

## An eye on electric vehicles

September 12-October 12 is **National Drive Electric Month**, a nationwide celebration designed to raise awareness of electric vehicles (EVs) and clean transportation. To coincide with National Drive Electric Month, September's Topic of the Month focuses on EVs and the role the North Central Texas Council of Governments plays in supporting EV adoption through planning, infrastructure development and regional collaboration.

### EVs in North Texas

North Texas is experiencing a high rate of EV growth. The Dallas-Fort Worth region saw a significant increase in EV registrations between August 2024 and August 2025. During this time, the number of registered EVs in the region grew by over 36,000, representing a 34% increase in a single year. Today, there are more than 145,000 EVs on the road in North Texas - a testament to the rapid pace of adoption and the expanding role EVs are playing in shaping the region's transportation future.

Electric vehicles are appealing to many North Texas drivers because, although they often have a higher purchase price than traditional vehicles, they offer other cost and environmental benefits. They are cheaper to operate, for instance, since electricity costs less than gasoline and remains more stable in price, making annual budgeting more predictable. Maintenance expenses are also lower, thanks to fewer moving parts. (No oil changes required!)

Those who are passionate about environmental concerns, naturally, are drawn to EVs since they don't produce tailpipe emissions, thus helping improve air quality – a critical issue in North Texas, where 10 counties are currently in ozone nonattainment.

Building on these benefits, the **Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition**, which is hosted at NCTCOG, has worked to support alternative fuel vehicle (including EVs) adoption since 1995. By providing guidance to fleets and other drivers about available vehicle options, coordinating infrastructure planning and readiness, and facilitating best practices around transportation-energy integration, DFWCC helps North Texas reduce energy use and improve air quality even further. For more information, visit [DFWCleanCities.org](https://DFWCleanCities.org).

### Funding and Incentives

The transition to electric vehicles in North Texas is supported by various funding opportunities and incentives that ease the adoption of alternatives to gasoline.

To help expand EV charging infrastructure in North Texas, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has awarded NCTCOG \$15 million as a part of the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Community grant program. This award will fund the deployment of EV charging stations on public sector properties through the North Texas Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Call for Projects. These grants are allocated toward funding to support the installation of up to 100 EV charging ports on public property in the 16-county NCTCOG region.

This initiative works to improve the availability of charging stations, ensuring that EV drivers have convenient access to reliable charging ports across the region.

In an effort to reduce emissions from diesel and gasoline-powered heavy duty vehicles, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has awarded \$60 million to NCTCOG to support the replacement of Class 6 and 7 working vehicles (i.e. vocational vehicles such as utility or refuse trucks, transit buses, delivery trucks, etc.) with zero-emission options, either hydrogen fuel cell or battery-electric vehicles. NCTCOG expects to open a call for projects for the North Texas Zero Emissions Vehicles Project [this fall](#).

For more information on funding opportunities visit [NCTCOG's Funding and Resources page](#).

### **Infrastructure Planning and Charging Station Expansion**

To keep up with the growing number of EVs, the DFW region is expanding its EV charging infrastructure, with over 2,800 Level 2 and direct current fast chargers already available to area users. These chargers make it easy for EV drivers to power up across the DFW area.

As these projects move forward, NCTCOG provides updates, project overviews and opportunities for public engagement. Residents, local governments and EV charging vendors can all get involved and help shape where and how new chargers are deployed.

Residents can also make their voices heard through the TxDOT interactive **EV Charging Station Map**, which allows users to leave comments and suggestions on proposed and existing charger locations across Texas.

Additionally, NCTCOG is collecting input through a **Charging Location Survey**, helping determine the best locations for future EV charging stations based on community input. Feedback from both tools will directly inform the implementation of regional EV charging projects, ensuring the infrastructure meets the needs of drivers and their communities.

To access the EV Charging Station Map and access the survey, visit NCTCOG's [EV Charging Station Projects page](#).

### **Community Readiness**

NCTCOG is also working to prepare communities for the growing EV fleet. Initiatives such as the **EMPOWER Workplace Charging** project connect businesses with local EV charging resources, while the **GUMBO** workforce initiative will integrate EV charging station technician training at community colleges. The **Charging Smart** program helps municipalities achieve EV readiness goals and guide communities toward national designation through no-cost technical assistance. More information is available on the [DFWCC website](#).

To ensure critical EV assets remain operational during grid disruption, NCTCOG is developing the **North Texas Resilient EV Charging Plan (NTX-REV)** which offers strategies to make EV infrastructure more reliable and resilient. Learn more at [dfwcleancities.org/ntx-rev](https://dfwcleancities.org/ntx-rev). In addition, regional energy management programs – including **Conserve North Texas**, **Local Government Energy Reporting** and **SolSmart/Go Solar Texas** – support sustainable energy use, solar adoptions and reduced transportation emissions across North Texas.

**Get involved!**

Those interested in learning more about EVs should check out an upcoming EV event in Denton taking place 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13, in Downtown Denton Square. The **Arts & Autos** show will bring together local artists and auto enthusiasts for a day of family fun. This year, as part of the DFW NDEM event, Texas EV Education Project and DFWCC have teamed up for the **Electric Avenue** experience, in which eventgoers are invited to learn about EVs in a relaxed, low-pressure, and brand neutral setting. Electric Avenue participants can also enter a drawing for special incentives and prizes! The federal EV tax credit of up to \$7,500 is still available for anyone who signs paperwork for a car purchase by September 30!

For more information, go [here](#).