# AEG Impact Challenge: Climate, Health & Equity

Valerie Thorsen, San Joaquin Valley Deputy Director Organization: <a href="CALSTART">CALSTART</a>, Inc.

vthorsen@calstart.org

## Introduction

- CALSTART is a member-based clean transportation consortium providing clean transportation solutions since 1992.
- Current equity programs include planning and implementation dollars:
  - Clean Mobility Options Program (CALSTART administers)
  - Sustainable Transportation Equity Project (STEP)
- Public Transit identified as "Beachhead" or first application market for electrification and positioned well to establish ZE micromobility solutions (ICTR in progress)
- Rural communities lack access to healthcare providers and services
- Federal and State Funding for transit ZE technologies currently most abundant (FY22-26)

CA investing \$10B for zero emission vehicle and infrastructure.





# **Transportation: Problem and Solution**

Transportation development has disproportionally impacted disadvantaged communities

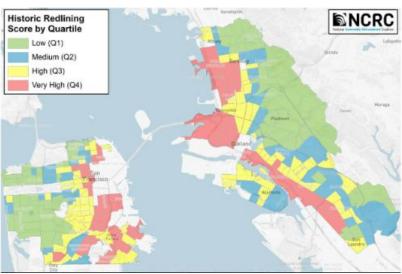


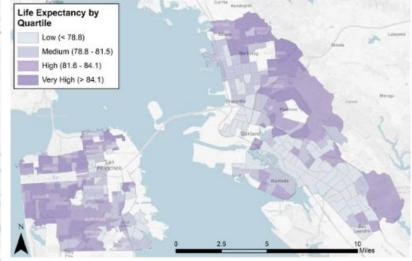
Poor planning leads to inequitable access to healthcare facilities and preventative care



Lack of access to critical services further exacerbates disparity and vulnerabilities

There is an increased need for community-driven solutions





Accessible Transportation

Health Equity

Climate

A typical diesel bus emits 2,680 grams of CO<sub>2</sub> per mile (g/mi)





Source: Mapping Inequality Project, Univ. of Richmond

# The Multi-Prong Challenge

The lack of a replicable framework for rural communities to implement sustainable clean transportation solutions.

- CALSTART has developed clean transportation solutions in public and private sector, administered funding for vehicle and infrastructure decarbonization solutions, and is an expert in identifying key ZE partnerships
- California agencies have background and experience of programs that would inform such a framework: CMO, STEP, AB 617 Communities
- Community based organizations and equity-based institutes inform stakeholders of community-driven solutions
- Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)and CA budget provide one-of-a-kind opportunity to fund ZE solutions

#### **Key Stakeholders**



#### **Public Agencies**

- Establish regulation
- ZE Asset deployment



#### **Utilities**

- Make-ready programs
- Incorporate Resiliency



#### Health Service Providers

 Provide transportation solutions at facility-level



# **Benefits or Consequences**

#### **Inaction Leads to:**

- Inefficient use of resources
- Limited
   opportunities for
   improved
   healthcare access
- ZE solutions limited to one-off siloed projects
- Communities

   lacking holistic
   turnkey solutions
   and resources

## Stakeholder driven solutions

Ownership
Transparency
Clear Roles

### Focus on Clean ZE Solutions

Emission reduction
Technology readiness
Interconnected systems

## Affordability

Focuses on communities in need

Maximizes health

Maximizes health access

#### Scale

micro solutions
National
application
Identification of
key
considerations
and barriers

Macro focus for





Regarding Climate, Health and Equity a critical obstacle to collectively overcome in 12 months is...

The lack of a stakeholder-driven replicable framework for rural communities to implement sustainable clean transportation solutions.





