



# Accelerating Alternative Fuel Vehicle and Infrastructure Deployment with Innovative Finance Mechanisms Workshop

*Monday February 22, 2016*

*U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters, Washington, DC*

Hosted by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), this workshop was organized around two case studies that explored financing of alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) and infrastructure deployment. Brief presentations were given in the morning and afternoon to provide context, including examples of relevant projects in the State of Colorado and City of Atlanta, Georgia. Attendees included federal, state, and local transportation officials; finance professionals; industry and non-profit representatives; automakers; alternative fuel infrastructure providers; and academics.

## KEY WORKSHOP TAKEAWAYS

- Well-designed finance can help overcome AFV deployment barriers by minimizing upfront costs, unlocking unrealized savings, capturing additional value, and leveraging the private sector.
- While the business case for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure deployment looks challenging in the near term, continued government support will result in more financing options, specifically those that leverage the private sector.
- The business case for EV infrastructure can be improved by capturing value from traditionally external stakeholders like automakers, utilities, and retailers.
- The speed of technology change and the relatively slow pace of the government procurement process and policy development process is a challenge because of the rapidly evolving needs of alternative fuel vehicles
- Alternative fuel infrastructure deployment can be challenging because of restrictions around the commercialization along the right-of-way of many Federal-aid highways.
- Coordination of multiple stakeholders tends to be the most challenging aspect of building strong public-private partnerships.
- Co-location of several types of alternative fuel infrastructure (e.g., fast charging stations adjacent to compressed natural gas (CNG) dispensers) can lower the fixed capital cost of the station.
- EVs can offer lifetime savings to fleet managers compared to internal combustion engines, as EVs have lower operating costs, despite higher upfront costs. However, fleet managers often have limited capital resources for the purchase of vehicles, and in some cases, operational budgets for vehicles are administered separately from the capital budget, so the benefits from the total cost of ownership are hard to realize.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

ODOT and FHWA will be sponsoring three more workshops as part of a five workshop series intended to assist state and local transportation agencies interested in promoting the use of alternative fuel vehicles and fueling infrastructure. In support of the workshops, <http://altfueltoolkit.org/> will serve as a dynamic and evolving hub for tools, presentations, and other useful resources. Join us as we help facilitate deployment of alternative fuel vehicles and fueling infrastructure in your region and across the country!