On November 22nd, 2016 EP-ACT held its annual meeting at the PECO building in Philadelphia, PA. The meeting was a large success; there were nearly 70 in attendance. The theme of the meeting was “Making Alternative Fuels Relevant, Again.” In order to explain how alternative fuels are still relevant in today’s market despite the challenges that accompany the low prices of gasoline and diesel fuels, representatives from various alternative fuel technologies gave presentations making the case for their respective fuels. The alternative fuel technologies featured include electric, hydrogen, natural gas, propane and biodiesel. The meeting kicked off with an introduction from Brian Keelen, Chairman of EP-ACT, which was followed by a presentation regarding the state of the coalition given by Tony Bandiero, Executive Director of EP-ACT. After representatives from the various alternative fuels presented, a co-presentation of 2017 planned activities given by Program Manager Nick DeMarie and Board Member Caroline McCallum. The meeting concluded with a panel session which highlighted the overarching question—what can we (all in the alternative fuel sector) do together to ensure that alternative fuels do in fact remain relevant? Check out our website for more information! http://ep-act.org/Events

EP-ACT has been working very closely over the course of the last several months with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on a state-wide electric vehicle (EV) planning and implementation project. PA DEP has brought together stakeholders from various sectors both public and private, that include the two PA Clean Cities Coalitions (Pittsburgh Clean Cities and EP-ACT), Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), local utilities, OEMs, the PA Turnpike Commission, the PA State Parks Commission and others.

The conglomerate of stakeholders that have been involved in this project have come to be known as the DEP’s EV planning coalition. Following the formation of the planning coalition, DEP has held three separate, sub-committees for stakeholders, each focused on the overarching goal of developing a state-wide EV proposal.

The first meeting, which convened on December 7th at the PA Turnpike Commission, was concerned with education and outreach regarding EVs. The second meeting, held on December 22nd at the Turnpike Commission, was concerned with EV infrastructure. EP-ACT contributed to this meeting significantly, proposing that any plan we develop should identify who the EV customers are and their needs, such as connecting routes with refueling infrastructure. Tony Bandiero noted that, “We need to address range anxiety and other issues through education and outreach, and make sure that anything the Commonwealth develops is also available to the private sector.”

The third and final meeting held on December 21st at the Turnpike Commission was concerned with EV vehicle procurement. This meeting, in particular, was the best attended of all three. More specifically, representatives from OEM’s that included Nissan, GM and BMW had a strong interest in this meeting, and were very active participants.

EP-ACT believes that the planning coalition is headed in the right direction; the organization is fully supportive of the group’s goal of developing a comprehensive EV plan for the near future.
First Annual Awards Dinner/Golf Outing

EP-ACT is pleased to announce that May 15th, 2017 the organization will be hosting its first annual stakeholder awards dinner and golf outing. The golf outing will be held at McCall Country Club located at 201 N. Lynn Boulevard Upper Darby, PA 19082. The day will begin with the golf outing in the morning, and will immediately be followed by the awards banquet. Tickets for the complete day of activities can be purchased or you can join us for just the award banquet if you do not golf. We believe that this event will be an excellent opportunity for the organization to recognize and thank selected stakeholders for their support of the organization as well as recognize stakeholders that go above and beyond to truly help EP-ACT reduce the greatest amount of petroleum possible. We are looking for hole sponsors, and event sponsors and foursomes This will be a great opportunity to network with fleets and industry folks. Please help make our 1st annual Golf and awards banquet a success. We look forward to seeing you this May, be sure to mark your calendars and stay tuned for updates to come on our website and through e-mail! http://ep-act.org/Events

TEP Energy Independence Summit 2017

Energy Independence Summit 2017 is the nation’s premier clean transportation policy summit. The Summit provides a unique opportunity for Clean Cities Coalitions and leaders in the clean transportation industry to network and build partnerships with each other, and with key Congressional and Administration policymakers in Washington, DC. All attendees will have the opportunity to: meet with leaders of the new President’s Administration and key Congressional leaders, learn about ways to benefit from investments from the Volkswagen Settlement, network with the nation’s Clean Cities Coalitions and top industry leaders, participate in Roundtable discussions with DOE, EPA, DOT, USDA, and DOD, learn about new technologies and market developments that are driving the alternative fuels industry forward, participate in Capitol Hill Day meetings and educate members of Congress about EP-ACT’s successful projects achieved in partnership with government and industry, attend the Capitol Hill Day reception hosted by UPS, and attend the Salute to Clean Cities reception. This year’s summit will take place at the Liaison Hotel in D.C., conveniently located just a few blocks from the nation’s Capitol Building. For more information and to register, please visit their website— http://conferences.stagedrightevents.com/

UPS Opens Willow Grove CNG Station

On December 2nd, UPS held a ribbon cutting on their new CNG station in Willow Grove, PA. EP-ACT assisted UPS with procuring a grant for the purchase of 20 of the 60 class 8 vehicles running from that location. Attending the ceremony, were dignitaries from local and state government, Craig Adams President of PECO and others pictured below, this is UPS’s 2nd CNG station in PA and they also have an LNG fueling location. Although not open to the public UPS hopes that other companies will follow their lead to help diversify their own fuel portfolio, by lessening our dependence on petroleum and creating a more sustainable transportation future.

UPS is working to meet its goal of logging one billion miles with its alternative fuel and advanced technology fleet by the end of 2017, using a Rolling Laboratory approach to determine the right alternative fuel solutions to meet the unique needs of route-specific driving environments.

Upper Moreland Township School District Chooses Propane

EP-ACT is proud to support Upper Moreland Township School District’s ongoing process of converting their district-wide fleet of school buses to propane fuel. The Montgomery County school district recently purchased 41 brand new propane school buses, which will be filled and maintained through recent infrastructure improvements implemented by the school district. Through this project, the students of Upper Moreland will benefit from improved air quality, and the district itself will benefit from the long-term cost savings that will be realized by switching to propane fuel.

EP-ACT has played a key role in helping Upper Moreland realize this purchase of new school buses and infrastructure improvements, through helping the school district acquire state alternative fuel incentive grant (AFIG) funding. Through this school bus conversion, project, Upper Moreland will be directly responsible for displacing 81,671 gallons of petroleum. As always, EP-ACT is pleased to work toward helping local and regional entities reduce their petroleum consumption through conversion to alternative fuels, and looks forward to continuing to help Upper Moreland with future projects. If you have an idea for a project please click the link: http://ep-act.org/submit-a-project-idea
EP-ACT Selected as State’s Alternative Fuel Technical Consultant

In late December The PA Department of Environmental Protection announced their selection in a competitive proposal for their new Alternative Fuels Technical Assistance (AFTA) Program. EP-ACT was selected over 6 other competing proposals. The Alternative Fuels Technical Assistance (AFTA) program provides technical assistance to eligible organizations to maximize the benefits of alternative fuel use in PA. AFTA is not a grant program, but a program through which a qualified, a firm is assigned by DEP to work directly with eligible organizations for the purpose of developing technically viable and economically sustainable alternative fueling strategies. Alternative fuels considered under this program may include natural gas, electric, propane, hydrogen, hythane, ethanol, methanol, and other advanced biofuels.

Organizations eligible to apply include political subdivisions, nonprofit entities, municipal authorities and school districts in PA. An eligible entity can apply alone, or it can team up with other eligible project partners for a multi-organization project that can enhance the energy, economic, and environmental benefits of alternative fuels.

EP-ACT has partnered with Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities and Clean Fuels Ohio to ensure the highest degree of analysis is performed. This program is FREE to apply to, once applied for and accepted into the program, EP-ACT will conduct a fleet analysis and a final report will be issued to help you decide what is the most viable alternative fuel/vehicle option, for a FREE application please click: Alternative Fuels Technical Assistance Program

EP-ACT Welcomes New Members!

EP-ACT would like to formally welcome and recognize the following new members (below) to the Alliance. Additionally, we would like to thank our current members for their continued support!!

Mark Your Calendars:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Info/Link</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>ACT Expo</td>
<td>5/1/17</td>
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<td><a href="http://ep-act.org/event-2390449">http://ep-act.org/event-2390449</a></td>
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For more info and promotional discounts, contact: tbandiero@ep-act.org

For information on becoming a member please click here