

Meeting Minutes

Transportation Working Group (TWG) – Meeting 4

Meeting details: 2/26/24 (1:00-4:00 PM), Virtual meeting

1) Welcome and meeting overview

- *Meeting Goal:* to review the data behind Maine Won't Wait (MWW) electric vehicle (EV) and EV charging infrastructure recommendations and begin coalescing around updated recommendations based on small group and large group discussions.

2) Centering group in transportation data

- Reviewed in accompanying PowerPoint presentation

3) Review of focus areas for likely policy updates

- Public education campaign
- Other tools and mechanisms to drive adoption
 - EV incentives – consider fleets and other funding tools
 - Adopting ACC2 or deficit without it
 - Expanding charging – focus on workplace, fleet, other gaps
 - Super-users
 - Demand management

4) Small group conversations

- Six breakout groups convened to discuss what should be emphasized to accelerate Maine's transition to electric vehicles. A summary of their discussions is included in the "Consolidated ideas" section below.

5) Consolidating ideas

- *Outreach and Education:*
 - Urgent need for creative approaches to increase consumer exposure to EVs, demythologize and depoliticize, improve dealer knowledge and enthusiasm, and partner with employers/private sector.
 - Look at agencies working on EV adoption and education and build off their work with assistance from grassroots organizations.
 - Need for multiple outreach/education campaigns (e.g., urban and rural, consumers and dealerships).
 - Training for technicians and emergency responders.
 - Building trust and confidence with consumers that chargers work.
- *Policies, regulations, & incentives to spur adoption*
 - Rebates
 - EMT will provide additional data to support this recommendation.
 - Continuity of funding

- Streamline process for receiving rebate
 - Expansion of rebate program
 - Discussion of Advanced Clean Cars II
 - Support of used vehicles market and vehicle leasing programs
 - More focus is needed in this area (e.g., there are policy areas identified in the Clean Transportation Roadmap that haven't been discussed today).
- *Charging*
 - State is on track for public charging; however, there are additional opportunities:
 - Focus on workplace and make-ready, including providing support to communities and municipalities on local policies for workplace, make-ready.
 - Additional incentives for home chargers/panel tied to income
 - Revisiting assumptions on public charging in a few years
- *Superusers*
 - Focus on this group as a priority population for EVs and higher efficiency vehicles.
 - Gather more data on this group
 - Continue recognizing challenges for EV use in rural areas where some of these superusers may reside
- *Other*
 - Shared car/vehicle programs using EVs (e.g., GO MAINE)

6) Notes from Demand Management Workshop

- The January 19th Demand Management Workshop reviewed the capacity of the grid and how to manage it. The workshop included national success stories and included a discussion of what this all means in the context of our state's climate goals and discussion.

7) Next steps

- MaineDOT will take the feedback from today's meeting and begin drafting language for the EV recommendations with assistance from the small group that helped plan today's meeting. A status update will be provided at the next TWG meeting.
- Final draft recommendations are due in June.
- The next TWG meeting will be held in-person on March 13th and will focus on recommendations for reducing vehicle miles traveled.