BATTERY-ELECTRIC BUSES CLIMATE GOALS TRANSIT AGENCY CHALLENGES SOCIAL EQUITY

Ellen Gottschling Transit Planner Sam Schwartz Consulting egottschling@samschwartz.com

CLIMATE GOALS AND POLICY ACTIONS

KING COUNTY (SEATTLE)

- Grow transit service through 2020 with no increase in GHG emissions
- Increase the use of alternative fuels (e.g. electricity, biofuels) in Metro's fleet by 10 percent by 2025
- Double transit ridership by 2040

CHICAGO

- Invest in transit improvements and boost Chicago's transit system ridership by 30 percent from 2008 levels by 2020
- Reduce citywide greenhouse gas emissions to levels equivalent to or greater than 26-28% reduction from 2005 levels by 2025

Sources: City of Chicago Climate Action Plan and Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report

IMPLEMENTATION AT TRANSIT AGENCIES

APRIL 2016

Motion 14633

King County Council requested to develop and transmit a feasibility report that identifies and analyzes strategies for and barriers to achieving a carbon-neutral or zero-emission vehicle fleet.

JANUARY 2017

Press Release

King County Executive Dow Constantine announced that King County Metro Transit will acquire 120 all-electric battery buses by 2020. Metro will purchase up to 73 battery buses from Proterra. The first 20 are scheduled to go into service this year and 2019.

IMPLEMENTATION AT TRANSIT AGENCIES

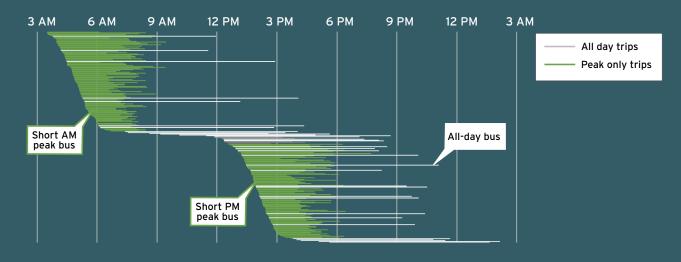
INFRASTRUCTURE: Charging station siting and power requirements

SCALABILITY: Choosing what is right for the transit agency and thinking about long-term universal charging needs

SERVICE QUALITY: Changes in quality of service and scheduling

COORDINATION: Communication between all departments and relationships with utility companies and jurisdictions

MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS: Input and support from operators and training needs



SOCIAL EQUITY IN BATTERY-ELECTRIC PLANING

- Low-income families and people of color are more likely to live in neighborhoods that have high concentrations of air pollution
- Providing public transit to disadvantaged populations is key to advancing equity
- Air pollution benefits of zero-emission technology could advance social equity by first serving communities most vulnerable to air pollution

EQUITY ANALYSIS

POOR AIR QUALITY

- Diesel emissions
- Proximity to traffic
- Sources with air operating permits
- Wood as primary heating fuel

EXISTING HEALTH CONDITIONS

- Cardiac hospitalizations
- COPD hospitalizations
- Asthma prevalence

SOCIAL FACTORS

- Minority
- Low income
- Population under 18
- Population over 64
- High school diploma
- Households with linguistic isolation

