### **South Shore Clean Cities**

Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission Environmental Management Policy Committee Meeting

September 5, 2019









### South Shore Clean Cities

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- Partnerships & Grant Acquisitions
- Media Outreach & Sharing Success Stories
- Outreach, Education & Training Events
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### By The Numbers

In the last decade alone, South Shore Clean Cities members have reduced greenhouse gas emissions **by 607,000 tons** and reduced the number of gasoline gallon equivalents by **93 million** gallons.

That is the equivalent of removing **175,500 passenger vehicles** from the road for one year and eliminating the use of nearly **2 million barrels of oil.** 





### How do we do it?



### **PARTNERSHIPS!**



### About us

SSCC -- headquartered in Crown Point, Indiana -- is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization managed by Legacy Environmental Services, Inc., an Indiana Certified Women's Business Enterprise.

Designated as the 71<sup>st</sup> Clean Cities coalition on June 15, 1999, SSCC is one of the U.S. DOE's nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions across the country.





### Our Mission

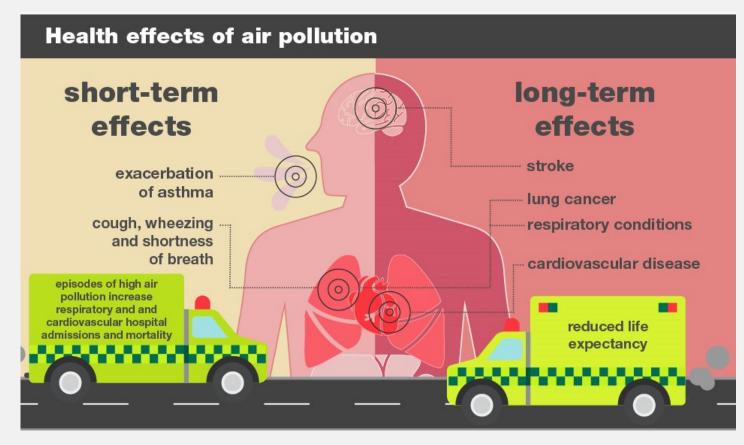


"South Shore Clean Cities is a member-based coalition dedicated to promoting fuel - & technology-neutral sustainable transportation and clean energy options in Indiana. We guide our diverse membership base in the public, private and nonprofit sectors to increase the use and implementation of sustainable transportation methods and infrastructure. Our programs improve air quality, promote domestic fuels, strengthen the nation's energy security, reduce dependence on imported oil and support local jobs and the local economy."



### Why does it matter?

The World Health Organization already linked air pollution to increased respiratory diseases such as asthma & lung cancer and cardiac episodes including heart attack & stroke.





### But research shows the impacts are more broad...

# In just over 1 week in August, the following findings were released:

- 1. Living long-term in a city with elevated levels of air pollution can take a toll on lungs equal to smoking a pack of cigarettes a day for 30 years (Aug. 13)
- 2. Counties with poor air quality have high rates of bipolar disorder (27% above national average) & depression (6% higher than national average). (Aug. 20)
- 3. Researchers documented for the first time exposure to high levels of nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide are associated with a higher risk of agerelated macular degeneration. (Aug. 22)

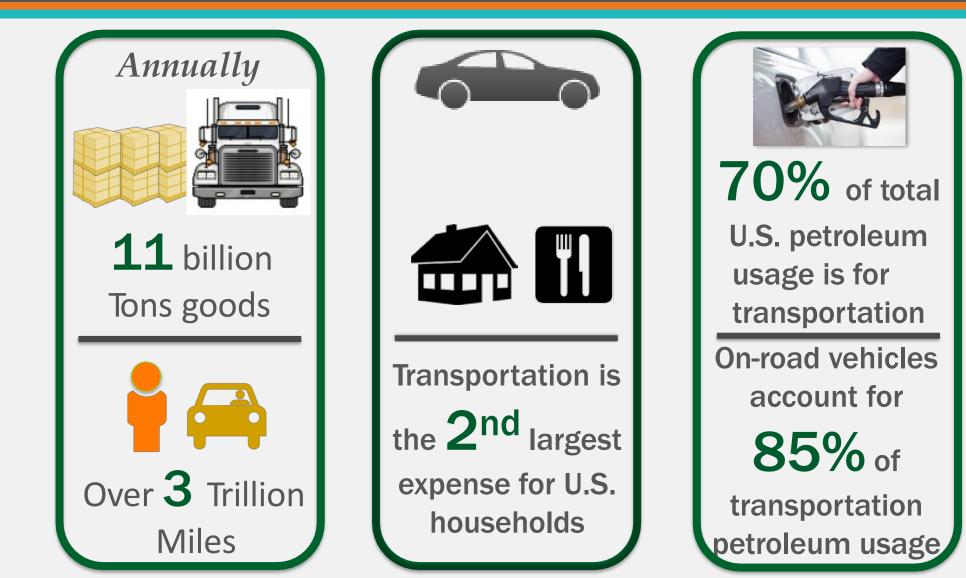








### Transportation is a large part of our Energy Economy





### Other sustainable transportation benefits

- Increased national energy security
- Less dependence on imported oil
- Increased energy resiliency in times of natural disaster or crisis
- Increased support for American farmers
- Investment in domestic fuels
- Increased support for American jobs

Better overall quality of life!





### How did SSCC begin? Early support from NIPSCO

The seeds of SSCC were planted in the late 1990s by leadership at NIPSCO.

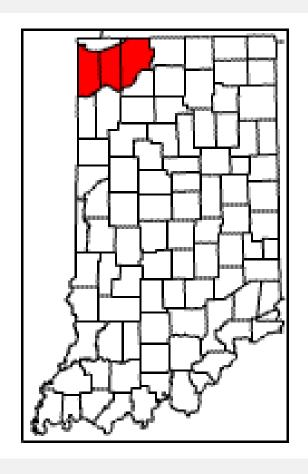
The public utility provided support for SSCC to successfully achieve nonprofit status and to be formally recognized by the U.S. Department of Energy as a Clean Cities coalition.





Growth

#### **1999 = 3 Counties**



#### **2019 = 18 Counties**





### Past projects





## NIPSCO's IN-Charge Program

From 2012 to 2016, SSCC served as program administrator for NIPSCO's In-Charge At Home/Around Town Program.

SSCC assisted NIPSCO in the deployment & management of more than 250 home charging stations & 159 public charging stations in 60 locations across NWI.





### **BP CADER Project**

SSCC managed the BP Whiting Refinery's Cleaner Air through Diesel Emissions Reductions (BP CADER) grant program, which provided \$450,000 through a competitive grant process in 2013-14 aimed at reducing diesel emissions in Lake County municipalities, schools, nonprofit hospitals & county government.

**Awardees included:** 

- The Lake Co. Sheriff's Dept. Patrol/Search & Rescue Boat
- Lake Co. Hospitals MediDock stations to reduce ambulance idling
- School City of East Chicago Propane school buses





### Hoosier Homegrown Fuels Blender Pump Program

- SSCC partnered with the Indiana Office of Energy Development & the Indiana Corn Marketing Council in 2016-17
- Goal: Expand availability of higher ethanol blends where E15 & E85 were not available
- Program invested nearly \$1.4M for the installation of 80 new fuel pumps





### Ongoing Projects





### NIRPC & MACOG Green Fleet Program

- SSCC manages the NIRPC Green Fleet Program & the MACOG Green Fleet Program
- Goal: To improve the environmental performance of public, private and nonprofit vehicle fleets in the NIRPC & MACOG seven-county territory.
- SSCC guides the 58 municipal, county school & university member fleets to help mitigate barriers to preventing the adoption of sustainable transportation options while creating policies supporting vehicle emission & petroleum use reductions.





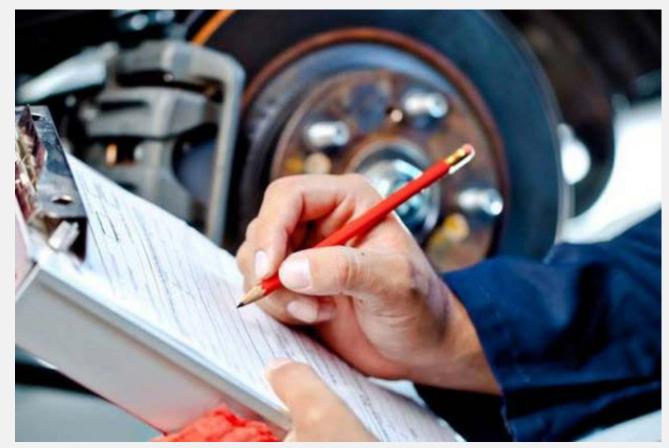
- Educational opportunities including fuel & technology workshops, trainings & seminars
- Recognition & certification for fleet leaders taking steps to improve environmental performance & efficiency
- Branding & promotional tools to help fleets leverage earned certification status
- Informational resources including current technology options, market conditions, laws & incentives
- Connections with vendors offering sustainable transportation options
- Funding assistance with grant opportunities and other state and federal incentive programs
- Professional consultation including a Green Fleet audit and emissions quantification.



### What is a Green Fleet audit?

#### South Shore Clean Cities staff conducts a complete fleet analysis, including:

- Annual fuel usage
- Annual miles traveled & hours used
- Total number of vehicles & equipment
- Vehicle & equipment type, make & model
- Fuel type
- Average vehicle and equipment life
- Down time for fueling and maintenance





### Green Fleet Audit

South Shore Clean Cities staff then provides a complete fleet analysis in a written Green Fleet audit report, including:

- Cost comparisons for various sustainable fuel and vehicle types
- Availability and location of fueling options
- Personalized recommendations for short- and long-term fleet purchase plans
- Provide total cost of ownership and return on investment analysis
- Suggestions for implementing cost-saving programs & training such as idle reduction
- Information on potential funding opportunities to best leverage sustainable transportation investments





### Green Fleet Audits = \$\$\$

The Green Fleet Audit provides critical information needed for grant funding applications & allows South Shore Clean Cities to best understand our members needs, goals, plans & challenges





### Michigan to Montana I-94 Clean Fuel Corridor

The Michigan to Montana I-94 Clean Fuel Corridor project seeks to ensure a 1,500-mile span of I-94 from Port Huron, Mich. to Billings, Mont. will have adequate fueling sites to serve sustainable transportation driver needs.





### Michigan to Montana I-94 Clean Fuel Corridor

- The M2M project, led by Gas Technology Institute through a \$4.9 million U.S. Department of Energy grant awarded in December 2016, is being facilitated in partnership with Clean Cities Coalitions along the M2M route, including South Shore Clean Cities.
- The coalitions are working to give public & private fleets & individual drivers more options to fuel with cleaner alternatives.





### M2M Signage Installed Along I-94 in Indiana

As of June 2019, INDOT installed signs along I-94 in Indiana designating the route as an Alternative Fuels Corridor as a result of the M2M project.

SSCC continues to work with members & partners to help fill fueling and charging gaps along I-94.





### Partnerships & Grant Acquisition





### Indiana Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Fund

In 2018, SSCC partnered with IDEM & a host of MPOs across the state to present a series of seven educational events aimed at increasing education on the status of the Indiana VW Mitigation Trust program.

SSCC also partnered with IDEM for several Webinars on the subject throughout the year.





### IDEM VW Grant Writing

- In 2019, SSCC wrote more than 40 grant applications for members & partners for the first round of Indiana VW grants.
- The IDEM VW Environmental Mitigation Trust Fund Committee on July 23, 2019 approved first round grant awards.
- SSCC members & partners were awarded more than 62% of the total awards approved by the committee more than \$6.1 million for projects involving 101 vehicles, more than 56% of all vehicles funded.



### Dunes Learning Center Propane Bus

In July 2018, Dunes Learning Center & its partners unveiled a **new propane school bus** for use in transporting students in its environmental education programs in a press conference organized by SSCC.

The bus was made possible in part through a \$75,000 grant acquired in partnership with Dunes Learning Center, SSCC & the RDA & funds from donors & the then-Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.



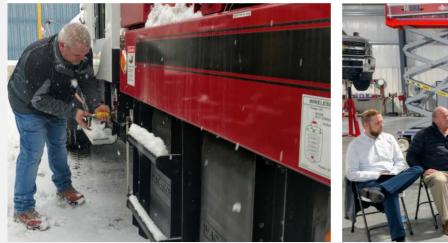


### City of Hobart

SSCC assisted the City of Hobart in multiple sustainable transportation efforts, including:

- The purchase of an all-electric Nissan LEAF
- Grant funding for the purchase of 3 CNG refuse trucks
- Grant funding for the construction of a CNG fueling station
- Grant funding for the construction of a new Public Works garage to serve its CNG fleet
- The writing & direction of a video highlighting the city's sustainable transportation accomplishments.









### Jack Gray Transport Clean Diesel Project

SSCC facilitated a press conference in Jan. 2018 at Jack Gray Transport in Gary with city & state officials to unveil the company's six new clean dieselpowered drayage trucks made possible in part by a DieselWise Indiana 2017 grant from IDEM in cooperation with South Shore Clean Cities.

The project reduces GGEs equal to removing 38 passenger vehicles from the road for one year.





### DieselWise Indiana

SSCC successfully assisted members & partners with DieselWise Indiana grant funding for diesel engine & vehicle replacement projects aimed at reducing diesel emissions across the state.

Since 2017, SSCC wrote grant applications & conducted fleet analyses for members that led to successful DieselWise grant applications for the following totaling \$1.2 million for 15 vehicles & two CNG stations:

- South Bend Transpo
- School City of East Chicago
- LaPorte County Highway Department
- Ozinga
- Jack Gray Transport
- Elkhart County Highway Department
- Total Disposal





# U.S. EPA Diesel Emissions Reduction Act Grants

SSCC successfully assisted members with multiple DERA grant applications throughout the years, most recently with \$1.1 million in awards for clean diesel semis, clean diesel ready mix trucks, CNG refuse trucks, marine repowers & clean diesel loader projects with the 2019 DERA awards.

SSCC also successfully helped members acquire \$160,000 through the DERA program's School Bus Rebate Program in 2018 for the School City of East Chicago and the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation.





Indiana Office of Energy Development Propane School Bus Grant Program

SSCC wrote successful grant applications for its members in 2018 for the Indiana Office of Energy Development's Propane School Bus Grant Program totaling \$220,000 toward the purchase of propane school buses for:

- School City of Hammond
- Lake Station Community Schools
- Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation
- Wa-Nee Community Schools
- School City of East Chicago





### Media Outreach & Sharing Success Stories







#### GUEST COMMENTARY: Sustainable fuels and disaster preparedness go hand in hand

Carl Linek Aug 4, 2019 Updated Aug 26, 2019

#### 0% OFF DIGITAL PLUS



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Access to readily available energy and fuels is something most Americans take for granted until disaster strikes and takes it away.

That is why energy resiliency is so important. The U.S. Department of Energy defines energy resiliency as "the ability to prepare for and adapt to changing conditions and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions. Resilience includes the



Cari Lisei Provided



### Green Fleet Radio

SSCC Executive Director Carl Lisek hosts "Green Fleet Radio," a weekly radio show airing three times each Wednesday on Lakeshore Public Radio. The show began airing in January 2018 & hit the airwaves again Sept. 4, 2019 after a nine-month hiatus.

The show features Carl interviewing guests on topics pertaining to SSCC's mission to broaden awareness of sustainable transportation projects & options.

The show is made possible by funding from NIRPC & includes one NIRPC staff member as a guest each month.





# Monthly Column in The Times



SSCC Executive Director Carl Lisek writes a guest column each month in The Times of Northwest Indiana, highlighting and examining topical, timely issues in the sustainable transportation and energy realm.

Lisek's columns began running in The Times in October 2016.



#### Press Conferences & Media Outreach

SSCC works with our network of more than 300 local, state and national media partners -including national trade publications -- to share the success stories of our members and partners.

SSCC also shares our information in our monthly newsletters, monthly news & events eblasts, through the SSCC Website (which was completely redesigned in April 2018), at our events & in our password-protected Member Center database.





# Outreach, Education & Training Events

SSCC was honored in Nov. 2018 at the National Clean Cities Coordinator Training Workshop for having the most outreach events of any of the nation's nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions & took second in the nation at the 2019 workshop awards.

SSCC hosts multiple workshops, meetings, conferences, alternative/electric vehicle ride & drive events, lunch & learns, Webinars and training sessions annually in an effort to increase knowledge of sustainable transportation and energy options, best practices, cost savings & funding opportunities and to allow our members to network with one another to learn from other members' successes.

SSCC events reached an average of 500 participants annually from 2014-2018.



#### National Drive Electric Week

SSCC hosts two annual NDEW events – one at NIRPC & one with MACOG – to allow consumers to experience electric vehicles themselves. EV owners & dealers are on hand to provide information as well.





#### Midwest EVOLVE

SSCC participates in & hosts multiple Midwest EVOLVE ride & drive events & static EV display events throughout the year through this grant funded by the U.S. DOE aimed at increasing the deployment of EVs in the Midwest by allowing consumers to experience EVs themselves.





#### Green Fleet Workshops

SSCC hosts multiple NIRPC & MACOG Green Fleet workshops throughout the year aimed at educating fleet managers, drivers & operators on a variety of topics pertaining to sustainable transportation & energy options & issues.

SSCC averages 130 attendees at Green Fleet workshops annually.





# SSCC Annual Meeting & Awards

SSCC hosts our Annual Meeting & Awards luncheon each February, which draws more than 300 leaders in the public, private & nonprofit sectors with more than 40 display booths & vehicle displays.

The event features award presentations to members who made the greatest GGE reductions over the past year.



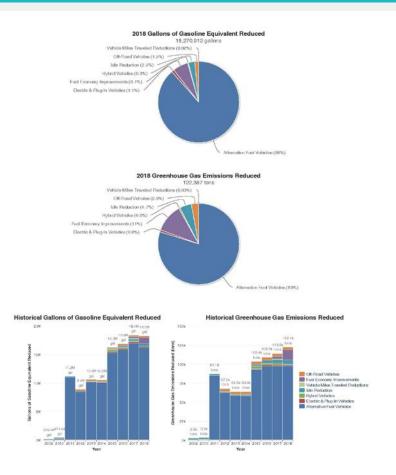


#### Annual Surveys & Reports

SSCC measures its success through that of its members, partners & stakeholders, who file reports annually detailing their petroleum & greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts.

The data is submitted to the U.S. DOE.

SSCC members' in 2018 reduced petroleum usage by more than 18 million gasoline gallon equivalents, which is equal to removing more than 34,000 vehicles from the road for one year.





## Planning for the future – NWI Clean Air & NIRPC

**Mission:** Reward businesses & other organizations for taking steps to reduce emissions with an emphasis on employee commuting & public transit in NWI.

**Includes:** Workplace EV charging education, ride sharing education & more.

**Goals:** Encourage youth & families to use sustainable transportation options including walking & biking

Focus on coordination & leverage of resources, efforts & voluntary action.

#### **NWI CLEAN AIR**





## NWI Clean Air – Media & Marketing

**Goal:** Integrate all Region clean air campaigns into one solid message carried across multiple platforms.

**Campaign:** As the result of NIRPC's CMAQ 2017 Air Quality Survey, will return to the "It All Adds Up to Cleaner Air" toolkits supported by the U.S. EPA & FHWA with updates for new technologies.

Media: NWI Clean Air Website, Green Fleet Radio, monthly column in The Times of Northwest Indiana, PSAs, radio ads, billboards, monthly newsletter, social media sites.





# NWI Clean Air Topics & Programs

## MOBILITY

**Goal:** Enhance existing & create new outreach focused on multi-modal mobility that supports the NIRPC 2050 plan.

Method: Promote ride share programs, South Shore Line, last mile programs, clean fuel corridors, Greenways & Blueways map distribution, exchange non-vapor-emitting gas cans for older models.





# NWI Clean Air Topics & Programs

## SCHOOLS

**Goal:** Work with region schools to provide information to young drivers, partners, teachers/staff & transportation directors on idle/emissions reductions & safe driving for pedestrians & cyclists.

Method: Work with schools directly, including enhancing Safe Routes to School programs, host Walk/Bike to School days, develop Walking School Bus plans with PTA groups. Work with a minimum of three schools in each of the NIRPC counties annually.





# NWI Clean Air Topics & Programs

#### **PORT, FREIGHT & LOGISTICS**

**Goal:** Work with the Port of Indiana-Burns Harbor & its clients as well as other intermodal facilities on emission reductions.

Method: Create idle reduction programs, conduct workshops on truck marshalling, investigate & share best practices for last mile technologies for goods movement, work with Ind. Dunes National Park to promote clean air programs through Dunes corridors, encourage green drayage programs.





### NWI Partners for Clean Air

# **Goal:** Increase participation in NWI Partners for Clean Air program.

Method: Manage Partners for Clean Air FB & new LinkedIn pages; distribute 2,000 promotional lunch totes annually to promote anti-idling & brown bag lunches; attend NWI PCA monthly meetings; provide staff support for PCA events.





# Targeted Training & Outreach

**Goal:** Train targeted sectors on sustainable transportation issues.

Method: Work with local colleges & high school auto programs on sustainable transportation job training; partner with IDEM & Indiana Sec. of Career Connections & Talent Blair Milo to stem "brain drain;" continue partnership with Purdue University EEE program for projects to support NIRPC, continue Indiana LTAP workshops for trades; continue first responder training.





# Electrifying Multi-Unit Dwellings

# **Goal:** Increase access to & implementation of EV charging stations in multi-unit dwellings.

**Method:** Multi-state, multi-partner project funded by Energetics grant









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