

National Transportation in  
Indian Country Conference

*The Path to Zero  
Emissions & the Cost  
Reductions Along the Way*

August 23, 2022



# Agenda:

- Steve Whaley - Propane Education & Research Council
- Monte McLeod – Thompson Gas
- Jill Drury – Charlevoix County Public Transit

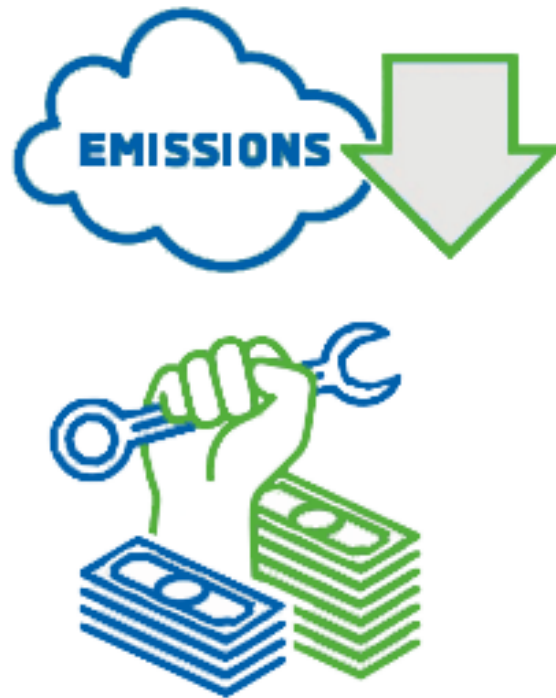




# Successful Alternative Energy Adoption

# What Makes an Alternative Energy Adoption Successful?

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- Reduced emissions without increasing cost or losing efficiency.
- TCO reduction or ROI realized before the end of the lifecycle.
- Similar (or better) performance than the original fuel without compromising range.
- High-volume supply of energy domestically sourced.



# Path to Zero Emissions

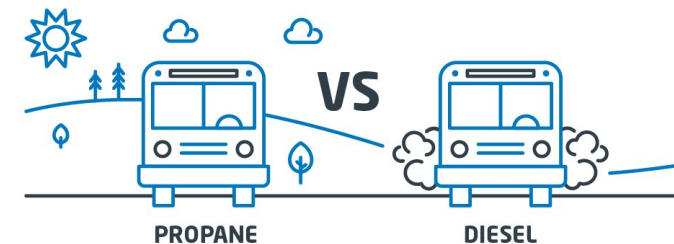
# Path to Zero Emissions

- Particulate Matter
  - Virtually zero
- NOX
  - 96% reduction from best in class diesel
  - Certifying to .02, operating at 0.01, full duty cycle
- GHG
  - Newest technologies have 25% reduction

# 96%

## NO<sub>x</sub> REDUCTION VERSUS CLEAN DIESEL BUS

Duty cycle: Low speed, stop-and-go route



Source: 2018 West Virginia University study, comparing 2015 LPG Blue Bird school bus (6.8L, 10 Cylinder) with 2014 ultra-low sulfur diesel Blue Bird school bus (6.7L, 6 cylinder).

[PROPANE.COM](http://PROPANE.COM)



# Propane Autogas Transit Fleets





# Shuttle Buses





# WHAT IS PROPANE?

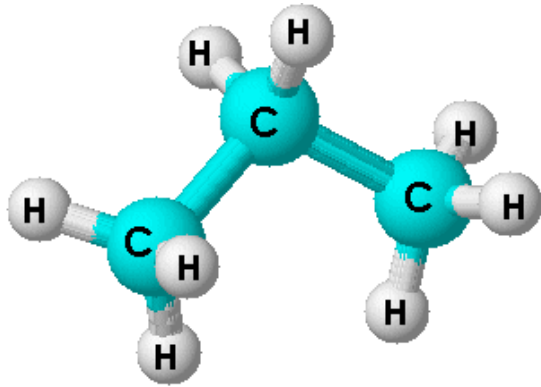
- Affordable, Clean, American-Made Fuel
  - C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>
  - Byproduct of natural gas processing.
  - 100% Domestic
  - Commonly used for space and water heating, cooking, and as engine fuel.
- Using Propane
  - 48 million Households
  - 900,000 Farms
  - 600,000 Forklifts
  - 25,000 Commercial Mowers



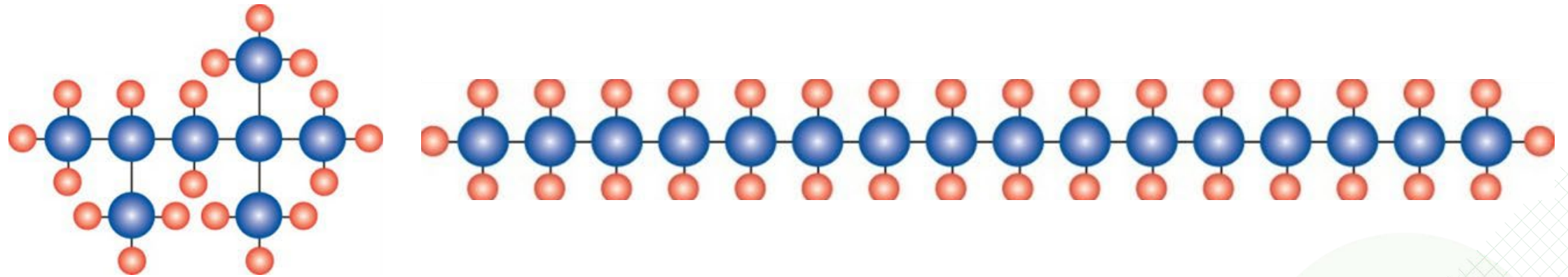
# What is Propane?

- Liquid state below minus 42 degrees Fahrenheit
- 100 PSI at 60-degree ambient temperature
- Heavier than air
  - No expensive ventilation systems needed for maintenance facilities

# What is Propane?



Low Carbon – Hydrogen Rich Energy





**Propane comes from organic as well as renewable sources.**

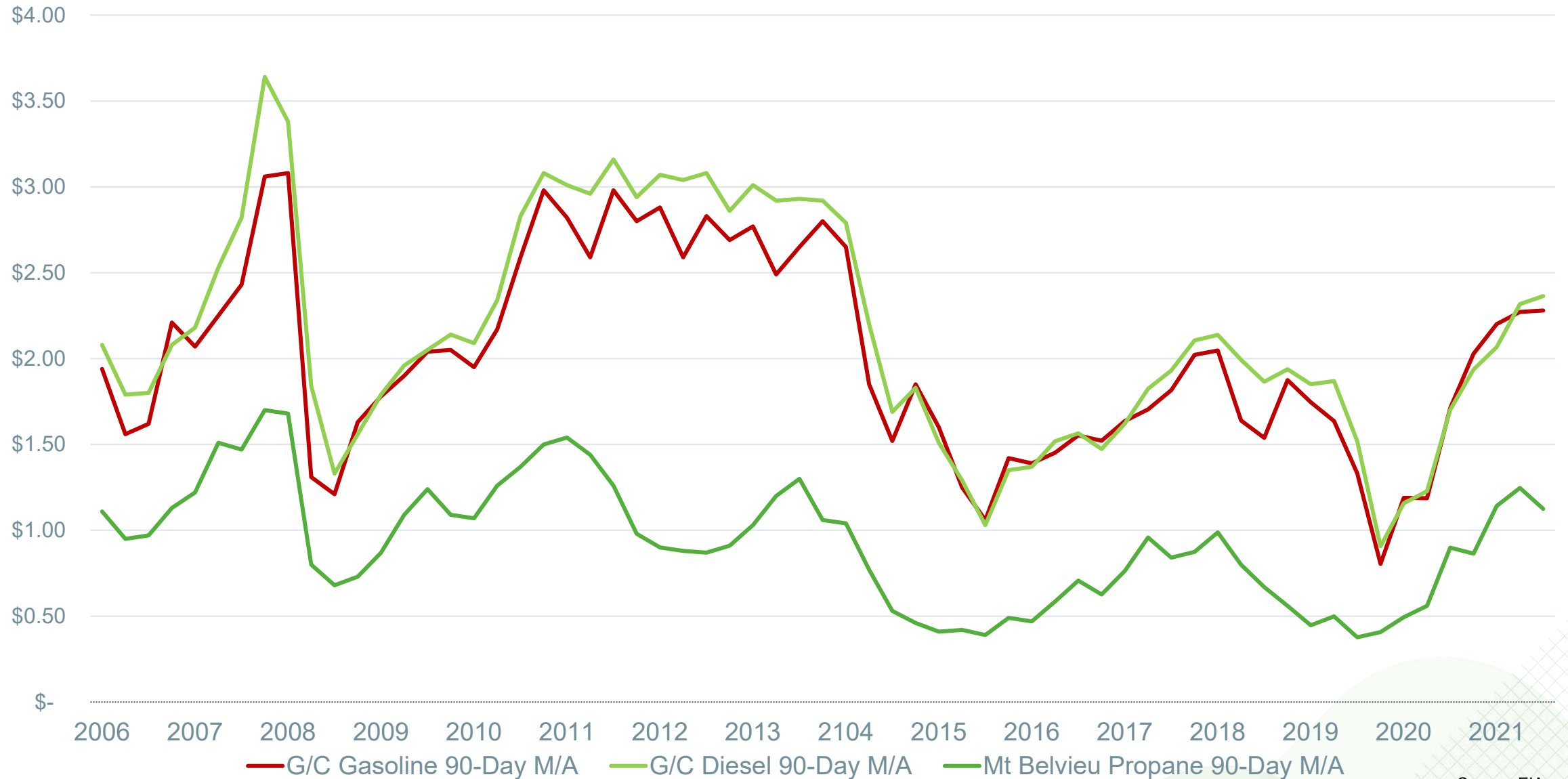
**It's nontoxic, meaning it does not contaminate air, soil, or water resources.**



# Fuel & Maintenance Cost Reductions

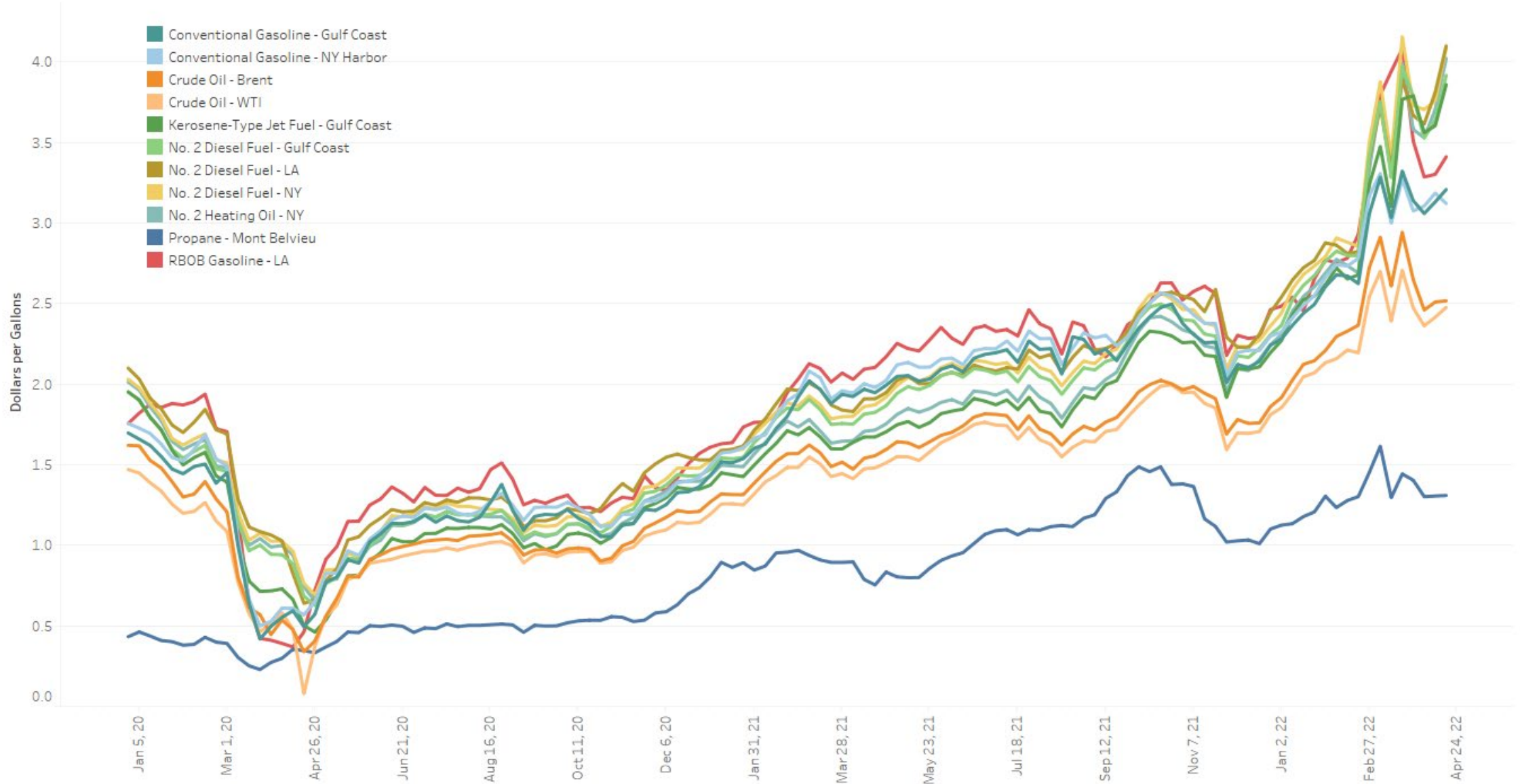


# US ENERGY PRICE COMPARISON 2006-2021



# US ENERGY PRICE COMPARISON

Average Weekly Energy Prices



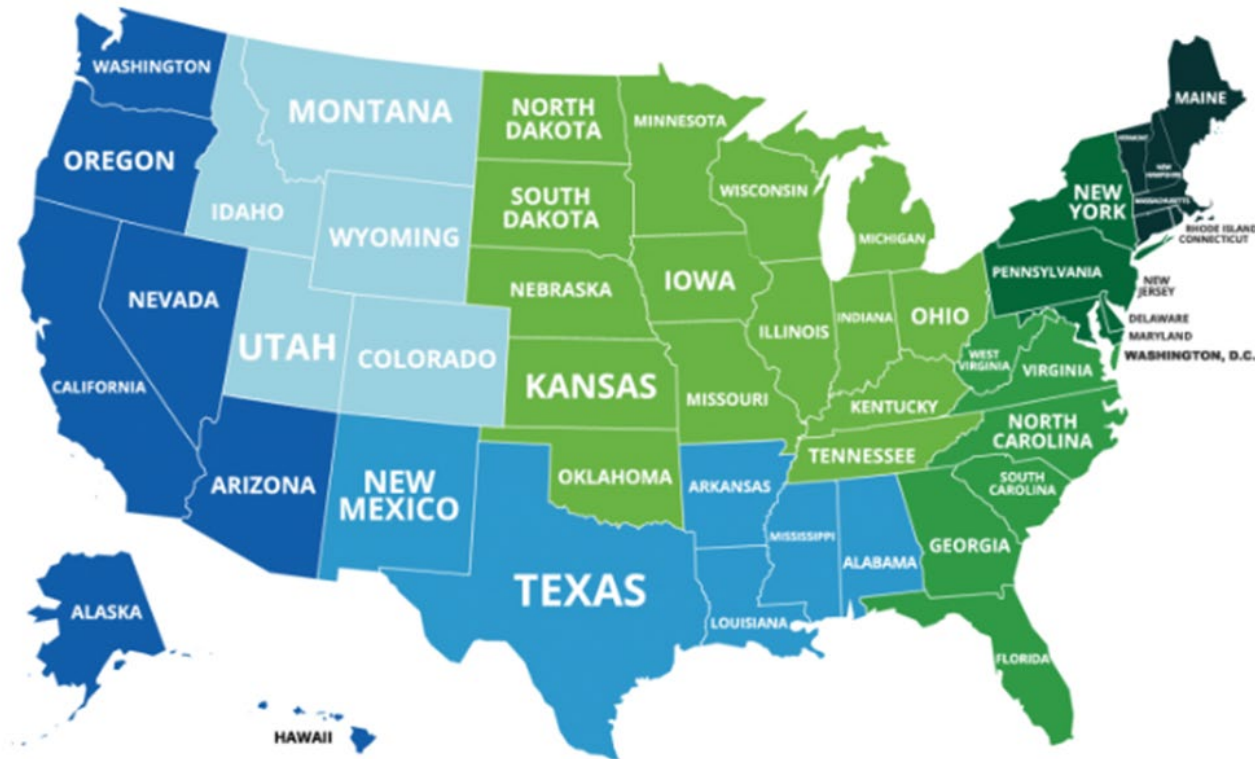
# Today's Propane Autogas

## Average Price Per Gallon for the week of August 4, 2022

These prices are based on National averages. To receive a custom quote with your local autogas pricing, contact us today.

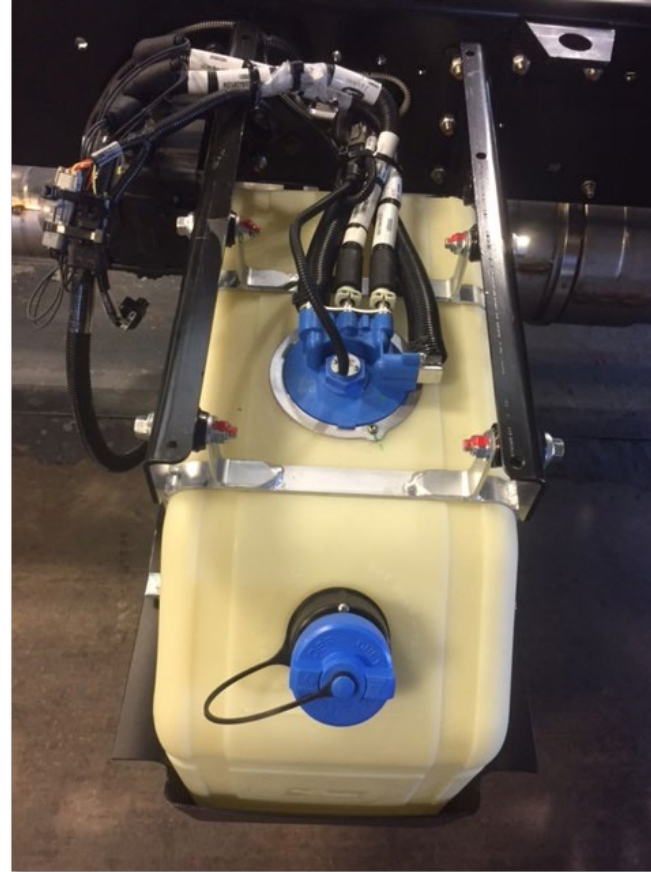
Learn more about the savings and stability of autogas.

\*Autogas price estimates do not reflect the current federal tax credit.



# Not On A Propane Autogas Engine

- Propane eliminates the need for DEF and the possibility of putting the wrong fluid in a tank.







# The Future of Diesel:

## THE NEW PHASE II INTEGRATED SYSTEM CONCEPT

### HOW IT WORKS

- The integrated Rotary Turbine Control enables exhaust gases to bypass the turbine stage and enter the Close Coupled Unit after the gas has been injected with urea by the new Cummins UL4 injector.
- When combined with the Single Module™ chassis mounted aftertreatment, the concept integrated system has the potential to improve emissions, particularly for cold start and urban driving operations.



Combining Engineering Expertise to Help Customers Address Future Emissions Control Standards

2010



Figure 1. EPA 2010 aftertreatment system layout.

.2 NOx

2024

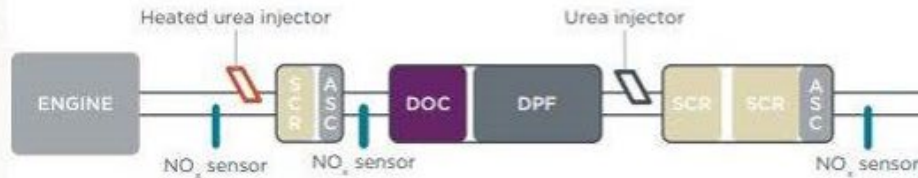


Figure 3. Potential aftertreatment configuration (No. 2) of a CARB 2024 compliant system.

.05 NOx

2027

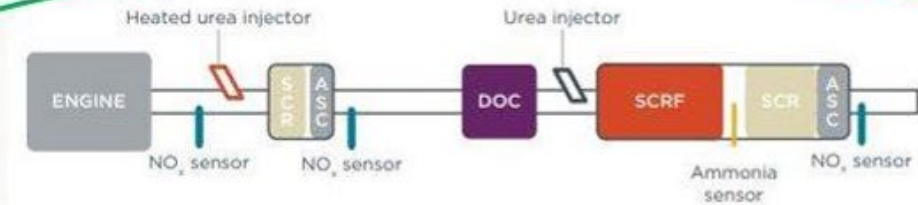


Figure 5. Aftertreatment configuration 2 to meet CARB 2027 standards under FTP and supplemental low-load cycle. Adapted from SwRI (Sharp, 2019).

.02 NOx

1

1

1

LPG Meets This Today

Source: "ESTIMATED COST OF DIESEL EMISSIONS-CONTROL TECHNOLOGY TO MEET FUTURE CALIFORNIA LOW NOX STANDARDS IN 2024 AND 2027"  
<https://theicct.org/sites/default/files/publications/HDV-emissions-compliance-cost-may2020.pdf>



# Current Autogas Vehicle Offerings



# OEM Propane Options

- Light & medium duty Ford trucks & vans, school bus.
- Factory Ford warranty maintained.
- No loss of HP / torque / towing capacity.
- Serviceable with existing diagnostic equipment.
- EPA & CARB Certified.

**ROUSH**<sup>®</sup>  
**CLEANTECH**



Ford F-53 / F-59



Ford E-350/450



Ford F-450/550



Ford F-650/750




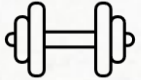


Blue Bird Vision

Micro Bird G5



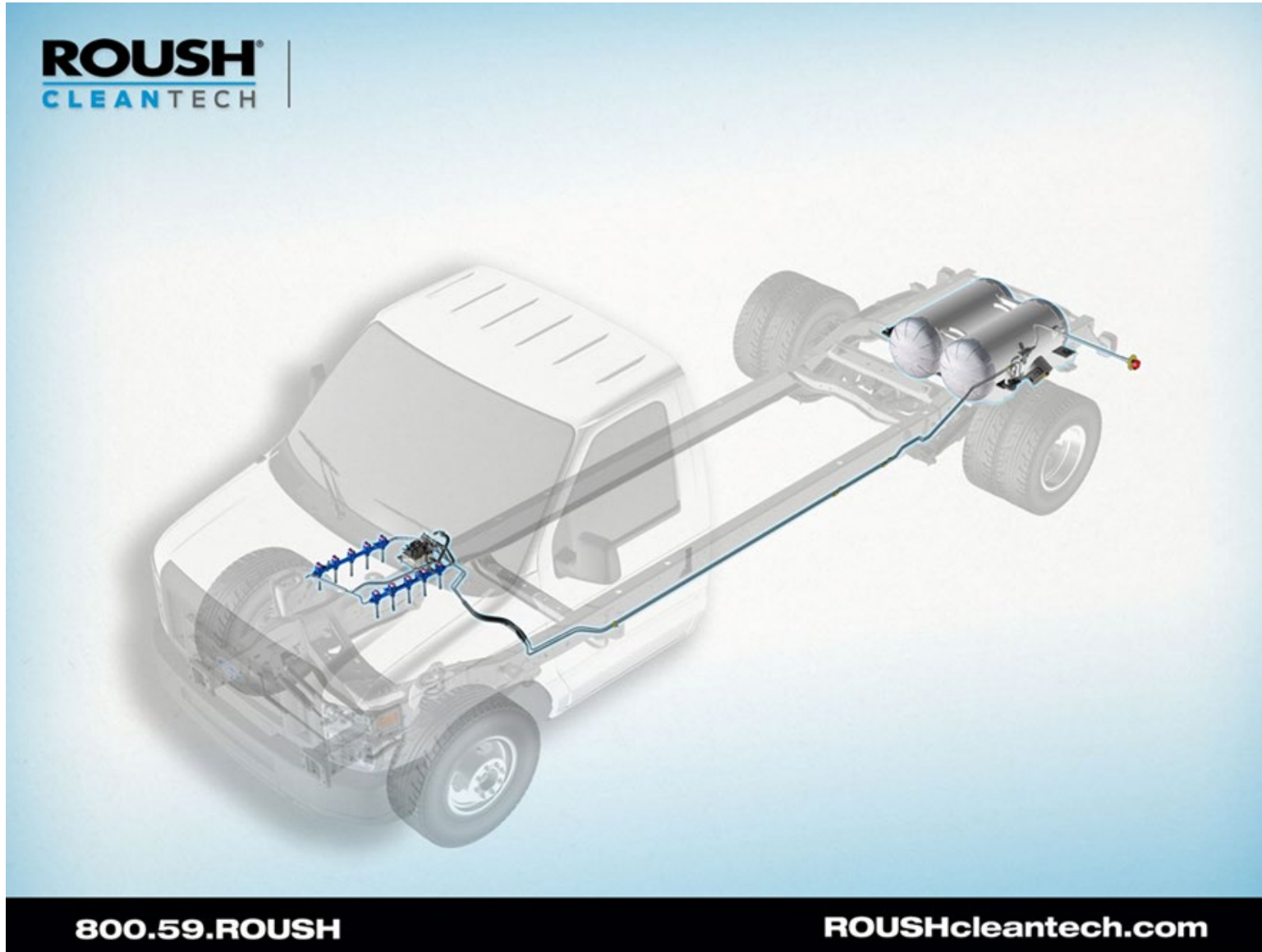
# Ford ROUSH 7.3L V8



<p><b>Engine RPM</b></p>  <p>Idle: 680 / Max: 4,050</p>	<p><b>Power</b></p>  <p>HP: 350 / Torque: 468 ft-lbs. @ 3,900 RPM</p>
<p><b>Design</b></p>  <p>90° V8 / 445 Ci / Pushrod 2V</p>	<p><b>Compression</b></p>  <p>10.5 to 1</p>

**7.3**

# Small Vehicle Footprint







## 2021 Model Year Products



**F150**  
3.3 PFDI  
5.0 PFDI  
2.7/3.5 PFDI  
(SUMMER 20)

**F250-F350**  
6.2 PFI

**F450-F750**  
7.3 PFI (2021 MY)

**E450**  
6.2 PFI  
7.3 PFI (2021 MY)

**TRANSIT**  
3.5 PFDI  
3.5 ECOBOOST  
(FALL 20)

**EXPLORER**  
3.3 PFDI



**SILVERADO 1500**  
5.3 DI

**SILVERADO**  
2500/3500  
6.6 DI

**EXPRESS/SAVANA**  
6.0 PFI



**DURANGO**  
5.7 PFI

**CHARGER**  
3.6 PFI

**RAM** 5.7 PFI  
3.6 PFI  
(SUMMER 20)







SCHOOL BUS

SCHOOL

SCHOOL

SCHOOL BUS

SCHOOL BUS

STOP

R415

R415

R389



# SNAPSHOT OF PROPANE AUTOGAS SCHOOL BUS MARKET

**1,250,000**

STUDENTS TRANSPORTED

**DAILY**

STATES WITH

**14**



**500+ BUSES**

**1,000**

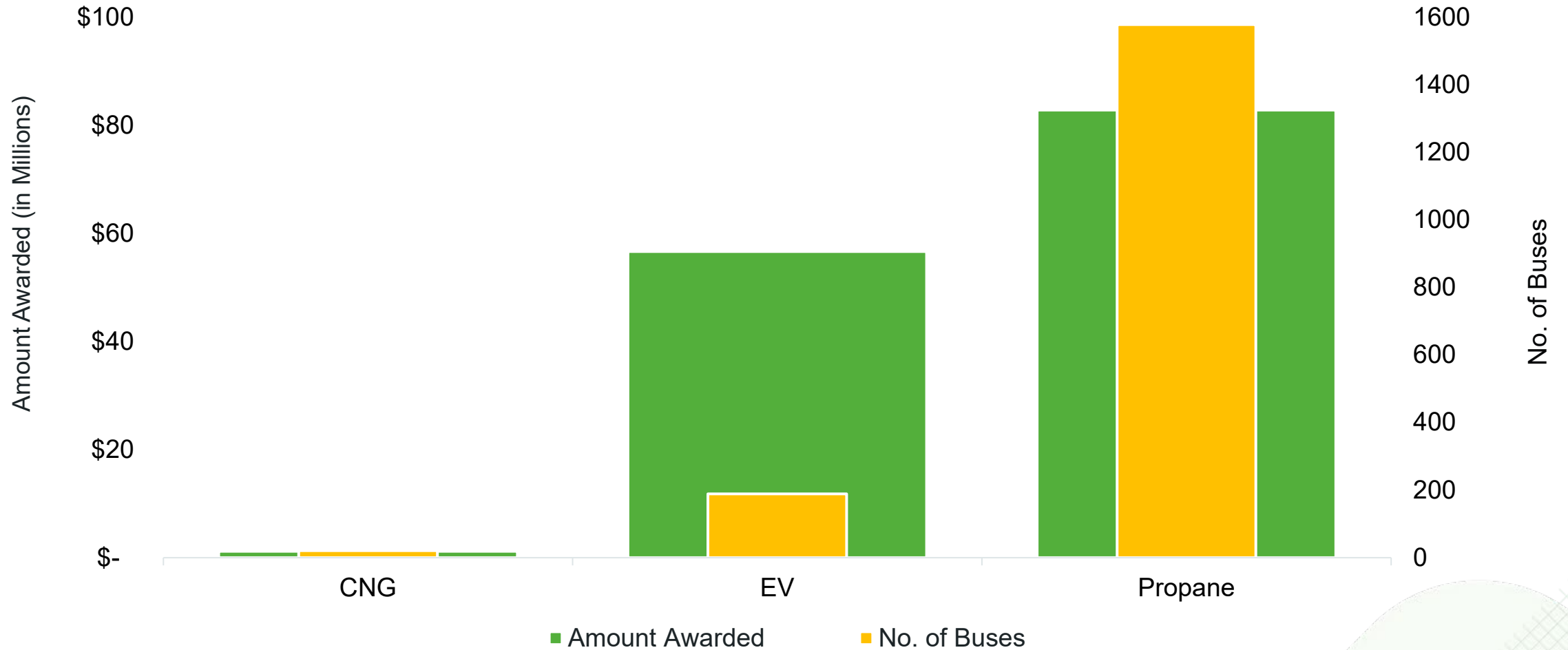
DISTRICTS &  
CONTRACTORS  
OPERATE PROPANE  
AUTOGAS BUSES

**22,000+**

PROPANE AUTOGAS BUSES

**ON THE ROAD**

# VW: School Bus Funding & No. of Buses Through July 31, 2021



Source: Propane Education & Research Council



# High Growth Vehicle Markets

## EMERGING MARKETS

# Parcel/Package

- USPS has 92,000 routes for moving mail.
  - **Over 70,000 routes are performed by independent contractors.**
- There are approximately 10,000 class 6-7 straight box trucks operated by USPS contractors.
- Contractors bidding on USPS routes score higher with alternative fuel vehicles.
- 1,000 gallons/month average fuel consumption.





## EMERGING MARKETS

# Food/Beverage

- Major companies have already validated propane autogas in this market.
  - ReadyRefresh by Nestlé Waters.
  - Schwan's Home Delivery.





## EMERGING MARKETS

# Paratransit

- 51,000 paratransit vehicles nationwide.
- 600 gallons per month average fuel consumption.
- ADA requires every county in the U.S. to provide service.



# Same Equipped 14 Passenger Shuttle Bus

Gasoline, 7.3L Engine	\$71,569.00
Propane 7.3L Engine (300 mi)	\$86,784.00
Electric 88kWh Battery (100 mi)	\$233,603.00



# Autogas Infrastructure







# Fueling Infrastructure – Mobile Refueling



# Temporary Refueling Set-up





# Standard Private Station



# Standard Private Station



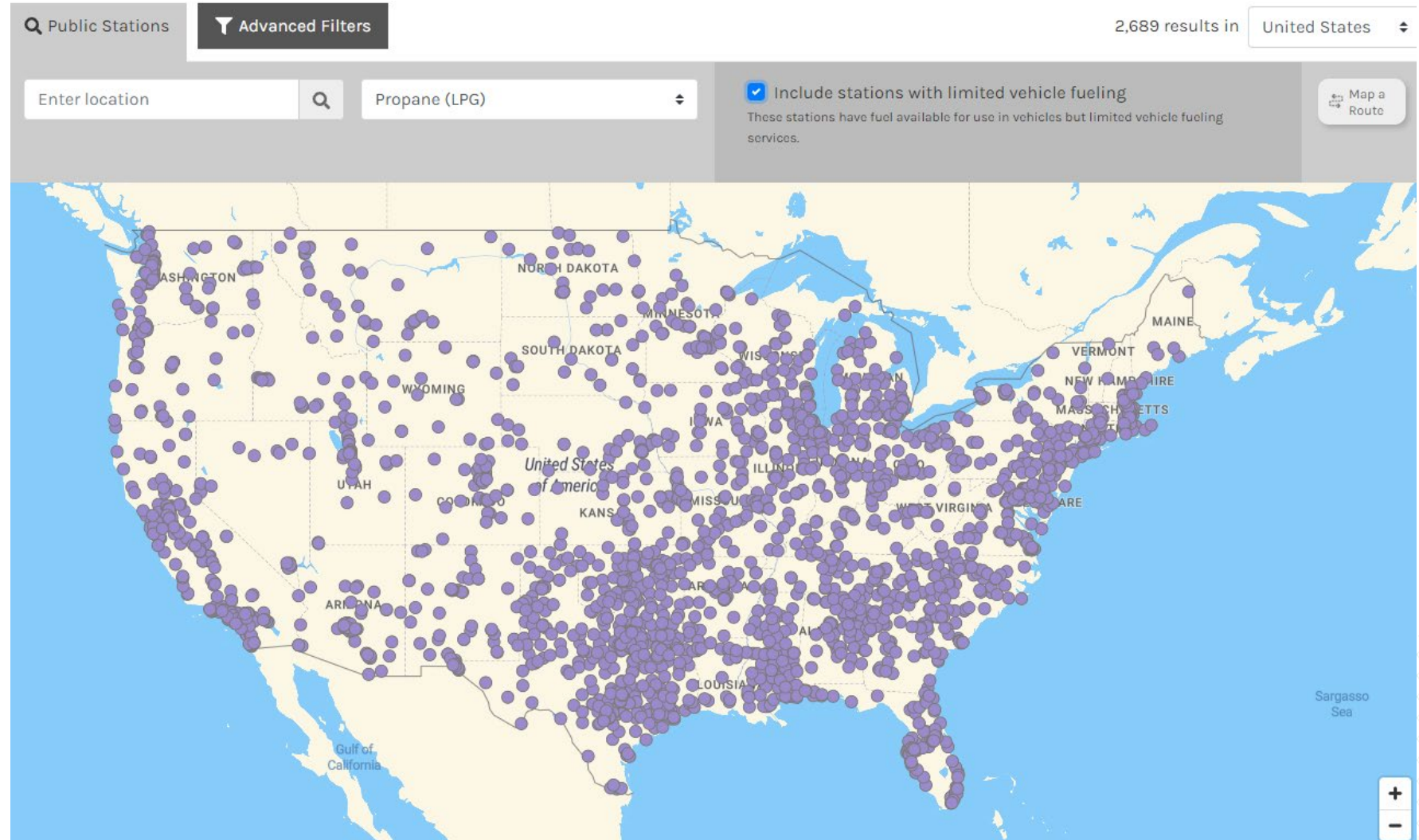
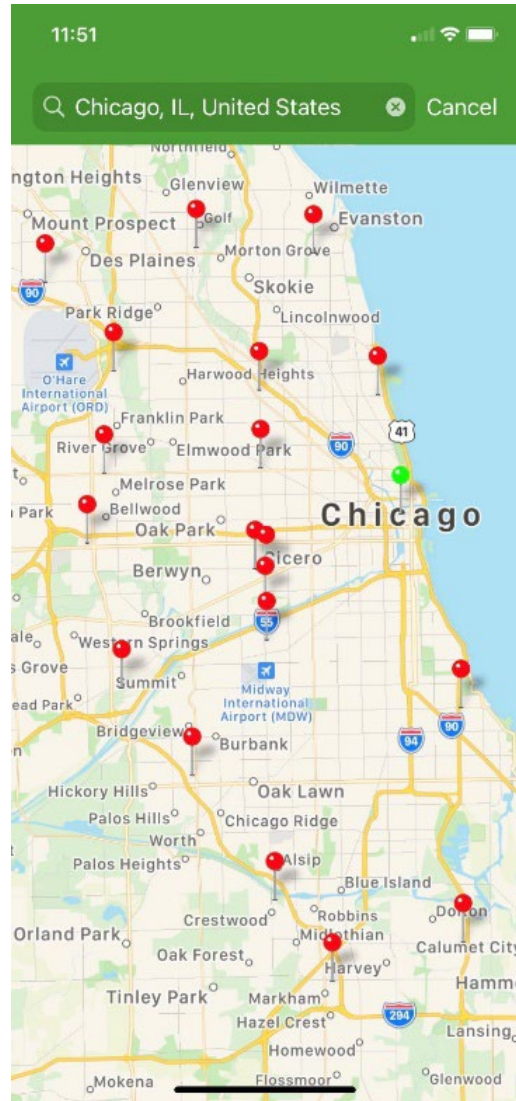


# Fueling Infrastructure Cost for 10 Shuttles

- Propane = \$40k
- CNG = \$200k (ten fixed time fill hoses)
- Electric = \$360k (ten fixed plug in lines)



# Dept of Energy Alt Fuel Station Locator







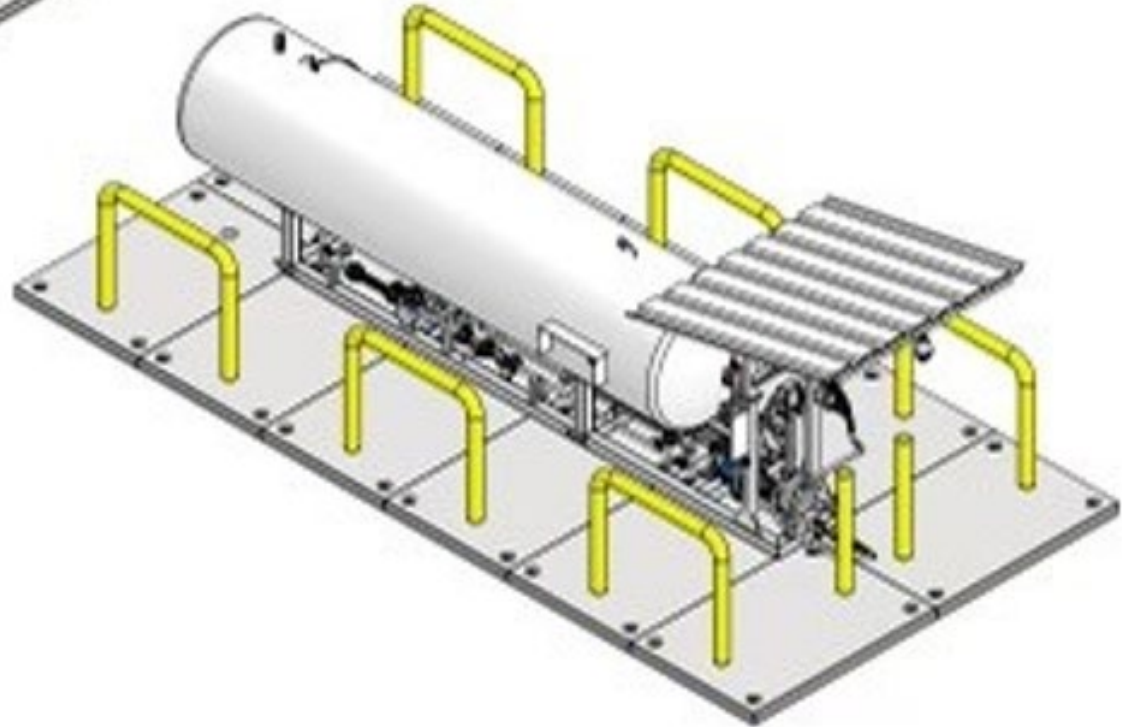
propane

PROPANE  
FUELING SOLUTIONS

propane

FMC











# Resiliency



# Resiliency







*Partners in Transit because every trip matters*

*2-time Recipient of the FTA Administrator's Award for Outstanding Public Service*



# Why Propane for paratransit?

- Control of fuel costs ✓
- Control of fueling process ✓
- Consistent with Strategic Planning ✓
- Community awareness to Alternative fueling ✓

48% price reduction



# Kitsap Transit - Bremerton, WA

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Dan Sirotzki – Environmental & Social Management Systems Coordinator

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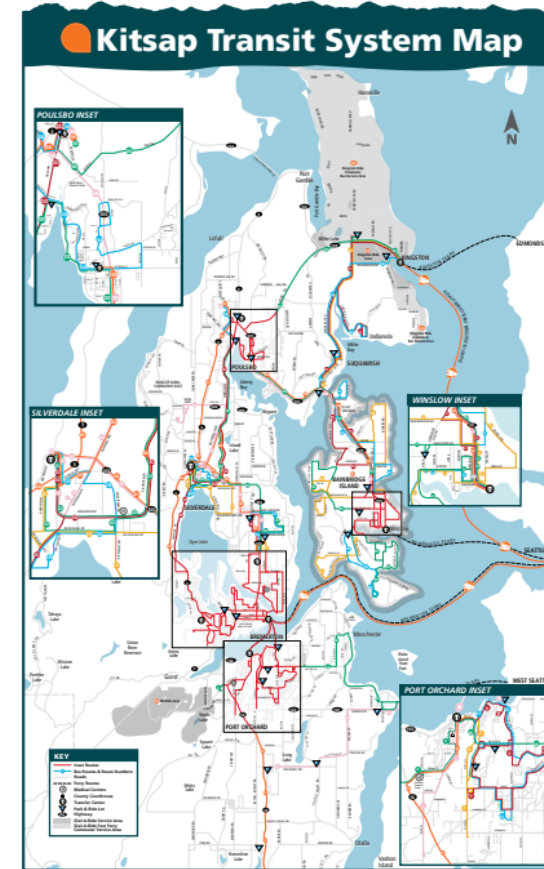


# Kitsap Transit - Bremerton, WA

- 3.5 million riders each year
- Started adopting propane autogas 2015
- 47 propane autogas buses
  - 11 remaining diesel buses to be replaced with current order of propane buses
- Fuel Costs per mile
  - Diesel \$.48/mile
  - Gasoline \$.50/mile
  - Propane \$.20/mile
- GHG Emissions for 8-hour route period
  - Diesel bus – 2.4 metric tons
  - Propane bus - .014 metric tons



# Kitsap Transit - Bremerton, WA



# ST LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

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We are located in Northern Minnesota and encompass more than 4200 square miles. Our vehicles travel on mostly rural roads in adverse conditions.



# OUR FLEET – 31 PROPANE BUSES

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## **Route buses:**

95% - Propane – Bluebird (started adopting propane in 2016)

3% - Diesel - International

2% - Gasoline - Microbird

# OUR FUELING





# FUEL COST ANALYSIS

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Propane

Diesel

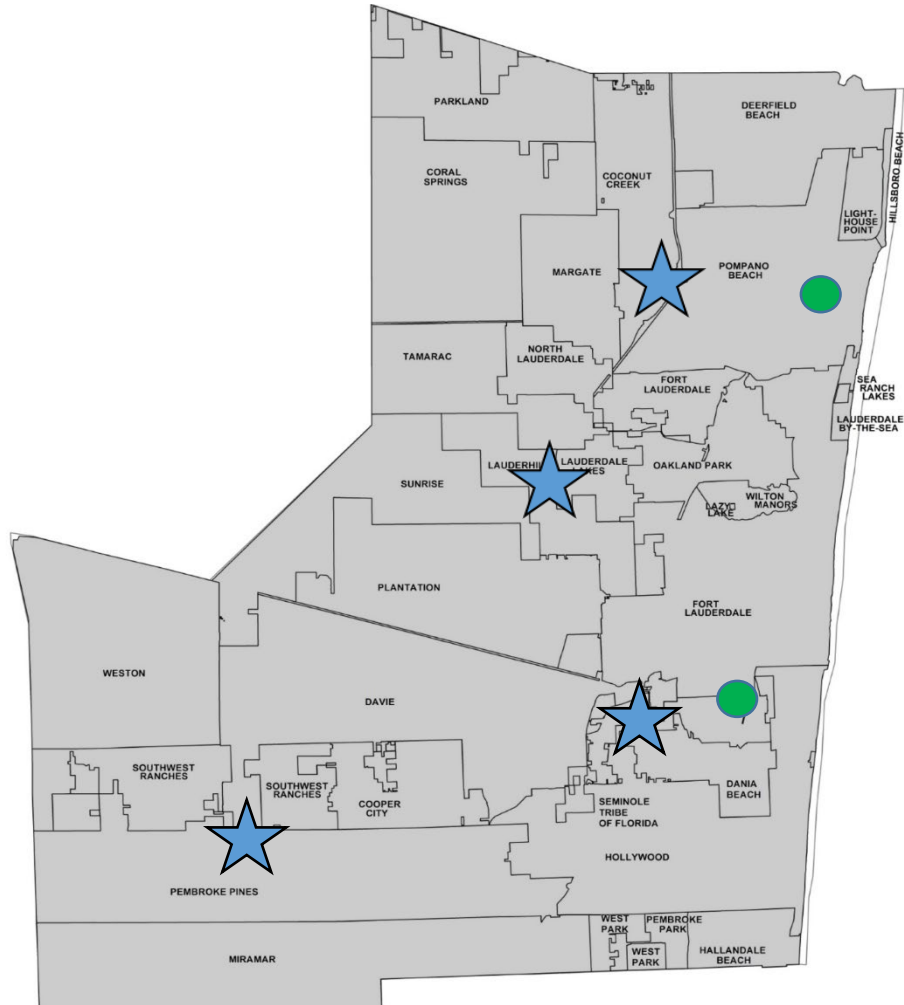
Price per gallon \$1.52

\$4.99 (can not negotiate price)

- ✓ Able to negotiate price per gallon each year
- ✓ Fueling station at the school site
- ✓ Most years – receive Federal Autogas credit (.36 per gallon)
- ✓ Savings in school year 2021-2022 - \$150,000 (pumped 125,000 gallons) –calculated before tax credit
- ✓ Projected Autogas usage for 2022-2023 –137,000 gallons



# Fueling Infrastructure



Broward County, FL  
471 Sq. Miles



# Budget impact

	Propane Gallons	Gasoline Equivalent (85%)	Savings
2015	1,226,048	1,042,141	
2016	1,415,286	1,202,993	
2017	1,474,924	1,253,685	
2018	1,571,064	1,335,404	
2019	1,516,090	1,288,677	
2020	681,890	579,607	
2021	609,929	518,440	
<b>Total Gallons</b>	8,495,231	7,220,946	-1,274,285
<b>Total Cost</b>	\$10,888,760.98	\$17,241,600.90	\$6,352,839.92
<b>Cost per Gallon</b>	\$1.28	\$2.39	\$1.11
<b>Alteranative Fuel Tax Credit</b>	(\$3,455,750.00)	0	(\$3,455,750.00)
<b>Total Net Cost</b>	\$7,433,010.98	\$17,241,600.90	\$9,808,589.92
<b>Net Cost per Gallon</b>	\$0.87	\$2.39	\$1.51





# GHG LCA

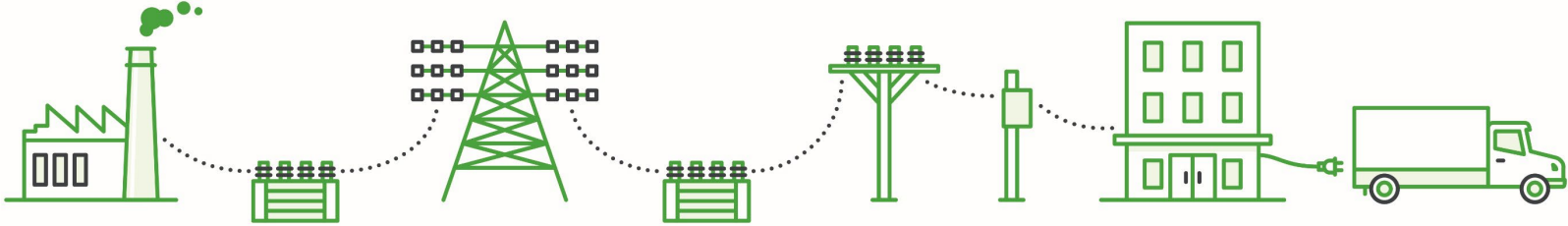
## Comparisons between Propane and Electric Medium Duty Vehicles





# GHG FOOTPRINT OF ELECTRICITY

CONSIDER EVERY STEP OF THE PROCESS



## 1 EXTRACTION

Electricity is not naturally occurring, so it must be produced using other resources.

- Gas extraction
- Coal mining
- Nuclear fission
- Wind and solar component manufacturing
- Biomass cultivation and harvesting

approximately 9.9% CO<sub>2</sub> eq emissions

**CARBON INTENSITY SCORE:**

**15.2 g/MJ**

## 2 GENERATION

Power plant generates electricity.

Transformer steps up voltage for transmission.

approximately 75.6% CO<sub>2</sub> eq emissions

**CARBON INTENSITY SCORE:**

**116.5 g/MJ**

## 3 TRANSMISSION & DISTRIBUTION

The transmission lines carry electricity to transformers, which step down voltage. Electricity is delivered to the charging location.

approximately 4.5% CO<sub>2</sub> eq emissions

**CARBON INTENSITY SCORE:**

**7 g/MJ**

## 4 EV CHARGING

Losses occur from charging electric vehicle battery.

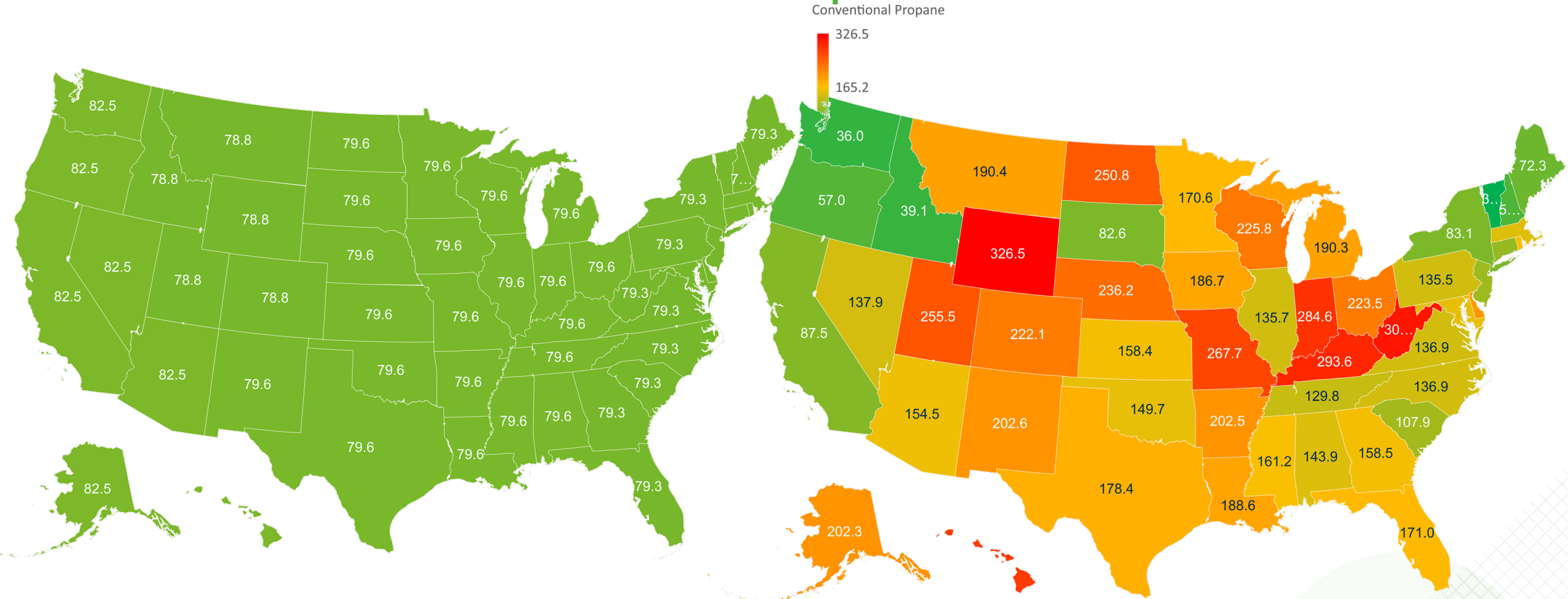
approximately 10% CO<sub>2</sub> eq emissions

**CARBON INTENSITY SCORE:**

**15.4 g/MJ**

**TOTAL GHG INTENSITY = 154 g/MJ**

# Well-to-Wheels Carbon Intensity Comparisons of “Fuel” (gCO<sub>2</sub><sub>eq</sub>/MJ)



**Propane – 79**  
(National Average)

**Grid Electricity – 154**  
(National Average)

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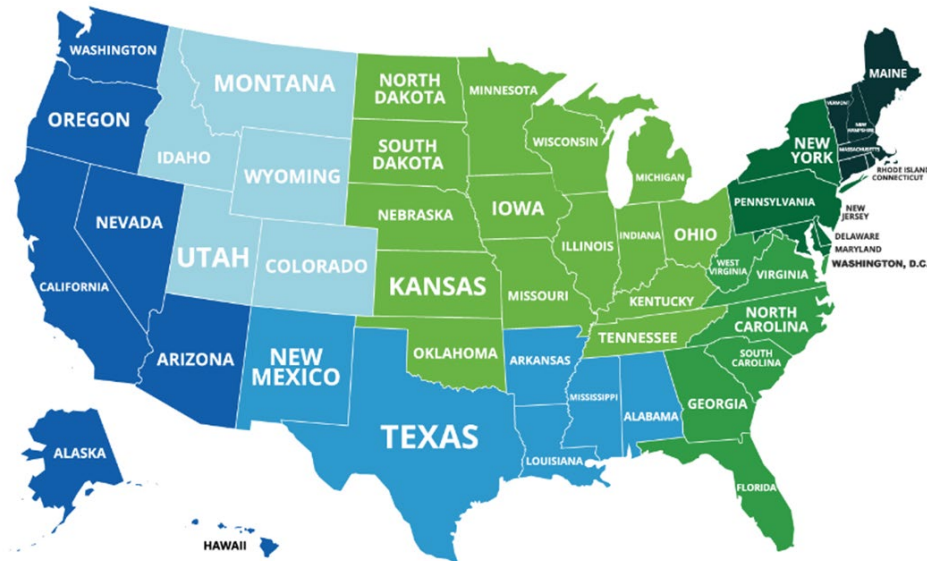
# Benefits of Propane/Renewable Propane

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Learn more about the savings and stability of autogas.

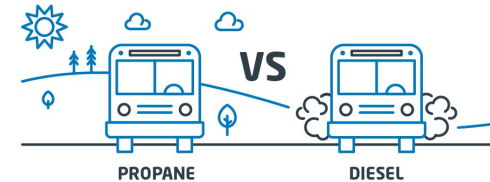
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# 96%

## NOx REDUCTION VERSUS CLEAN DIESEL BUS

Duty cycle: Low speed, stop-and-go route



Source: 2018 West Virginia University study, comparing 2015 LPG Blue Bird school bus (6.8L, 10 Cylinder) with 2014 ultra-low sulfur diesel Blue Bird school bus (6.7L, 6 cylinder).

PROPANE.COM



# Benefits of Propane/Renewable Propane

- Cost Effectiveness
  - MD Propane averages 15% of vehicle cost
  - MD EV averages 200% of vehicle cost
- Payload/Range
  - MD Propane –no loss of payload/300+ miles in all weather
  - MD EV – heavy battery weight diminishes payload/100 miles weather dependent (no AC or heat)
- Emissions
  - MD Renewable Propane best blend produces less carbon in all states than EV's best grid in 2035
  - MD Propane including upstream NOx emissions = 0.44 g/mile (CA)
  - MD EV including upstream NOx emissions = 0.83 g/mile (CA)



[www.propane.com/for-my-business/fleet-vehicles/](http://www.propane.com/for-my-business/fleet-vehicles/)



- **Conversion**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Supply**
- **Funding**





# Conversion

- **The “right” vehicles**
- **Installation**
  - Monofuel
  - Bi-Fuel
- **Service**
- **Maintenance**
- **Training**



# Supply

- Storage
- Telemetry
- Pricing
- Contract



# Infrastructure

- Permits
- Site Prep
- Training
- Maintenance
- Fuel Management





# Infrastructure

- On Site
- Turn-Key contracting
- Scalable as fleet grows
- Meets all NFPA 58 and local codes
- Can use “off grid” Power Pack
- Fuel management
- Micron filtered



# Funding

- **Grants**
- **Rebates**
- **Financing**
- **Media/Marketing**
- **ROI**



## Autogas:

- Is less flammable than gasoline
- Nontoxic
- Burns cleaner – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>
- Dissipates into the air unlike liquid fuels
- Tanks are 3/16" steel and 20 times stronger than gasoline tanks
- Powers 30 million vehicles worldwide – 3<sup>rd</sup> most widely used vehicle fuel in the world







**THOMPSON**

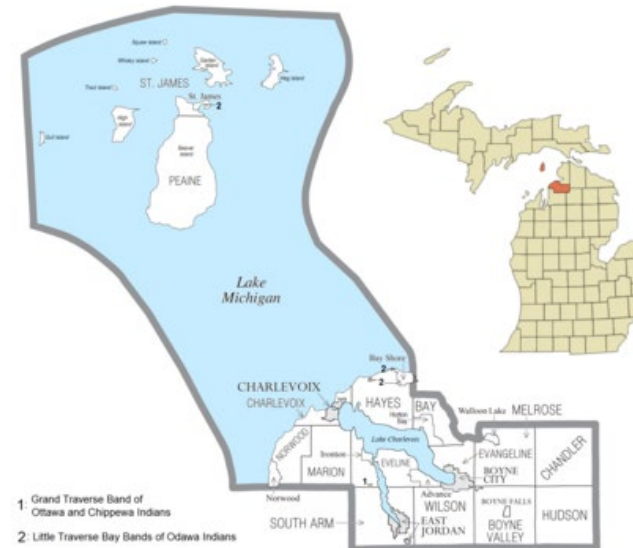
**Auto Gas**

Monte McLeod  
mmcleod@thompsongas.com  
803-609-1172

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# About Charlevoix County Transit

- ▶ Countywide Public Transit
- ▶ Demand-Response Service
- ▶ Population: approx. 26,000
- ▶ Total Area 1,390 sq mi
  - Land 416 sq mi
  - Water 974 sq mi



# 22 Active Fleet Vehicles

- ▶ 6 Passenger Vans (2 gas, 4 bi-fuel)
- ▶ 2 MV-I Vans (gas)
- ▶ 14 Cutaway Buses (13 propane, 1 gas)
  
- ▶ 1 Cutaway Bus Ordered (propane)



77% of Charlevoix County Transit is Alternative Fuel



# Why Alternative Fuels?

- ▶ Cost savings
- ▶ Decreased impact on the environment
- ▶ Move to a more domestic fuel
- ▶ Reduced maintenance costs
- ▶ Less wear and tear

The proof is in the numbers...

# FY2021 Fleet

## 5 Gas, 4 Bi-Fuel & 13 Propane

297,167 miles driven

Fuel Type	Gallons Used	Total Cost
Gasoline	2,471	\$7,683
Propane	47,693	\$74,074
	TOTAL:	\$81,757

Will apply for Alternative Fuel Tax Credit

Fleet is 77% Alternative Fuel Vehicles

**\$36,790** saved in fuel costs alone in FY2021!



# What's Next for CCT?

- ▶ 1 Cutaway Bus Ordered
- ▶ Additional Improvements to Fueling Station Infrastructure
- ▶ Oil Sampling
- ▶ Additional Savings!





# STEVE WHALEY

*DIRECTOR OF AUTOGAS  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT*

**PROPANE EDUCATION &  
RESEARCH COUNCIL**

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*864-606-2290*