

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: APRIL 17, 2019

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Zero-Emission Vehicle Alley Wows Crowds at City Park's Earth Day

NEW ORLEANS – As part of a national campaign to share information about the environmental benefits and cost-savings of electric vehicles, the Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership (SLCFP) hosted a Drive Electric Earth Day event in conjunction with New Orleans City Park's annual Earth Day celebration on April 16th. Local electric vehicle (EV) owners and dealerships brought their cars to create a special zero-emission vehicle alley on Victory Ave in front of the Botanical Gardens. Most attendees said it was their first time ever seeing an electric vehicle in person and were thrilled to get behind the wheel of the various models on display including a Tesla Model 3, Tesla Model S, Tesla Model X, Jaguar I-Pace, Nissan LEAF, and Honda Clarity.

EV owners shared their firsthand experiences and tips on purchasing and leasing, charging, planning for road trips, environmental benefits, and cost savings.

"The economic and clean energy benefits of not having gas or oil or any other maintenance to deal with is a great selling point," said Teddy Smith. "I never have to go to the gas station again!"

The New Orleans event organizer, SLCFP Director Courtney Young, said the goal is to raise awareness that electric vehicles and public charging stations are becoming increasingly available and affordable. "Our region has over 95 public charging stations and you can even plug into a regular wall outlet to get a full charge overnight, so there's no need to have 'range anxiety' that you'll run out of juice on your daily commute."

The event was made possible through the support of local EV owners and advocates like New Orleans City Park, Paretti Jaguar of New Orleans and RideTHISbike. Plug In America, Sierra Club and the Electric Auto Association are national organizers of the Drive Electric Earth Day campaign. FLO is the exclusive national charging sponsor. For a complete list of Drive Electric Earth Day events, visit: <https://driveelectricearthday.org>.

To learn more about electric vehicle options or to compare your current vehicle with any EV on the market, visit FuelEconomy.gov (www.fueleconomy.gov).

For a map of publically available EV charging stations, visit the U.S. Dept. of Energy's Alternative Fueling Station Locator: <https://afdc.energy.gov/stations>.

SLCFP will be hosting additional EV events throughout the region this fall in Kentwood, Laplace, Abita Springs, and Laplace. Details to come.

Photos of Drive Electric Earth Day at New Orleans City Park:



Attendees Sit behind the Wheel at New Orleans Drive Electric Earth Day Event 4-16-2019



Children Exploring EV Features at New Orleans Drive Electric Earth Day 4-16-2019



Electric Bicycle from RideTHISbike at New Orleans Drive Electric Earth Day 4-16-2019



Sun sets on the Zero-Emission Vehicle Alley at City Park Earth Day Event 4-16-2019

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About Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership (<http://www.cleanfuelpartnership.org>): The Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership is a coalition of vehicle fleet managers and operators; alternative fuel, vehicle and technology providers; local, state and federal government agencies; and other organizations interested in promoting policies and practices that diversify our transportation fuel options, improve our environment, and reduce fleets' operational costs. As part of a network of almost 100 US Department of Energy- designated Clean Cities Coalitions nationwide, SLCFP provides education, technical assistance, funding information and other services to help vehicle fleet managers and personnel incorporate cleaner transportation options into their operations. SLCFP is supported by the Louisiana Dept. of Natural Resources' Technology Assessment Division, and is housed at the Regional Planning Commission serving Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa parishes.

Plug In America

About Plug In America: Plug In America is the nation's leading independent consumer voice for accelerating the use of plug-in electric vehicles in the United States. Formed as a non-profit in 2008, Plug In America provides practical, objective information collected from our coalition of plug-in vehicle drivers, through public outreach and education, policy work and a range of technical advisory services. Our expertise represents the world's deepest pool of experience of driving and living with plug-in vehicles. The organization conceived National Drive Electric Week and has advanced workplace charging by pioneering ride-and-drive events at such leading corporations as Google, Mattel and Paramount Pictures. We drive electric. You can too. pluginamerica.org



About the Sierra Club: The Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization with more than 2.4 million members and supporters and chapters in all 50 states. The Sierra Club's national electric vehicles initiative advocates for a switch to EVs as one important way to reduce emissions and cut oil consumption. Sierra Club is proud to have been one of the three national groups organizing National Drive Electric Week since its inception in 2011. www.sierraclub.org/EVGuide.



About the Electric Auto Association: The Electric Auto Association, formed in 1967, is a nonprofit educational organization with 75 chapters worldwide that promotes the advancement and widespread adoption of electric vehicles. www.electrcauto.org.