



2024-25 Fresno COG One Voice Advocacy Trip Regional Priorities Submittal Form

Submittal Deadline: Jan. 6, 2025

Keep your regional priority content to less than three pages long. Do not change the font (*Arial*). Contact Brenda Thomas at bthomas@fresnocog with questions.

One Voice Proposed Priority title:

Funding for Electrification of Refuse and Recycling Collection Trucks

Sponsoring agency/business:

Mid-Valley Disposal

1. Request summary – provide specific priority “ask(s)”:

California Air Resources Board (CARB) has adopted regulations that require electrification of commercial fleets beginning in 2025. Implementation of fleet electrification faces numerous challenges, including capacity for service, charging infrastructure, supply chain and availability of vehicles/parts, to name a few. In order to implement California’s standards, which are intended to be a model for the EPA, significant investment will be needed. This need is compounded by the fact that electric refuse trucks are currently in the developmental stage, adding to the total cost of ownership while the technology is improved. Without funding assistance, the cost of implementing EV’s and developing charging infrastructure will have to be recouped through service rates, which are already impacted by stringent recycling and organics diversion requirements.

Federal funding assistance in the form of grants for vehicle purchase and charging infrastructure are vital to the implementation of these EV standards while proving an essential public service.

Without this crucial funding, the rate impact to residents and businesses in the Central Valley is not sustainable, thus negatively impacting the local economy.

If funding is not available, we then ask for more time to allow: 1) The EV technology to improve. 2) Infrastructure to be developed. 3) Existing assets stay in service for useful life.

- 2. About the Priority:** (Provide specific information about your proposed priority. Include information you want included in the trip materials.)

MVD is piloting an electric powered waste collection vehicle on route to provide *apples to apples* comparison of the capabilities of EV vs. CNG. This study will provide the basis for estimating the increase in costs for implementing the Advanced Clean Truck regulations, which will in turn affect customer rates. The report is expected to be available at the end of February.

- 3. Priority background** – (Include the priority issues, history and an explanation of the regional significance if not provided in question 1)

The solid waste and recycling industry in California faces some of the strictest regulations in the country. Legislation requiring the diversion of material away from landfills through collection and processing programs has expanded over the past 40 years.

SB1383 is the most recently implemented change and has expanded the use of green containers for organics use requiring more collection vehicles to support the increase of multiple cart programs (grey, blue, green). These mandates were unfunded, and customer rates in the Valley and across the State have increased between 25%-50% in the past 2 years alone.

The increase in rates for implementing diversion programs is based on current fleet assumptions, which rely on the use of diesel and natural gas vehicles. Clean diesel and natural gas collection vehicles have been in use for over 25 years. The gas technology and infrastructure are well developed and proven to be cost effective.

Bottom line: Implementing new collection programs is costly even when utilizing proven cost-effective gas collection vehicles. Requiring EV's will double the impact to customer rates.

- 4. If your priority is not transportation related, are there any transportation policy connections?**

This priority is directly related to transportation of solid waste and recycling.

- 5. Provide high-resolution photos, graphics or other explanatory attachments for the One Voice trip materials. Do not copy and paste them here, attach them as**

separate electronic files. Then, describe the attachments and include them with your submittal.

- 6. Contact** – Include the contact information for the priority submittal **and** the contact information of the person that will be attending the One Voice trip to speak on behalf of the priority:

Project Contact:

Name, Title

Kacey Auston-Tibbetts- Government Affairs
Organization Auston Consulting
Email Address kaceyauston@yahoo.com
Phone Numbers, Cell/Office 559-930-8181
Address 1401 Fulton Suite 902
City, CA Zip Code Fresno Ca. 93721

One Voice Participant:

Name, Title Kacey Auston-Tibbetts
Organization Mid Valley Disposal
Email Address kaceyauston@yahoo.com
Phone Numbers, Cell/Office 559-930-8181
Address 1401 Fulton Suite 902
City, CA Zip Code Fresno Ca. 93720