



Energy & Environment Innovation Plan



ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT INNOVATION (EEI) PLANNING

Enabling access to and enhancing Arkansas's competitiveness for federal funding for energy and environment infrastructure and practices that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and other pollutants.

✓ PRIORITY ACTION PLAN (DUE 3/1/2024)

Application ready incentive program and project concepts to compete for \$4.6 billion in competitive implementation grants

✓ COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN (DUE 7/5/2025)

Comprehensive roadmap of state priorities for low and zero-emissions energy and environmental infrastructure investments

✓ STATUS UPDATE (DUE 7/5/2027)

Update on implementation and future needs

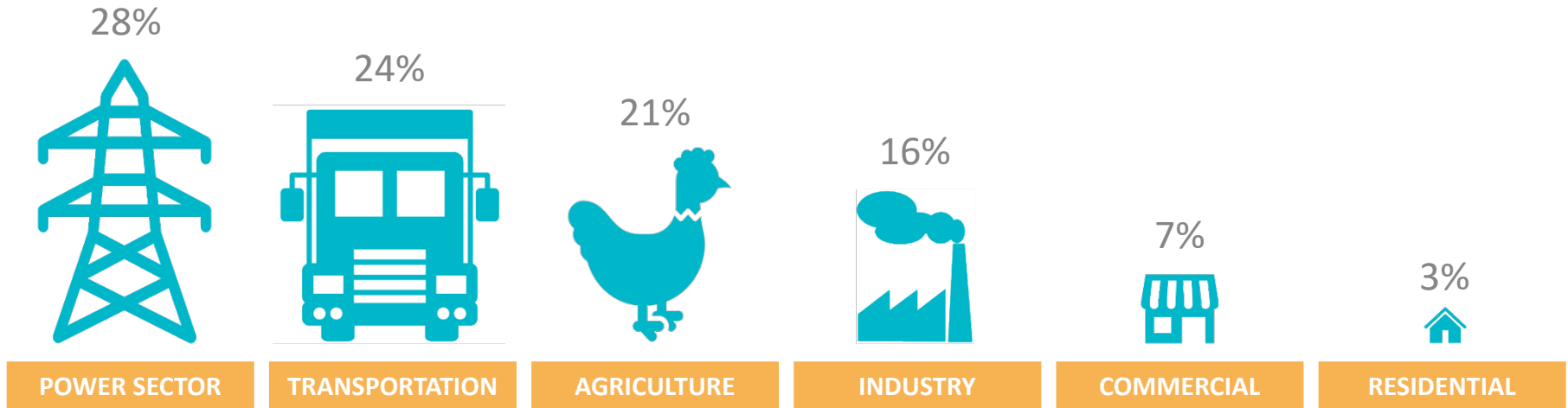


METROPLAN
SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.



ARKANSAS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- ✔ The power sector is currently the largest contributor to GHG Emissions in Arkansas
- ✔ Carbon dioxide makes up 70% of Arkansas GHG emissions followed by methane (19%) , nitrous oxides (10%), and fluorinated gases (3%)



OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION



**LOW- AND
ZERO-EMISSION
ENERGY**

**BENEFICIAL
ELECTRIFICATION**



**EFFICIENCY
AND WASTE
MINIMIZATION**

SEQUESTRATION



EEI PLAN COMPONENTS



Arkansas Investment Priorities



Facilitating Statewide Economic Growth and Competitiveness

Growing and expanding the economy within Arkansas by increasing access to economic opportunities for communities, advancing **transportation** and **commerce**, and maintaining a **resilient supply chain**.



Keeping Communities Safe

Improving public and **transportation safety** provisions through promoting road and highway **safety education** and training programs, strengthening **cybersecurity** infrastructure, and making safety improvements to roads and bridges.



Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

Scaling up the workforce needed for project delivery, promoting access to **quality jobs**, and developing a **pipeline of talent** across the state.



Preservation and Promotion of The Natural State

Celebrating the State's natural resources to develop, create, and sustain outdoor recreation, business, and employment opportunities through ecology initiatives, environmental resiliency projects, and proper water management practices.



Creating a Portfolio of Reliable, Efficient, and Secure Energy Options

Expanding affordable and **efficient energy** options available to Arkansans through resource development while maintaining a strong **energy workforce** and **secure** electric power grid that can withstand emergencies and severe weather.

Arkansas Core Investment Principles

1

MAXIMIZING REACH – Prioritizing opportunities that generate significant impact for many Arkansans

2

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY – Evaluating programs based on match requirements, financial sustainability, and the frequency of recurring costs

3

IMPROVING CORE SERVICES – Improving quality of life by enhancing access to essential infrastructure (e.g., Water, Education, Public Safety, Electricity, Public Transportation)

4

EXPANDING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY – Investing to strengthen transportation and digital networks, linking communities throughout the state

5

DRIVING RURAL IMPACT – Expanding the availability and quality of infrastructure in rural communities to support economic development and jobs

INTERAGENCY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION

✓ IN-PERSON COORDINATION MEETINGS

At least once quarterly meeting with project partners and other state/local government agencies involved in clean energy infrastructure planning and implementation (open to public, rotating location)

✓ PROJECT PARTNER CHECK-INS

As needed virtual or in-person meetings/calls among project partners

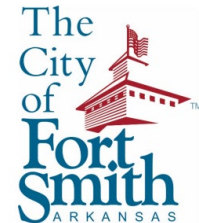
✓ QUARTERLY REPORTS

Summary of project activities and status of outputs required by EPA guidance.

Project Partners to submit updates on their activities 15 days after the end of the reporting period. E&E will compile partner updates with E&E's updates and submit the report to EPA.



METROPLAN
SMART PLANNING MAKES SMART PLACES.



SECTOR AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

✓ SECTOR-FOCUSED WORKSHOPS

In-person meetings with sector-specific industry and advocates (open to public, rotating location)



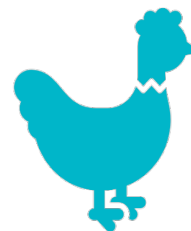
✓ COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

In-person meetings following sector workshops (open to public, rotating location)



✓ PUBLIC MEETINGS ON DRAFT PLANS

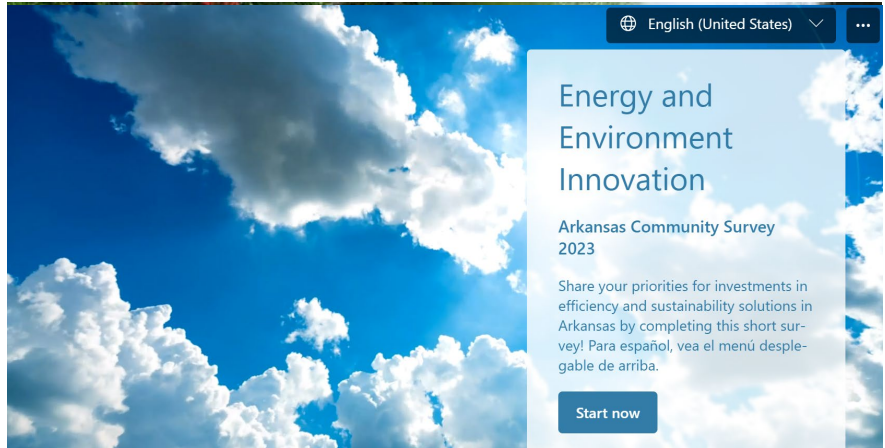
In-person overview of priority action plan, comprehensive action plan, and status report draft documents (open to public, est. 60 – 90 days before each deliverable is due to EPA)



COMMUNITY SURVEY

Hosted by EEI partner Metroplan

Responses as of 9/27/23: 230



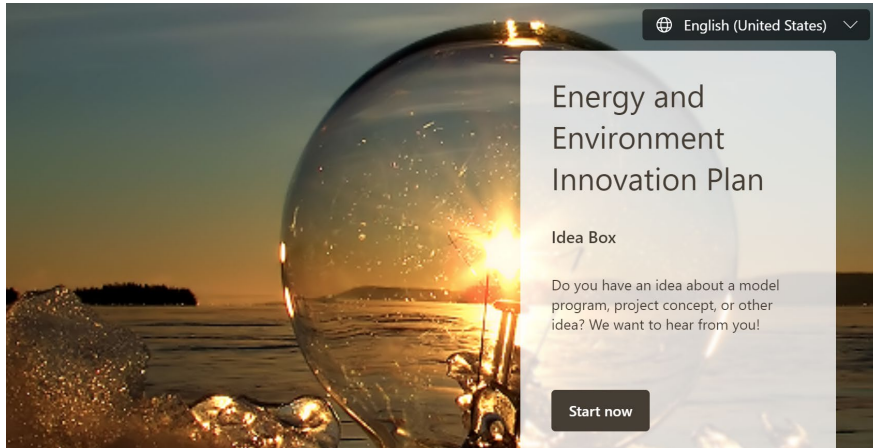
English (United States) ▾

Energy and Environment Innovation

Arkansas Community Survey 2023

Share your priorities for investments in efficiency and sustainability solutions in Arkansas by completing this short survey! Para español, vea el menú desplegable de arriba.

[Start now](#)



English (United States) ▾

Energy and Environment Innovation Plan

Idea Box

Do you have an idea about a model program, project concept, or other idea? We want to hear from you!

[Start now](#)

IDEA BOX

Hosted by E&E

Responses as of 9/27/23: 20



Transportation Sector Workshop

DETAILS

Date and Time: September 21, 2023
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: North Little Rock, AR
Zoom
YouTube Live

Registered Attendees: 78

AGENDA

Lunch	Boxed lunch with prior registration.	12:00 – 12:30 pm
Welcome	David Witherow , Associate Director, Office of Air Quality, Arkansas Dept. of Energy and Environment	12:30 – 12:40 pm
Energy and Environment Innovation Plan Overview and Meeting Logistics	Tricia Treece , Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment Joshua Robertson , City of Fort Smith Elizabeth Bowen , Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission Bernadette Rhodes , Metroplan	12:40 – 1:15 pm
Low and Zero-Emissions Vehicles and Infrastructure	Jason Willey , Manager of Strategic Energy Initiatives, Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment; Arkansas Clean Cities Lead	1:15 – 2:00 pm
Break		2:00 – 2:15 pm
Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure	Thom Cerny , Climate Resilience/TDM Practice Lead, Toole Design	2:15 – 3:00 pm
Sustainable Transportation Mobility	Andy Brewer , Technical Leader for Transportation, Olsson	3:00 – 3:45 pm
Breakout Sessions	Discuss topics with speakers and share project ideas.	3:45 – 4:30 pm
Report Out/Closing	Facilitators will summarize ideas shared for each topic.	4:30 – 5:00 pm

TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP CONT'D

- ✔ Interactive Polling via Mentimeter
- ✔ Breakout Sessions with Rotating Experts



KEY QUESTIONS FOR POLLING

- ✔ What are major barriers to adoption?
- ✔ How can we make transportation solutions more accessible to all Arkansans?
- ✔ What types of jobs and training are needed to enable widespread adoption?
- ✔ What organizations are interested in promoting or supporting adoption?

LOW- AND ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGIES

- Reduce fuel use
- Lower emission traditional fuels (biodiesel, ethanol, renewable diesel)
- Alternative fuels (renewable natural gas, hydrogen, electricity)

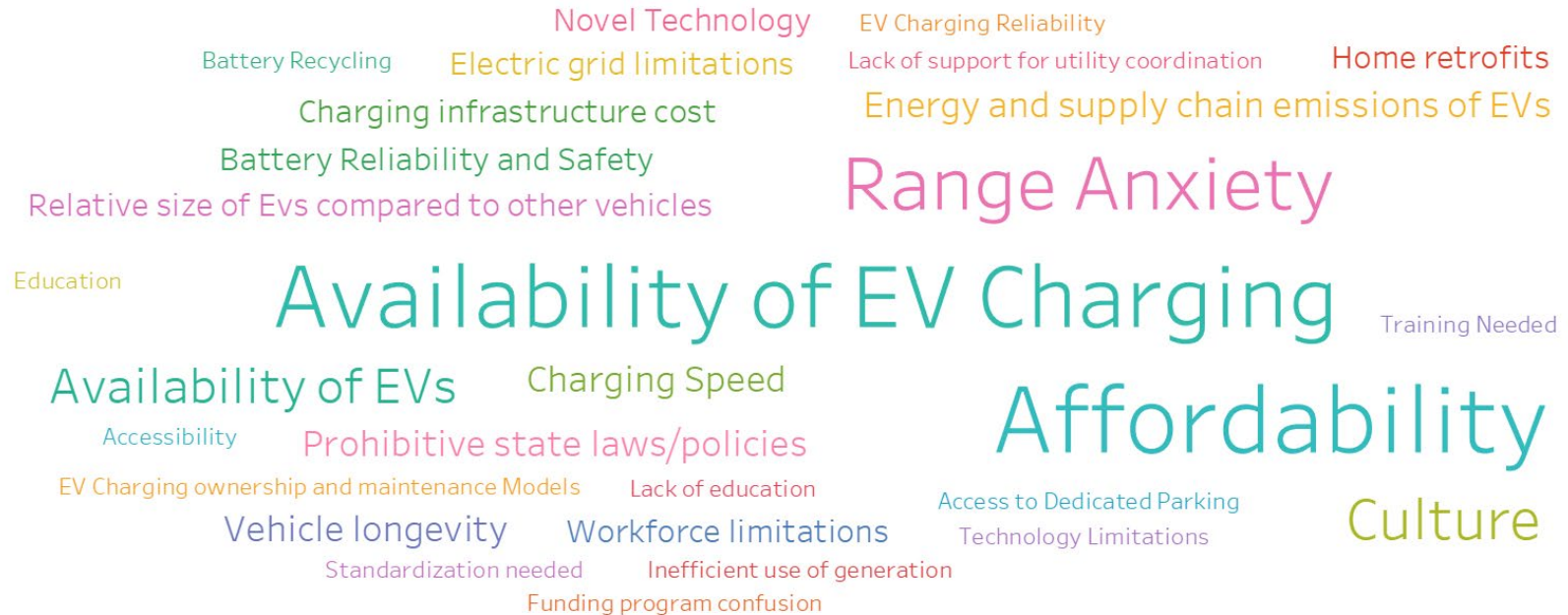


**Jason Wiley, Manager of
Strategic Energy
Initiatives
Arkansas Energy and
Environment**

WHAT ARE SOME MAJOR BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF LOW AND ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES?

Respondents: 38

Responses: 103



HOW CAN WE MAKE LOW- AND ZERO-EMISSION VEHICLES MORE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL ARKANSANS?

Respondents: 37

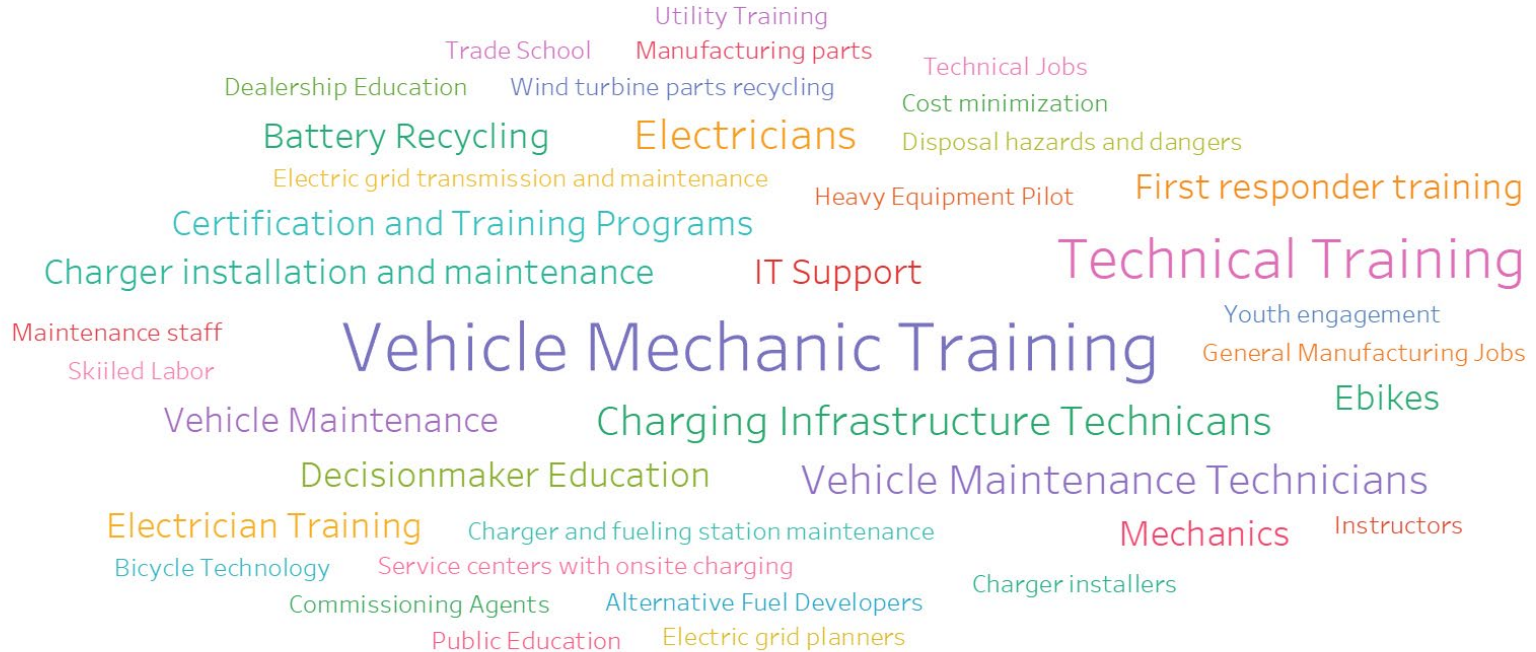
Responses: 66



WHAT TYPES OF JOBS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE NEEDED TO ENABLE WIDESPREAD ADOPTION OF LOW AND ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES?

Respondents: 32

Responses: 65



DO YOU KNOW ANY ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN PROMOTING OR SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF LOW AND ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES?

Respondents: 27

Responses: 62



SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

STRATEGIES

- Compact Development
- Pervious surfaces
- Green Storm water infrastructure
- Street trees
- Safe bike and pedestrian lanes and trails
- Complete streets to accommodate all users (car, transit, bicycle, pedestrian, children, disabilities)
- Carpooling
- Ebikes



Thom Cerny, AICP, TDM-CP
Toole Design

WHAT ARE SOME MAJOR BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE?

Respondents: 35

Responses: 71



HOW CAN WE MAKE SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE MORE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL ARKANSANS?

Respondents: 32

Responses: 61



WHAT TYPES OF JOBS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE NEEDED TO ENABLE WIDESPREAD ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE?

Respondents: 26

Responses: 70



DO YOU KNOW ANY ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN PROMOTING OR SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE?

Respondents: 28

Responses: 94



SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION MOBILITY

STRATEGIES

- Reducing Congestion
 - Lane Management
 - Traffic Signal Optimization
 - Traffic Incident Management
 - Transportation Systems Management and Operation
- Reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled
 - Smart Parking Systems
 - Bike Share
 - Ride Share
 - Safe Active Transportation Infrastructure
 - Reliable, convenient transit



**Andrew Brewer, P.E., PTOE
Olsson**

WHAT ARE SOME MAJOR BARRIERS TO ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY?

Respondents: 32

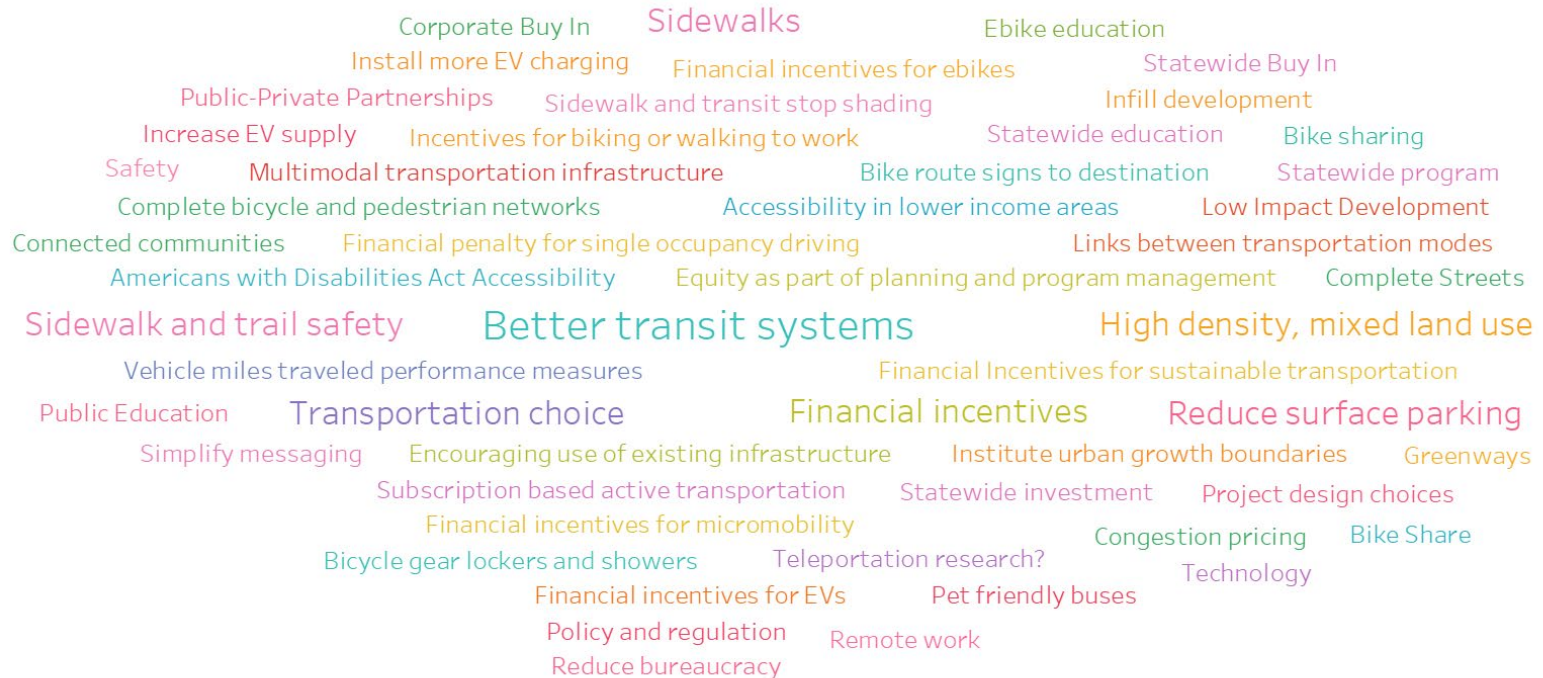
Responses: 83



HOW CAN WE MAKE SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY MORE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL ARKANSANS?

Respondents: 27

Responses: 61



WHAT TYPES OF JOBS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE NEEDED TO ENABLE WIDESPREAD ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY?

Respondents: 22

Responses: 76



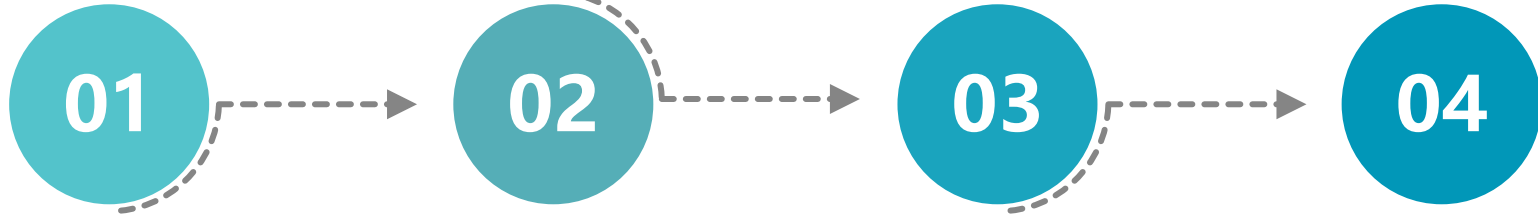
DO YOU KNOW ANY ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN PROMOTING OR SUPPORTING THE ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY?

Submissions: 26

Responses: 78



THE NEXT 5 MONTHS



OUTREACH

Stakeholder and
Community
Meetings, Survey,
Idea Box

PLAN DESIGN

Design of model
incentive program
designs and project
concepts, benefits
analysis

FINALIZE PRIORITY PLAN

Receive feedback,
finalize plan,
submit to EPA

APPLY FOR GRANTS

State and local
agencies apply for
implementation
grants

KEEP IN TOUCH



DEQ

5301 Northshore Drive,
North Little Rock, AR 72118



PHONE

t: 501.682.0744



EMAIL

ee.eei@Arkansas.gov



WEBSITE

<https://ee.arkansas.gov/environment/office-of-air-quality/eei/>



@AREnergyEnvironment



ARKANSAS
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT