UC Davis Receives $1.1 Million for National Center for Sustainable Transportation

City of Davis awarded $200,000 for EV charging infrastructure

SACRAMENTO - The National Center for Sustainable Transportation, a new program administered by the UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies, has been awarded a $1.1 million grant from the California Energy Commission.

The grant will allow the National Center to conduct innovative research on strategies promoting California’s transition to zero-emission vehicle and fuel technologies, with a focus on passenger transportation and goods movement.

“We are grateful for the Energy Commission’s investment in reducing carbon emissions and improving mobility solutions for California and the nation,” said Professor Susan Handy, director of the National Center. “The National Center for Sustainable Transportation is the first center of its kind and we’ve brought together nationally-recognized institutions to develop technologies and strategies to significantly improve the sustainability of our various transportation systems,” said Handy.

The National Center is funded by the Energy Commission’s Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program and the U.S. Department of Transportation, as well as the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and California Air Resources Board. “The grant will enable researchers to evaluate emerging technologies based on the environmental and economic performance of alternative vehicles and fuels, consumer and industry behavior, and the influence of new business models and regulatory and market policies on the pace of adoption of emerging technologies.”

Additionally, the city of Davis was awarded a $200,000 grant from the Energy Commission to develop a comprehensive plan to determine the most effective way to increase the regional charging infrastructure that will prepare the Davis area for increasing numbers of plug-in electric vehicles.

About the National Center for Sustainable Transportation

The goal of the National Center is to enhance the environmental sustainability of the United States’ transportation system through reduction in fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. The National Center will provide support for California’s pioneering efforts as the introductory market for many of our nation’s advanced fuel and vehicle technologies as well as the policies that promote them. It will also serve as a hub to educate other states with the lessons learned from California. Other institutions partnering with the National Center include: CSU, Long Beach; UC Riverside; University of Southern California; Georgia Tech, and the University of Vermont.

The National Center will build upon the strong base of objective research by UC Davis and its partners by accelerating the transition toward zero-emission vehicles and low-carbon fuel technologies for both passenger transportation and goods movement through research on the commercial barriers that are inhibiting the adoption of promising innovative alternative and renewable vehicle and fuel technologies.

About the UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies

The Institute of Transportation Studies at UC Davis (ITS-Davis) is the leading university center in the world on sustainable transportation. It is home to more than 60 affiliated faculty and researchers, and 120 graduate students. ITS-Davis is partnered with government, industry, and non-governmental organizations to inform policy making and business decisions, and advance the public discourse on key transportation, energy and environmental issues.