

Arizona I-10 Alternative Fuels Corridor Deployment Plan (AFCDP) Arizona Interstate / Infrastructure Collaborative (AIIC) Advisory Group Meeting #4 of 4 (Webinar)

Friday, October 16, 2020

Meeting Summary

Attendees:

Diane Turchetta, FHWA
Ed Stillings, FHWA
Amanda Luecker, ADEQ
Donald Covert, VSCCC
Carlos San Miguel, ChargePoint
Michael Kuby, Arizona State University
Andrew Dick, Electrify America
Alana Langdon, Nikola Motor

Meeting began at 10:04 a.m.

Staff

Dustin Fitzpatrick Paul Casertano Jeanette DeRenne Julie Jamarta Tiki Lawson

Dustin Fitzpatrick welcomed the attendees to the fourth quarter and final meeting of the Arizona I-10 Alternative Fuels Corridor Deployment Plan. The group taking part today is the Phoenix to California segment for EV chargers. He added that the Plan will be completed and submitted to FHWA by November 30.

Dustin Fitzpatrick gave some state and federal updates and spoke about ADOT's Grand Canyon State Logo Sign program previously being proposed for utilization by EV charging and CNG fueling businesses along the I-10 freeway. After further researching FHWA and MUTCD requirements, and contacting the ADOT Logo Sign program manager, it was determined that the Logo Sign program could not be utilized the Specific Service sign category of Gas in the MUTCD does not currently provide for alternative fuels. It was discuss that If the Gas category was changed to one of fuel, it would allow for inclusion of alternative fuels. Several options are being explored and Mr. Fitzpatrick said he would keep everyone updated. He noted that the FAST Act got extended for another year, delaying dedicated funding for alt fuel infrastructure for another year that may be included in the next federal transportation bill.

Diane Turchetta spoke about how the FAST Act will extend funding from the federal government for the AFC program. There are corridor designation nominees with the administration at the present. There is also a lot of signage action going on. Ms. Turchetta spoke about current signage action going in involving the MUTCD and the more detailed questions about signage being raised. The MUTCD has been working to finalize regulations as they would prefer that signage questions come only from the specific signage person in ADOT since the MUTCD do not usually deal with large groups of stakeholders.

Mr. Fitzpatrick inquired about a potential sixth round of corridor nominations as well as the issue of distance criteria, specifically the section between Phoenix and California with long rural

stretches, which only meet the current distance criteria to qualify as EV ready by less than a mile. There was a brief discussion about Round 5 criteria and technical concerns. Diane Turchetta said there should not be a situation of stranded vehicles unable to be charged for lack of infrastructure, hence the current selection of the 50 miles criteria to meet the needs of all EVs on the highway system.

Dustin Fitzpatrick and Julie Jamarta both presented analyses on this topic. Mr. Fitzpatrick spoke about transitioning EV segments from a pending to a ready status and complying with the FHWA criteria of 50 miles between staions and 5-mile maximum off of I-10. He also spoke about analysis on EV-Pro Lite tool and required increase needed in EVs and DCFC stations to meet the projected growth rate in the next decade.

Julie Jamarta gave a presentation on the GIS analysis site data collection tool, Survey 123, to explore existing EV charging station sites and corridors. She tried to close any noticeable gaps with adding sites. There is the ability to click and check on parcel details as well. She added that as long as GIS is available on any device, data such as parcel details and gaps can be looked at online and that it was easy to use the form centric app for data collection. Ms. Jamarta explained how to collect and input data and save whatever has been entered.

Dustin Fitzpatrick spoke about what is on the horizon for EV charging in the coming years and the specific money dedicated to EV charging and alt fuels. There are additional opportunities to fund more charging stations with potential collaboration from EVgo or Electrify America Cycle 3 for example. Mr. Fitzpatrick said Nissan and other auto makers are transitioning from CHAdeMO to CCS and CCS looks to where the majority of vehicles are headed.

Mr. Fitzpatrick has been working with Kathy Knoops at APS regarding ulitity cost estimates and rates for the Plan. Data has been gathered for cost estimates of various scenarios such as the Sulphur Springs Electric Coop on the eastern segment from Tucson east to New Mexico. There are possible funding opportunities via Electrify America. Andrew Dick spoke about this regarding Cycle 3 outreach. The Plan for Cycle 3 will be developed in the next few months. Mr. Fitzpatrick spoke about all the Cycles carried out through Electrify America and added that previous cycles consisted of about 6 months before they were realized. Cycle 3 will not be realized until January 2022-2024. Feedback is currently being analyzed but a public plan is definitely on the horizon.

Mr. Fitzpatrick also spoke about existing analysis and certain sites still under active development. Carlos San Miguel was asked to speak about developments with ChargePoint in their collaboration with NATSO. The CMAQ emission reduction calculation estimates on the potential host sites is being calculated for the Plan and funding may be applied for later.

Mr. Fitzpatrick brought up the CMAQ calculations and how to find the number of EVs registered in Arizona. This formula can always be adapted or changed. He discussed ZEV-state requirements for auto dealers to sell a number of EVs removing barriers to EV adoption.

Amanda Luecker from ADEQ gave a brief update and remarked that there was nothing new on ozone reduction efforts with EVs apart from the incentives the state is offering and ADEQs EV Project Program.

Alana Langdon said our maps were helpful and that they would be shared with her colleagues. She thanked Mr. Fitzpatrick for his inclusion of the Tonopah and Salome area sites where pros

and cons are currently being looked at for EV fast charging at these sites for Nikola's hydrogen fueling stations.

Diane Truchetta said PAG had done a great job with this and that it will be good for Arizona to serve as a model for other counties who want to do the same things. Changes are forthcoming on MUTCD.

Dustin Fitzpatrick mentioned that PAG will share out the final Plan with the AIIC partners and post to the PAG website when it is released.

Meeting ended at 11:01 a.m.