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Featured Article

South Carolina's Clean Transportation Progress

by Jada Bollmeyer, Palmetto Clean Fuels Intern

South Carolina continues to advance its sustainable transportation goals through infrastructure investments, stakeholder collaboration, and local initiatives. Here is a look at recent actions taken in South Carolina:



- The Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (The COMET) recently announced the deployment of two new battery-electric buses and two [hydrogen fuel cell buses](#), funded by the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Low-or-No Emission Grant. The hydrogen buses are among the first hydrogen-electric transit vehicles in the southeast and are expected to reduce approximately 540 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.
- City of Clemson's CATbus continues to replace diesel buses with [compressed natural gas \(CNG\) buses](#), also using grant money from the FTA Low-or-No Emission Grant.
- Greenville Transit Authority received its first set of CNG buses and installed a [new fueling station](#) in 2024. They also upgraded 17 bus stops with solar-powered lights and benches. In 2025, they hope to continue expanding their transportation services to meet population growth needs.

- [SCDOT published Momentum 2050](#) detailing upcoming infrastructure and vehicle technology improvements.

Overall, South Carolina’s clean transportation initiatives are advancing throughout the state thanks to efforts on the federal, state, and local levels. The focus on transitioning public transit will lower emissions and urban heat island effects while providing accessible transportation to both urban and rural communities.

Palmetto Clean Fuels in Action

South Carolina State Fleet Update

In June, the PCF team attended a meeting with other state agencies, non-profit organizations, and automotive dealers to discuss the State of South Carolina’s fleet. The SC State Fleet organization is managed by the Department of Administration and operates as part of the Division of State Agency Shared Services. They are responsible for purchasing, leasing, and maintaining state-owned fleet vehicles. Currently, alternative fuel vehicles comprise only a small portion of the fleet, and agencies must specifically request to purchase or lease these vehicles.



Improved technologies, such as longer EV battery range and telematics, are beginning to make alternative fuel vehicles more cost-competitive with gasoline or diesel vehicles for agencies. Using Samsara telematics, the Department of Administration can now proactively track fuel consumption, vehicle lifespan, under- and overutilization, and vehicle maintenance. The Samsara software can also track driving habits such as speeding, braking, and location monitoring.

Upcoming Events

Santee Cooper EVOlve Grant

Applications close August 15, 2025

The EVOlve Grant Program allows eligible Santee Cooper commercial customers to apply for up to \$25,000 in grant funding for EV projects. A competitive scoring process will help Santee Cooper choose the top projects to receive funding. Project categories include Make-Ready Research, Education and Outreach, EV Charging Infrastructure, and Electric Fleet Conversion. [Visit their website to learn more.](#)

Transportation Association of SC (TASC) Annual Conference & Expo

August 19 - 21, 2025 | Myrtle Beach, SC

Join TASC for their annual conference to receive new member training, observe showcases of the latest industry products, and attend networking events. [Visit their website to learn more.](#)

Expanding Your Fleet with Electric Emergency Service Vehicles Webinar

August 21, 2025 | Online, 2:00PM - 3:00PM

Join the Electrification Coalition for a conversation on how US leaders implemented EV emergency service vehicles into their current system and see what an all-electric future looks like for fleet vehicles. [Visit their website to register.](#)

Sustainable Fleet Technology Conference (SFTC) & Expo

August 25 - 27, 2025 | Winston Salem, NC

SFTC brings together leading fleets and technology providers to showcase the latest transportation technologies, fuels, and trends. The conference includes a focus on data-driven decisions and tools. The sessions are a source of on-the-ground experiences for increasing fleet efficiency and resiliency while reducing emissions and costs. [Visit their website to register.](#)

SC Competes Fall Summit 2025

September 9 - 11, 2025 | Greenville, SC

Join SC Competes for a three-day event to highlight their initiatives, discuss growth opportunities, and network with others in the industry. [Visit their website to register.](#)

RNG Coalition Work 2025

September 23 - 25, 2025 | Nashville, TN

Join the RNG Coalition for the renewable gas industry's annual Technical Workshop (and golf tournament!) to educate, demonstrate, and promote RNG industry best practices. Some topics include procurement, technology advancements, safety, power demand, and more. [Visit their website to register.](#)

Blink Charging Webinars

Recurring | Online

Blink Charging hosts webinars for various industries such as healthcare, retail, education, utilities, etc., regarding financial and infrastructural factors pertaining to EV adoption. They host often and upload On-Demand webinars for viewing at any time. [Visit their website to register.](#)

In Case You Missed It

[In celebration of Earth Day, the COMET rolls out new zero-emission buses funded by 2.9m federal grant](#)

[Billion-dollar battery plant pauses construction amid electric vehicle and tariff uncertainty](#)

[Despite political headwinds the southeast EV market accelerates into 2025
Chattanooga introduces new compressed natural gas trucks to invest in a cleaner future](#)

[How paratransit fleets are lowering costs and emissions with propane autogas](#)

About Palmetto Clean Fuels

Palmetto Clean Fuels Coalition (PCF), housed within the State Energy Office (SEO), has acted as a fuel and brand-neutral resource to stakeholders across South Carolina since 2004. PCF provides technical assistance, community outreach, fleet modeling, and matchmaking for stakeholders to facilitate a coordinated approach to reducing petroleum usage in the state.



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