

## Director's Message

By Joseph Oldham

The CALSTART San Joaquin Valley Clean Transportation Center will sponsor the first San Joaquin Valley Clean Transportation Summit on Oct. 19 in collaboration with Fresno State's Office of Community and Economic Development and funded by the California Energy Commission and Southern California Gas Co. The event, which is free to attend, will be at the Veterans Memorial Building in Clovis. Details along with the link for registration are included in this edition of the SJVCTC Newsletter.

The Summit is designed to provide an opportunity for residents and businesses in the San Joaquin Valley to become familiar with the latest in advanced, clean transportation technology through an up-close and personal experience. The event will have opportunities to ride, drive, see and hear everything from a Fiat 500 battery electric car to a natural gas powered Class 8 over-the-road truck. You will be able to talk with owners and operators of these vehicles, meet with manufacturer and dealer representatives, hear from state and local agency representatives, and learn about rebate and incentive programs.

We are planning to host at least 250 people at this first Summit and intend for it to grow in future years. After all, it is our air that is impacted by the thousands of vehicles that travel our roads, railways and airspace each day. And it is our residents, businesses and industry that drive that activity, so it should be all of us in the San Joaquin Valley that seek out, find and implement the cleaner transportation solutions that will help improve our air quality. Each one of us, each day, makes decisions on where we go and how we get there that directly impact our air quality and the health and safety of our friends, relatives, coworkers and immediate family. The impact of those daily decisions is greater or lesser on our air quality depending on the type of vehicle and the fuel that it uses.

For instance, an all-electric Chevrolet Spark EV has zero tailpipe emissions and using one to commute to work, pick up the children at school, run daily errands or go shopping has no impact on air quality and saves thousands of dollars over five years compared with a gasoline powered car (<http://www.sjvcleantransportation.org/personal.html>). For heavy-duty trucks, natural gas solutions can significantly lower operating cost by eliminating the costly maintenance and downtime associated with diesel particulate filters and through lower fuel costs. Natural gas fueling stations are located throughout the San Joaquin Valley along both major highway corridors, with several new stations planned for construction or existing stations being expanded. ([http://www.afdc.energy.gov/fuels/natural\\_gas\\_locations.html](http://www.afdc.energy.gov/fuels/natural_gas_locations.html)).

Finally, the Summit is an opportunity for those businesses and individuals that have invested in cleaner transportation technology to come together and share their successes and challenges with the community. Change is not easy, but many have done it and are ready to share their experience. Attending the Summit provides a great opportunity for networking and, did I mention, we will have free food? Yes, we are providing breakfast and lunch courtesy of SoCal Gas!

So mark October 19, 2016, from 8 am to 2 pm on your calendar to attend the first San Joaquin Valley Clean Transportation Summit. Register today using this link. I look forward to meeting you all at the Summit!!

“The CALSTART San Joaquin Valley Clean Transportation Center is a joint project between CALSTART and the California Energy Commission. It is funded through a grant from the California Energy Commission with the mission to assist residents and businesses in the San Joaquin Valley deploy cleaner transportation options to help improve air quality and promote economic prosperity. For more information about CALSTART visit [www.calstart.org](http://www.calstart.org)”