

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Energy Infrastructure Incentives for Zero-Emission Commercial Vehicles (EnergIIZE Commercial Vehicles) is the nation's first commercial vehicle fleet infrastructure incentive project. Funded by the California Energy Commission's Clean Transportation Program and implemented by CALSTART, EnergIIZE provides incentives for zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) infrastructure equipment for medium-duty and heavy-duty (MDHD) battery-electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles operated and domiciled in California.

All projects in competitive funding lanes that request \$150,000 or more in EnergIIZE funds are required to complete qualitative questions demonstrating project readiness, cost effectiveness, and community benefit. This supplemental sheet will support you in answering the qualitative questions.



When answering Qualitative Question 1 – **Maximizing MDHD Infrastructure Utilization and Throughput, ask yourself:**

How many MDHD vehicles will the station be open to?



When will these vehicles charge/fuel?



What is the project's plan for software, maintenance, and warranty?



How will you track operational success?



Community benefit questions are designed to guide Project Teams through meaningful community engagement so teams can understand how their infrastructure project impacts the community surrounding the site. Once engagement with the community has been initiated, the Project Team can decide to mitigate some of the project's undesired impacts or implement and augment some of the desired impacts, thus making their application more competitive.

Consider adding someone with close community ties to your paid Project Team. They can support meaningful community engagement and incorporation of economic community benefit into your project.



## 2

### When answering Qualitative Question 2 – **Community Buy-in and Support, ask yourself:**

1. Where is this project located? What is the history of transportation and commercialization in this area? Are there any sensitivities I should be aware of?
2. Who knows about this project? What are their thoughts? How can I record their thoughts and incorporate them into the project?
3. Who should know about this project but does not? How can I tell them about it? How can I solicit input from them? How can I record their expertise and thoughts and incorporate it into the project?
4. Please note that letters of support are optional. Supportive organizations and elected officials are free to provide their own letter of support from an organization or person who represents many residents.
5. Does the city or county have a Climate Action Plan that includes transportation decarbonization? How does this infrastructure project align with that?



## 3

### When answering Qualitative Question 3 – **Economic Community Benefits, ask yourself:**

1. What economic benefit does this project have? Who is receiving those economic benefits? Is there a way to funnel benefits to the area surrounding my site?
2. Are there any community-based, economically driven partnerships I can forge through this project? Have I tapped into workforce inclusive of local labor, Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, or Community Colleges? Are there any local work force development entities that could support my project and economically boost and uplift the people of the community?



It is important to make neighbors to your site aware of its development to garner support and address concerns that could present roadblocks in the future. In some instances, neighbors to your site have been in the area longer, and they can help staff your site and share valuable information with you. Furthermore, a part of accelerating the transition to ZEVs is creating awareness around the infrastructure that is being built. By engaging the community, you are helping to create a groundswell of people who feel more comfortable adopting ZEVs.



### Common entities to engage:

- Neighbors to the infrastructure site
- Tribe Governance Council<sup>1</sup>
- Trucking Associations or local Unions who might use charging and refueling equipment
- Environmental Justice Organizations and Coalitions
- Neighborhood Council/ Neighborhood Watch
- Local Sustainability or ZEV Groups
- Sustainability and Transportation Officials in the site’s area
- Local Air Quality District
- Chambers of Commerce
- Community Colleges and Trade Schools

Lastly, it is important that developers in priority communities honor and invest in the well-being of longtime residents. In aligning with the tenets of the California Energy Commission’s **Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group**, use of funds from California’s Clean Transportation Program comes with a categorical imperative to develop resilient projects with community input. This supplemental sheet, as well as the EnergiIZE Community Engagement supplemental sheet, should support your ability to do so. Thank you for being a part of the solution!

---

<sup>1</sup>Engage Tribes using the approach outlined in the Tribal Consultation Policy with the understanding of Tribal Governance Protocols [**Tribal Governance: Native American Decision-Making - Native Tribe Info**]. Sites that are not on lands recognized by the U.S. government as sovereign can engage native councils made up of native people in their area.

Contact | [energiize.org](https://energiize.org)

