



## **How Minnesota Can Prepare for and Use Federal EV Funds: Speaker Bios**

June 7, 2022

### **Timothy Sexton, Assistant Commissioner, Sustainability and Public Health and Chief Sustainability Officer, Minnesota Department of Transportation**

Tim Sexton serves as Chief Sustainability Officer and Assistant Commissioner for Sustainability and Public Health at the Minnesota Department of Transportation. He leads a team that works across government and with private- and nonprofit-sector partners to reduce climate pollution, improve system resilience, promote public health, and develop creative partnerships to support livable communities. Tim is actively involved in national and international efforts to support sustainable transportation through leadership roles with TRB (Transportation Research Board), AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials), and PIARC.

Tim previously directed MnDOT's transit, active transportation, and environmental programs. Before coming to MnDOT, he managed air quality, energy, and climate policy for the Washington State DOT, built green roofs in Germany, and co-founded a land use planning firm focused on sustainability and resource conservation. Tim has a BS in Anthropology, MS in Urban Planning, and MPH in Environmental Health from the University of Iowa.

### **Wendall Meyer, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Minnesota Division**

Wendall Meyer became the Division Administrator for the Minnesota Division Office in March 2019. In this position, he is responsible for leading and implementing national strategic transportation initiatives and successful Federal-aid program delivery in Minnesota.

Mr. Meyer joined the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 1989 as a Highway Engineer Trainee. He has held key leadership and technical positions in numerous FHWA Division Offices including the past 11 years as the Division Administrator in North Dakota. Mr. Meyer received his BS in Civil Engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

### **Representative Jamie Long, Minnesota House of Representatives, District 61B**

Representative Jamie Long was elected in 2018 and 2020 to the Minnesota House of Representatives representing District 61B. He is Chair of the Climate and Energy Committee and is Assistant Majority Leader. Prior to holding this office, he was an attorney.

### **Senator David Senjem, Minnesota Senate, District 25**

Senator David Senjem was reelected to the Minnesota Senate in 2020. He served as majority leader from 2011 to 2013 and minority leader from 2007 to 2011 and is currently chair of the Energy and Utilities Committee. A Republican, Senjem represents District 25, which includes portions of Dodge and Olmsted counties in the southeastern part of the state.

### **Corey Cantor, Electric Vehicles Associate, BloombergNEF**

Corey Cantor is part of Bloomberg's electrified transport team. His background spans policy, economics, and technology and understanding how they impact the electrification of mass transportation in the North American market. Prior to completing his master's degree in Environmental Management from Yale's School of the Environment, Corey worked for U.S. Senator Cory Booker on his economic team covering policy around banking, taxes, and the federal budget.

### **Andrew Wishnia, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Climate Policy, US Department of Transportation**

Andrew Wishnia serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Climate Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy in the U.S. Department of Transportation. Wishnia previously served at the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, including as Senior Policy Advisor, and also served at the Federal Highway Administration as Special Assistant for Policy to the FHWA Administrator, and as a Senior Program Manager at the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Wishnia previously served in the U.S. House of Representatives as a legislative assistant to Congressman John Yarmuth, now Chairman of the U.S. House Committee on the Budget.

### **Alex Clegg, Transportation Specialist, US Department of Transportation**

Alex Clegg is a rural transportation specialist at the US Department of Transportation (DOT). He works with the ROUTES Initiative, which is DOT's hub for rural transportation policy and technical assistance. Prior to DOT he worked at AASHTO. He has a BA in environmental studies and

economics from the University of North Carolina and a master of public policy degree from Georgetown University.

**MK Anderson, Senior Policy Associate, Energy Transition, Fresh Energy**

Hailing from Sparta, Wisconsin, MK Anderson is Fresh Energy's Senior Policy Associate, Energy Transition. In their role at Fresh Energy, MK drives Fresh Energy's advocacy on clean transportation and clean fuels, working in coalition with Fresh Energy's partners and collaborators to ensure that Minnesota's transportation sector continues making progress toward a carbon-neutral economy.

Before coming to Fresh Energy, MK worked for the Iowa Energy Office serving as the team's subject matter expert on all things alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technology. In this role, they also served as Coordinator of the Iowa Clean Cities Coalition, a group working to increase the use of alternative fuels across Iowa. MK has also spent time working for Ever-Green Energy, Eureka Recycling, and the United Nations Environmental Program and holds a B.S. in Applied Economics, Environmental Track with a minor in Sustainability from the University of Minnesota.

**Dean Taylor, Senior Policy Advisor, Plug In America**

Dean is a senior policy advisor and consultant for Plug in America. He has 30 years of transportation electrification (TE) experience with a focus on regulatory and legislative affairs, external engagement, business planning, strategy development and utility program design (mostly for Southern California Edison and for his own consulting practice since March 2019). He has chaired many regulatory and TE coalitions (e.g., over 14 years with California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard, the 2008 federal EV tax credit coalition), and designed and project managed dozens of technical, environmental and business planning TE studies.

**Siri Simons, Sustainability Program Supervisor, Minnesota Department of Transportation**

Siri Simons is the Sustainability Program Supervisor in MnDOT's Division of Sustainability and Public Health. She leads and coordinates statewide transportation sustainability efforts, including the Clean Transportation Pilot Program, statewide EV planning, and the Governor's Climate Change Subcabinet - Transportation Action Team.

Prior to joining MnDOT, she coordinated residential energy efficiency policy development as a fellow with the City of Minneapolis Sustainability Office. She received her Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the Humphrey School of Public Affairs and her undergraduate degree in Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management from the University of Minnesota.

**Tony Fischer, Planning Analyst, Metropolitan Council**

Tony Fischer is a Transportation Planner at the Metropolitan Council. His background is in highway planning and recently has been working on transportation electrification and general transportation climate planning. Tony has Master of Applied Economics degrees from the University of Minnesota.

**Will Stein, Safety Engineer, Federal Highway Administration, Minnesota Division**

Will Stein, P.E. is the Safety & Design Engineer for the Federal Highway Administration's Minnesota Division. Over the past two years he has been working closely with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and other FHWA partners on clean transportation and infrastructure resiliency. The current focus is preparing for implementation of the climate and sustainability related programs passed in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, including the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program.

**Lise Trudeau, Emerging Technology Planning Director, Minnesota Department of Commerce**

Lise Trudeau is an Energy Systems Planning Director at the State Energy Office within the Minnesota Department of Commerce. She leads research projects and works with stakeholders to bridge technology and policy in the transition to a clean energy system. Lise holds a Bachelor's in Materials Science and Engineering from the University of Minnesota.

**Tandy Dilworth, Planning and Technology Assessment Manager, Xcel Energy**

A strategist focused on the energy industry is an accurate way to describe Tandy Dilworth and her career trajectory. In her current role as Planning & Technology Assessment Manager with Xcel Energy, Tandy focuses on strategy, operations, governance, technology & data integration in the clean transportation space.

Tandy Dilworth has been with Xcel Energy for nearly 14 years in a variety of roles including energy generation, regulatory policy and information technology. Since 2000, Tandy has been involved in the energy industry in some capacity. One of her first roles was as a fuel cell power systems Business Development Manager, after which she moved into discovering and analyzing unique technologies to introduce into utility companies along with developing strategy and policy for regulated operations.

Prior to her tenure at Xcel Energy, Tandy earned a PhD in Strategic Management from the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado in Boulder (CU). In addition to teaching several courses in Strategic Management and Entrepreneurship, she served as an advisor to college students helping them identify and start entrepreneurial ventures while earning her doctorate.

Along with her PhD, Tandy has an MBA in Finance and a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from CU. She enjoys spending time with her family, traveling and playing tennis.

### **Robert Blake, Executive Director, Native Sun**

Robert Blake is the Executive Director of nonprofit Native Sun Community Power Development and the owner of Solar Bear, pronounced Gizis-o-makwa in Ojibwe, a solar installation company, both located in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Also, Robert is a member of the Native Governance Center's Native Nation Rebuilders 12th Cohort. Robert is a tribal citizen of the Red Lake Nation. His passion is spreading the word about renewable energy through communication, cooperation, and collaboration.

### **Stacy O'Rourke, Parks & Recreation Director, Pine City, Minnesota**

Stacy O'Rourke is the Parks and Recreation Director for Pine City, MN. Before going to Pine City, Stacy spent seven years with the Army as a Morale and Recreation Specialist. Stacy worked tirelessly to make Fort Campbell, one of the largest military bases in the country, the leader in outdoor recreation. Stacy has been recognized by the US Army for her work at Fort Campbell receiving multiple distinctions and awards. Before starting her career with Fort Campbell, Stacy grew up in Owatonna, MN and went to college in Des Moines, IA. Stacy has worked with all ages and abilities in many areas of outdoor recreation including outfitting for the BWCA, a tour guide for Budweiser, and lead associate with Cabela's.

### **Alex Beaton, Manager, Market Development & Public Policy, EVgo**

Alex Beaton is Manager of Market Development and Public Policy at EVgo, the nation's largest public Electric Vehicle (EV) Fast Charging network. In this capacity, he leads EVgo's federal engagement to promote transportation electrification and the deployment of charging infrastructure. Alex works regularly with federal, state and local policymakers to advance opportunities for transportation electrification, including the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and its \$7.5 billion National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) program. Prior to joining EVgo, Alex was Policy Advisor for the Senate Budget Committee and Chairman Bernard Sanders, where he advised the committee on transportation, energy, housing and trade policy. He also advised Senator Sanders on transportation and infrastructure issues before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. Alex holds an M.A. in Public Management from Johns Hopkins University and a B.A. in Political Science from American University.

### **Rebecca Place, EV Program Administrator, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency**

Rebecca Place works at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as the Electric Vehicle Program Administrator. In this role, she is responsible for the planning of expenditures from Minnesota's \$47 Million dollar Volkswagen Settlement. She plans stakeholder engagement and mentors new staff on grant management. Rebecca works collaboratively to design the statewide network of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. She lives in White Bear Lake with her family and enjoys driving an electric vehicle.

**Tim Gross, Executive Director, Minnesota Petroleum Marketers Association**

Timothy Gross is the executive director of the Minnesota Petroleum Marketers Association (MPMA). The MPMA is a one-hundred-year-old association that represents 450 fuel marketing businesses who own and operate the majority of the 2,500 current refueling sites found across Minnesota.

**Moaz Uddin, Electric Vehicle Policy Specialist, Great Plains Institute**

Mian Moaz Uddin provides research and report writing support to electric vehicle related projects at the Great Plains Institute. This includes research and guidance on transportation electrification initiatives at the federal, state, and local levels.

Prior to joining GPI, Moaz served as a Public Policy Fellow at the International Council on Clean Transportation where he worked on a myriad of projects ranging from electric vehicle emissions and cost of ownership modeling to developing transportation policy recommendations for the US presidential candidates.