



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 15, 2022

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Delegation Visits Lancaster to Advance Next Steps For Expanding Zero Emission Public Transit in the Sacramento Region

Sacramento, Calif. – On August 17, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (Sac Metro Air District) will host a delegation of elected officials, regional leaders, and public transit partners for an “Electrifying Transit Tour” focused on advancing zero emission transit in the Sacramento region. The tour was developed in response to the adoption of the Sacramento Area ZEV (Zero Emission Vehicle) Deployment Strategy, which prioritizes zero emission public transit in our region, among other initiatives.

During the daylong visit, the Sacramento delegation will travel to Lancaster, California where they will be joined by staff from the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District, before meeting with representatives from the Antelope Valley Transit Authority (AVTA). AVTA became the first all-electric local bus fleet in the nation in 2020. Attendees also will tour the BYD (Build Your Dreams) production plant, a leading manufacturer of zero emission vehicles including battery-electric automobiles, buses, medium- and heavy-duty trucks, and forklifts and BYD’s energy facility, which manufactures electric batteries.

“As elected officials entrusted to tackle tough issues like climate change and air pollution, it is critical that we are all educated on new technologies and work together in support of our collective goals,” said Eric Guerra, Chair of the Sac Metro Air District Board and Sacramento City Mayor Pro Tem. “As our region moves closer to a transition to zero emission transit, we look forward to learning from each other and other agencies that have had success meeting the same goals.”

“SMUD is on track to eliminate carbon emissions from the region's power supply by 2030,” said Paul Lau, CEO and General Manager of SMUD. “Our collaborative vision is one of the most ambitious in the nation and benefits the entire Sacramento region by improving air quality, spurring inclusive economic development and innovation, and reimagining the role of our communities. Through our partnerships and investments, we will transform the region by supporting electrification of transportation and buildings at all levels so that everyone can take part in this once-in-a-generation opportunity to build a clean energy future together.”

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"I want to thank Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District Executive Director Alberto Ayala for leading this important peer-to-peer tour," said Henry Li, SacRT General Manager/CEO. "As SacRT transitions to an entirely zero emission fleet, we are excited to engage our transit peer at Antelope Valley Transit Authority, and to hear about their experience since becoming the first transit agency in North America to operate a 100 percent electric fleet."

About the Sacramento Area ZEV Deployment Strategy

The Sacramento Area ZEV Deployment Strategy, developed by the Sac Metro Air District, SACOG, SMUD, and SacRT, is part of a larger regional mission to deliver clean energy, health, housing, transportation, education, workforce, and economic development solutions to sustainable communities.

The Strategy is focused on concentrating investment in electrification of the region's transportation fleet to demonstrate technologies and our region's interest in a zero emission transportation future. The plan prioritizes electrification in under-resourced communities, personal vehicles, shared-ride vehicles, public and private transit, micro-transit and shuttles, and medium- and heavy-duty fleets in alignment with the six-county Green Means Go regional pilot, the City of Sacramento's Transportation Priorities Plan, SMUD's 2030 Carbon Plan, and [SacRT's Zero Emission Bus Transition Rollout Plan](#), which addresses the region's transition to zero emission transit.

Download the ZEV Deployment Strategy's new report "[Sacramento Region Zero Carbon Transportation Initiatives](#)."

About The Agencies

- The **Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District** is a leading regional agency responsible for monitoring air quality, reducing air and climate pollution, enforcing air quality regulations, and promoting decarbonization efforts. As a public health agency, the District is also focused on the region meeting the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. For more information about the Sac Metro Air District, please visit www.AirQuality.org.
- As the nation's sixth-largest, community-owned, not-for-profit electric service provider, **SMUD** has been providing low-cost, reliable electricity to Sacramento County for more than 75 years. SMUD is a recognized industry leader and award winner for its innovative energy efficiency programs, renewable power technologies and for its sustainable solutions for a healthier environment. Today, SMUD's power supply is on average about 50 percent carbon free and SMUD has a goal to reach zero carbon in its electricity production by 2030. For more information about SMUD, please visit <https://www.smud.org>.
- The **Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT)** is the largest multi-modal regional transit provider in the six-county capital of California, operating bus, light rail, microtransit and paratransit services within 440-square miles. SacRT is the 2021 national APTA Outstanding Public Transit System of the Year award recipient for accomplishment and innovations in public transportation, and the 2021 and 2020 APTA Rail Gold Award recipient for its multi-faceted and innovative approach to safety and security. SacRT operates throughout Sacramento County, which includes service in the cities of Sacramento, Citrus Heights, Folsom, Rancho Cordova, and Elk Grove. Learn more at www.sacrt.com.