regional Clean Cities coalition to help reduce air pollution generated from vehicle exhaust. In fact, thanks to the efforts of the 62 local Clean Cities stakeholders, the air above San Diego is cleaner by about 125 tons of nitrogen oxides and 867 tons of carbon dioxide every year. By promoting the use of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs), the coalition is reducing the emissions of harmful pollutants that directly impact the area's air quality, and also helping to reduce the nation's dependence on imported oil.

Designated a Clean Cities coalition in 1996, San Diego is the national program's 50th participant. In 1998, the coalition received the Clean Cities **Tools of the Trade Award** from the U.S. Department of Energy for excellence in pollution reduction measurement, and in 1999, it is the recipient of the Clean Cities **Empire Award** for adding the most stakeholders.

Making an Impact

San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition is proud of its stakeholders' numerous accomplishments. Recently, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), the local utility, installed a solar chargeport at the San Diego County Administration Center. The chargeport has the capacity to charge up to six electric vehicles simultaneously—at no cost—by using photovoltaic panels that convert sunlight into power. San Diego pays a monthly fee of \$100 to SDG&E and in return the utility receives valuable data on the applicability of solar power to charge vehicles in the area.

San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition stakeholders are also doing their "ShAIR." The San Diego Air Pollution Control Board created the ShAIRholder Program to develop partnerships among energy providers, AFV manufacturers, private industry, local schools and government, builders and real estate professionals, and financial institutions.

These shAIRholders are helping to stimulate and accelerate the alternative fuel market in the San Diego region by networking organizations involved in the process of putting AFVs on the road.

In addition, the San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition will soon be home to the first AFV showroom in the world. The Regional Transportation Center (RTC) is scheduled to open during the summer of 2000 with the help of coalition members, Pearson Ford (a local dealership), and stakeholders. This million-dollar facility will display the latest AFV models, rent and demonstrate vehicles, and offer a fueling and service center available to the public. For younger generations, RTC will also manage an educational center, operated by the San Diego Environmental Foundation. "(The RTC) is a huge step in helping us get the word out on how we can clean up the air," said Ron Roberts, San Diego County Supervisor.

Providing Membership Support

To support stakeholder initiatives, the San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition, as a whole, focuses its efforts on providing the latest information about the alternative fuel and AFV industry. San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition maintains a Web site, publishes



San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coalition showcases AFVs at a regional event

Photo courtesy of San Diego Regional AFV Coalition

The Alternative Flash newsletter and *Technical Resource Guide*, and hosts a variety of meetings and events to disseminate program news. The coalition places considerable emphasis on helping members take advantage of funding opportunities, and it provides hands-on grant and proposal assistance through regularly scheduled writing workshops.

“The response (from community members) has been very good,” said Kim Cresencia, San Diego Regional Clean Cities Coordinator. “The coalition has been recognized as a knowledgeable source about AFVs and as an organization that puts together informative programs.”

About Clean Cities...

The Clean Cities Program is a voluntary, locally based government and industry partnership. The program, now in its sixth year, seeks to expand the use of alternatives to gasoline and diesel fuel in order to reduce dependence on imported oil, lessen air pollution, and increase public awareness about the benefits of using alternative fuels over gasoline and diesel. At least 70 coalitions and some 3,500 stakeholders have joined to support the Clean Cities Program.

Now in their third year, the Clean Cities Coalition Awards recognize outstanding achievements in building coalitions, promoting and increasing alternative fuel vehicle use, developing AFV infrastructure, and supporting alternative fuel and AFV legislation.

For more information, you can

- contact the Clean Cities Coordinator listed below
- call the Clean Cities Hotline at 1-800-CCITIES
- visit the Clean Cities Web site at <http://www.cities.doe.gov>
or
- e-mail the Clean Cities Hotline at ccities@nrel.gov.

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