

# SCR TTC

Southern California  
Regional Transit  
Training Consortium  
[www.scrttc.com](http://www.scrttc.com)

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November 17, 2008

James D. Boyd  
Vice Chair and Presiding Member  
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Karen Douglas  
Commissioner and Associate Member  
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California Energy Commission  
Dockets Office, MS-4  
Re: Docket No. 08-ALT-1  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

RE: Docket Number 08-ALT-1 – AB118 Implementation

For your and the staffs' consideration of programs that could be funded under AB 118, I would like to highlight the need for alternative fuel and vehicle education programs. California's transit agencies and organizations remain a focal point for improving its air quality and addressing greenhouse gas emissions through the introduction of advanced transportation technology and alternative fuels. Critical to ensuring that such new technology operates in concert with manufacturer specifications is a trained workforce.

The Southern California Regional Transit Training Consortium (SCR TTC) is a coalition of over 27 transit operators, community colleges in Southern California, joined together in a training resource network comprised of public and private organizations focused on the development and employment of the transit industry's workforce that is proficient in the standards, practices, and procedures for incumbent and new workers. The SCR TTC is a 501c (3) organization and a California Non-Profit Corporation.

The SCR TTC's goals include a commitment to being known as green fleets – dedicated to acquiring alternative fuel and new hybrid technologies. Within this approach we have included the development a new "**Learning Model**" that increases the professional and technical competency of the Southern California public transit workforce. The new learning model includes the elements of alternative fuels, emerging technologies such as hybrids, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). In addition, the advent of new and advanced transit technologies will further the use of alternative fuels, alternative fueled vehicles, hybrid electric systems with fuel management and regenerative braking systems, automated vehicle location systems, route management systems all of which require constant upgrading of transit technician's skill sets such as; computer diagnostics, fuel systems certified inspection and safety training.

Training specifically developed for the transit industry is a key component to the increased deployment of cleaner operating vehicles, greater fuel efficiency hence reducing petroleum consumption and therefore increasing supply, and route management systems resulting in fewer miles traveled. All of these technologies, plus additional ones that are constantly emerging, contribute to improving California's air quality and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and help to mitigate the effects of climate change in accordance with AB 32. Additionally, the goals of the SCR TTC are in direct alignment with the policy goals of the California Energy Commission AB 118 Workforce Development program and in particular with the goal to provide recruitment, jobs, job training to the transit industry

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and ensuring the means by which an efficient and competitive transportation fuels market is achieved.

The SCR TTC's goals not only benefit current employees, but also to serve and meet future workforce development needs in the region as well. With few resources to generate an adequately trained labor supply, community colleges have the necessary coursework and training capacity to educate students and prepare them for highly paid jobs in the growing transit industry. We will see the reversing of an industry trend in employment and retention, improved training methods and practices, and overall employee satisfaction.

The SCR TTC provides the training solution for public transit agencies by:

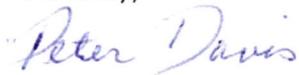
1. Developing standards for transit vehicle repairs
2. Improving the quality of training for the entire workforce
3. Reducing the duplication of training
4. Improving efficiency and effectiveness of training
5. Optimizing the educational resource
6. Funding resources and better use of taxpayer's dollars
7. Training needs assessments and analysis
8. Inventory of available resources and courses
9. State of the art training
10. Building training capacity for public transit

The outcome produced to date by this consortium is over **12,220 hours of training delivered to over 977 technical transit workers within the region.** Technical training to date has been developed and implemented with federal funding. Investment in the SCR TTC provides jobs, saves taxpayer money and increases productivity of the Transportation System within the region. Otherwise, each individual transit system is forced to invest scarce resources to develop its own program for training mechanics and key service personnel. The continuation from a research program to a fully funded operating entity will result in the regional approach to developing course work that may be used as a California standard, and that will this eliminate duplication, reduce costs and provide consistency in work methods and training across the industry.

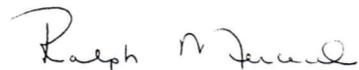
Enclosed is a detailed package of information regarding the SCR TTC's extremely successful learning model. Should you have any questions please email me at [outrchpd@me.com](mailto:outrchpd@me.com) or call me at 619-473-0090.

I join with the SCR TTC Chair, Ralph Merced, Santa Monica Big Blue Bus, in urging your serious consideration for further funding this proven and successful workforce training resource.

Sincerely,



Peter Davis  
Statewide Director,  
Advanced Transportation Technology  
and Energy Initiative  
Economic Workforce Development Program  
California Community Colleges



Ralph Merced  
SCR TTC Chairman  
Santa Monica Big Blue Bus  
Transit Manager