

# Drive Electric TN 2026 Roadmap



A Refresh of the  
Roadmap for Electric Vehicles  
in Tennessee

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# Executive Summary

Drive Electric Tennessee (DET) is a statewide collaborative working to accelerate electric vehicle (EV) adoption and support the infrastructure, partnerships, and local policies needed for transportation electrification across the state. Since DET's publication of its original *Roadmap for Electric Vehicles in Tennessee* in 2019,<sup>1</sup> Tennessee's EV landscape has changed rapidly. This change has been driven by growing consumer interest, significant manufacturing investment, increased charging infrastructure availability, and new opportunities via federal, State, utility, and local EV programs. In the years since the original Roadmap's publication, DET and its partners have completed more than 40 EV-related projects, such as assessing charging infrastructure needs for the state, connecting fleet operators with EV offerings, hosting live EV demonstrations, and developing supportive local EV policy best practices.

Today, Tennessee plays an increasingly important role in the national EV ecosystem. The state's strong automotive manufacturing base and growing EV supply chain position Tennessee to capture economic benefits associated with transportation electrification, including job creation and private investment. At the same time, EV adoption creates opportunities to reduce transportation costs for households and fleets, improve air quality in communities, and enhance energy independence by utilizing locally produced electricity as a transportation fuel.

The 2026 Roadmap builds on progress since 2019, incorporating updated industry data, lessons learned through project implementation, and extensive stakeholder input to clarify priorities and guide coordinated action across Tennessee over the next 10 years. Rather than prescribing discrete activities for DET to complete, the 2026 Roadmap instead provides a series of Initiatives that direct DET and its partners on overall resource investment while allowing for project flexibility and adaptation to evolving market conditions.

The 13 Initiatives within the 2026 Roadmap are prioritized around three Opportunity Areas: **Charging Infrastructure Availability & Accessibility; Awareness & Adoption; and Innovative Policies, Programs, & Research**. Together, these areas address the most critical factors influencing EV adoption in Tennessee, including charging access, consumer and fleet education, grid readiness, emerging technologies, workforce development, and cross-sector collaboration. The 2026 Roadmap also establishes a set of statewide goals and supporting metrics to help DET direct its long-term strategy and track EV market progress over time.

The 2026 Roadmap is designed to guide collaborative action that supports continued EV growth. DET encourages involvement among partners and the public at large through either DET membership or direct participation in either its Working Groups (which lead and complete project work) or local DET Chapters (responsible for organizing and hosting community EV educational events). While the Roadmap provides a long-term framework for priorities surrounding Tennessee's EV adoption, the identification and completion of EV project work is a dynamic, ongoing effort led by DET and advanced in real time by its network of partners.

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1. Drive Electric Tennessee. *Roadmap for Electric Vehicles in Tennessee*. 2019. <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/det-roadmap/>

# Acknowledgements

The following list recognizes more than 30 stakeholder organizations who shared their resources, time, and expertise to support this refresh of *A Roadmap for Electric Vehicles in Tennessee*. Please note that inclusion in this list does not constitute an organizational endorsement of this Roadmap.

DET's Executive Committee includes members from the following organizations:

- East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition
- Holston Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- Memphis Light, Gas and Water
- Seven States Power Corporation
- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) Office of Energy Programs
- Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA)

Additional stakeholders who provided insights include:

- Atlas Public Policy
- BrightRidge
- Central States Bus Sales
- Chattanooga State Community College
- City of Knoxville
- Cumberland International
- Dyersburg State Community College
- FedEx
- First Tennessee Development District
- General Motors Energy
- Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB)
- Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability & Resilience (OSR)
- Middle Tennessee Electric
- Motlow State Community College
- Nashville Electric Service
- Metro Nashville Government
- Office of Mayor Freddie O'Connell (Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County)
- PES Energize
- Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter
- South Central Tennessee Development District
- Southwest Tennessee Community College
- Tennessee College of Applied Technology, Crump
- Tennessee College of Applied Technology, Northwest
- Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT)
- Tennessee Technological University
- Town of Thompson's Station
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- United Parcel Service (UPS)

Milepost SPC was retained to facilitate stakeholder engagement and develop the 2026 Roadmap for Electric Vehicles in Tennessee.

# About the DET Roadmap

## What is Drive Electric Tennessee?

DET is a statewide collaborative focused on advancing electric transportation through coordination, education, and strategic partnerships. The group is led by an Executive Committee comprised of leaders from electric utilities, State agencies, local governments, research institutions, and advocacy organizations who share a commitment to strengthening Tennessee's transportation future.

DET was formed in 2018 to create a unified, strategic approach to electric transportation, ensuring that Tennessee's EV growth is practical, accessible, and economically beneficial, as outlined by the guiding principles below. While DET does not direct policy or implement statewide programs, it plays a critical convening and coordination role across sectors, helping partners navigate technology changes, pursue funding opportunities, address infrastructure needs, and promote public awareness. This includes supporting expanded charging availability in both urban and rural areas, elevating customer choice as consumers become more informed about EV options, and highlighting the economic value of using affordable, domestically produced energy, which keeps dollars circulating within Tennessee to support local communities.

### *DET's Shared Vision*

Support electric transportation adoption in Tennessee through practical, consumer-focused solutions and infrastructure development that strengthens local communities and supports long-term economic growth.

### *DET's Mission*

Collaboratively expand EV awareness, accessibility, and adoption through strategic partnerships, infrastructure deployment, and customer-focused initiatives that benefit all residents and visitors of Tennessee.

## *DET's Guiding Principles*

### **Economic Development:**

- Promote local and regional economic development through strategic EV infrastructure deployment.
- Encourage the use of affordable, domestically produced transportation fuel (electricity), keeping energy spending within Tennessee and supporting local community investment and economic growth.
- Support Tennessee's EV-related manufacturing sector, keeping supply chain and other resource constraints in mind.

### **Social Benefits:**

- Increase access to the benefits of electric transportation by supporting initiatives that work across diverse housing types, fleets, income levels, and geographies, including rural areas.
- Reduce transportation-related emissions and improve local air quality, contributing to public health benefits in communities with high vehicle activity.
- Expand public education and awareness of EVs, empowering consumers to make informed choices that best align with their needs and priorities.

### **Cost-Effectiveness:**

- Prioritize cost-effective investments in charging infrastructure, fleet electrification, and grid optimization.
- Help consumers understand the potential fuel and maintenance cost savings of EVs.

### **Technology Innovation:**

- Foster entrepreneurship and technical innovation in EV technology, grid integration, and autonomous transportation.
- Prepare Tennessee's workforce for emerging EV and battery storage technology employment and training opportunities.
- Support smart and managed charging solutions as well as vehicle-to-everything (V2X)<sup>2</sup> innovations for improved grid resilience.

## **Origins of the Roadmap**

As DET's shared vision, mission, and guiding principles first took shape back in 2018, stakeholders recognized the need for a unified strategy to guide Tennessee's electric transportation future. Although interest in EVs had been growing, efforts across the state at the time were fragmented. Tennessee needed a foundational roadmap, one that aligned partners, identified priorities, and laid out a coordinated approach to advancing EV adoption across diverse communities, industries, and sectors.

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2. Vehicle-to-everything (V2X) refers to technologies that enable EVs to send power and data back to homes, buildings, the electric grid, and other devices, thereby supporting grid resilience, peak load management, and emergency power needs.

To meet this need, a broad coalition of stakeholders came together to develop the first *Roadmap for Electric Vehicles in Tennessee*. Over a nine-month period (concluding with the Roadmap's publication in January 2019), representatives from electric utilities, State agencies, cities and transit authorities, universities, nonprofits, automakers, technology firms, and advocacy organizations collaborated to build a shared framework for EV progress in Tennessee.

These stakeholders convened to:

- Understand the gaps in the deployment of EVs and associated charging infrastructure across Tennessee.
- Establish a more coordinated and strategic approach to transportation electrification efforts.
- Align research and development efforts and prepare for emerging technologies in connected and autonomous vehicles.
- Synchronize stakeholder support across the state.
- Form new and lasting partnerships across industries and sectors.
- Encourage Tennessee to become a leader in EV adoption.

The ensuing Roadmap was developed with these stakeholders' feedback and priorities in mind, directing partners across the state on how to advance EV adoption. However, the state's EV ecosystem has rapidly grown since 2019, shaped by public and private investments, improved infrastructure, changes in vehicle availability across sectors, and increased consumer and fleet demand. (See Section - *Industry Evolution in Tennessee* for additional detail on Tennessee's evolving role in the EV manufacturing industry.) The need for a refreshed Roadmap emerged to ensure DET's priorities remained relevant and practical.

## Implementation of the 2019 Roadmap

DET's initial work was organized into three major Working Groups, which carried out the majority of projects envisioned in the 2019 Roadmap. These Working Groups served as the backbone of DET's implementation strategy for prioritizing staff time, partner engagement, and resource allocation. (See Section - *Working Groups* for the current process by which projects are identified and implemented.)

### *Infrastructure Working Group:*

Focused on improving readiness in Tennessee's charging landscape, this group contributed to:

- **Increasing access to funding and technical resources** to support more charging deployment. One example is the DET Multifamily EV Charging Infrastructure Guide designed to educate multifamily property developers, owners, and managers on EV charging and its benefits which can be found here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/resources/#multifamily-ev-charging-infrastructure-guide>.
- **Improving cross-sector coordination** to accelerate charging infrastructure deployment along corridors and within communities.
- **Conducting a Tennessee EV Charging Infrastructure Needs Assessment** to evaluate the condition of Tennessee's current EV charging infrastructure and to identify charging needs and potential geographic locations to support the adoption of 200,000 EVs in Tennessee. Learn more here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/resources/#infrastructure-needs-assessment>.

**Awareness Working Group:**

Focused on increasing public understanding of EVs and accelerating adoption through education, outreach, and hands-on experience, this group championed efforts such as:

- **Building a statewide network of local DET Chapters**, which now serve as local hubs for EV education, Ride & Drive events, outreach, and stakeholder coordination. DET plans to expand this model further, with a focus on underrepresented regions and educational campuses. Learn more at: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/chapters/>. In order to help develop new local chapters, this group also created the Chapter Development Guide to help identify the purpose and best practices in developing a strong DET Chapter: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/resources/#chapter-development-guide>.
- **Expanding hands-on and practical EV education**, including hosting Ride & Drive and Showcase events and developing fleet-focused case studies that helped fleet operators better understand real-world considerations for EV adoption. This group also created a Ride & Drive Guide to help run a safe and smooth event and measure event success, which can be found here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/resources/#ride-drive-guide>.
- **Improving clarity and visibility around EV infrastructure**, such as the development of Tennessee-specific best practices for EV charging station signage to enhance usability, compliance, and public understanding at charging sites.
- **Expanding DET’s communications reach** by strengthening DET’s digital presence, including a comprehensive website and social media channels to provide accessible, reliable information on EV benefits and purchasing options for interested audiences. For example, stories of how EVs can help with resiliency during extreme weather events are highlighted here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/resources/#v2h-stories>.

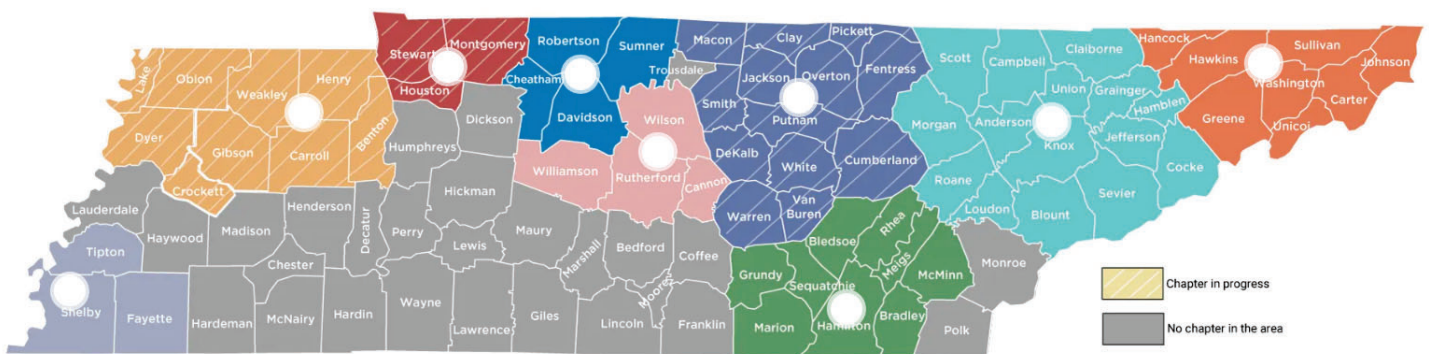


Figure 1: Map of DET Chapters

**Policies & Programs Working Group:**

Focused on readiness planning, policy alignment, and technical support for Tennessee communities and organizations, this group collaborated on:

- **Improving EV readiness at the local and regional level** by helping cities, counties, and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) develop EV readiness and implementation plans. Find the local government EV plan video series here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/local-government-ev-action-plan/>.
- **Providing guidance and best practices for employers and fleets**, which helped organizations prepare for workplace charging, tourism-related charging, and fleet transitions. Learn more about the DET Guide to Workplace charging here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/resources/#guide-to-workplace-charging>.
- **Increasing policy and program awareness** by helping partners navigate evolving federal and state incentives, standards, and requirements.

Together, these Working Groups enabled DET to satisfy most of the projects detailed in the 2019 Roadmap. In 2024, DET convened its Momentum Summit to recognize progress to date and launch the Roadmap refresh effort. Since then, DET has reengaged partners to reflect on lessons learned, enhance communications, assess emerging needs, and refine statewide goals in line with Tennessee’s evolving EV landscape. The refreshed 2026 Roadmap builds on this strong, collaborative foundation and sets the course for a new decade of work to align with updated Opportunity Areas and Initiatives for continued and coordinated EV action in Tennessee.



**Momentum Summit**

First held in 2022, the DET Momentum Summit is an annual, statewide convening of leaders from across the EV ecosystem to share insights, build partnerships, and advance transportation electrification in Tennessee. Through expert panels, interactive discussions, and hands-on EV experiences, the Momentum Summit helps connect stakeholders around emerging opportunities, challenges, and collective learning.

*EVs in Higher Education Session at the 2025 DET Momentum Summit.*

# Refreshing the Roadmap

## Why a Roadmap Refresh Now

Since the publication of the original Roadmap in 2019, Tennessee’s EV market has changed dramatically. The number of EVs, both Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs) and Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs)<sup>3</sup> registered on Tennessee roads has grown from roughly 5,000 in 2019 to over 68,000 by the end of 2025, representing a thirteen-fold increase, a trend illustrated by the growth in both BEV and PHEV registrations shown below.<sup>4</sup> Unless otherwise noted, this Roadmap uses the term “EV” to refer to both BEVs and PHEVs.

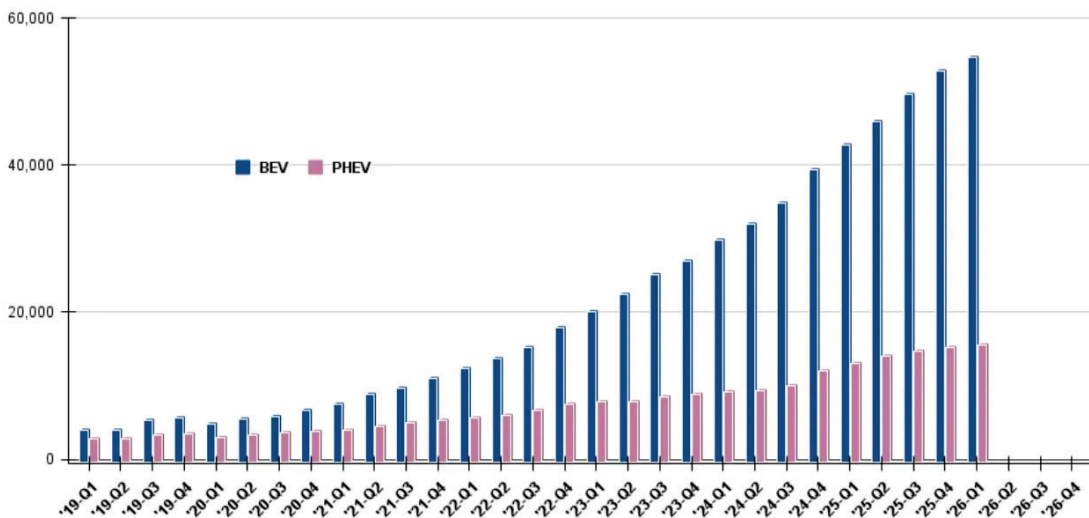


Figure 2: Quarterly BEV and PHEV Registrations in Tennessee, 2019–Present  
 Source: Tennessee Department of Revenue EV registration data, compiled by TDEC and published via Atlas Public Policy’s EV Hub.

At the same time, the availability of diverse EV models and accessible charging infrastructure has expanded both for light-duty vehicles as well as for bus, truck, and other medium- and heavy-duty vehicle applications. A refreshed Roadmap is required to respond to these substantial market changes and refine the path forward for the next decade of electric transportation in Tennessee.

It is also important to acknowledge that the broader landscape shaping EV adoption will continue to evolve during this Roadmap’s planning period. Shifts in federal policy, changes to consumer and fleet incentive programs, and adjustments to the EV strategies of some original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) are already creating near-term variability in market conditions.

3. Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV) refers to a vehicle powered exclusively by an electric motor using energy stored in an onboard battery, with no gasoline or diesel engine and zero tailpipe emissions; Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) refers to a vehicle that combines an electric motor and onboard battery with an internal combustion engine, can be charged by plugging in, and is capable of operating for a limited distance on electricity alone before switching to gasoline or diesel.

4. Tennessee Department of Revenue EV registration data, compiled by TDEC and published via Atlas Public Policy’s EV Hub.

At the same time, Tennessee’s commitment to transportation electrification remains grounded in long-term fundamentals: energy resilience, more consumer choice, economic opportunity, lower operating costs, and cleaner air. Municipalities and electric utilities across the state continue to plan for and support EV adoption as a core infrastructure priority. DET remains committed to educating, enabling, and supporting Tennesseans, whether individuals or fleet operators, in navigating these changes and realizing the benefits of electric transportation. DET has contemplated a range of future conditions, and this Roadmap is a tool to ensure statewide coordination to promote EV adoption.

Building upon the original 2019 Roadmap, this 2026 refresh:

- Responds to Tennessee’s evolving role in the EV industry,
- Incorporates Working Group accomplishments,
- Reassesses and identifies new goals, Opportunity Areas, and Initiatives shaped, in part, by stakeholder input and market changes, and
- Serves as a call to action for continued collaboration, investment, and innovation.

As the state’s EV ecosystem continues to evolve, the Roadmap will provide a living framework to ensure transportation electrification efforts remain focused, relevant, and impactful. DET will publish updates on its website to summarize progress made toward shared goals and defined metrics within the Roadmap. The Roadmap framework itself will undergo updates at a minimum of every 10 years to reassess long-term strategies and maintain alignment with market trends and community needs.

## Industry Evolution in Tennessee

Tennessee plays a growing and increasingly strategic role in the nation’s transition to electric transportation. Since publication of the original 2019 Roadmap, the EV market has expanded rapidly worldwide, with global EV sales surpassing 17 million units sold in 2024 alone,<sup>5</sup> rising by more than 25% from the previous year. In the United States, EVs accounted for more than 1 in 10 new car sales in 2024.<sup>6</sup> According to a separate report, approximately 5% of new vehicles purchased in Tennessee were EVs, ranking Tennessee fourth among six Southern states in passenger vehicle EV market share.<sup>7</sup>

Tennessee has also become a notable hub for EV manufacturing and innovation. As of June 2025, Tennessee had an estimated 16,262 announced EV manufacturing jobs, ranking among the top states in the Southeast. These figures reflect announced commitments and may be subject to revision as market conditions evolve.

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5. This report from International Energy Agency *Global EV Outlook 2025* was released in 2025 but only included information from 2024. <https://www.iea.org/reports/global-ev-outlook-2025>.

6. Ibid.

7. This September 2025 report from Atlas Public Policy and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, *Transportation Electrification in the Southeast: Sixth Annual Report*, used Q2 2025 data, the most recent period available for state-level comparison. <https://cleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/Transportation-Electrification-in-the-Southeast-2025.pdf>

Tennessee's automotive industry is a cornerstone of its economy, with the automotive sector being the state's largest manufacturing industry. As of July 2024, Tennessee is home to approximately 900 automotive suppliers across 88 of its 95 counties, supporting over 71,000 jobs.<sup>8</sup> Major automotive assembly and battery manufacturing plants are integral to this ecosystem, including Volkswagen's EV plant in Chattanooga and General Motors' EV and battery cell plant in Spring Hill. Of particular note is Nissan's Smyrna plant. The facility produced the globally-popular Leaf from 2013 through 2025, making Tennessee home to one of the longest-running EV assembly operations in the country. It continues to play a central role in Tennessee's automotive manufacturing ecosystem.

Several broader statewide shifts have also shaped Tennessee's transportation electrification landscape since 2019:

- **EV registrations** in Tennessee have grown, with greater public interest and policy support. By the end of 2025, Tennessee had registered more than 68,000 EVs—far above the 5,000 EVs reported in the 2019 Roadmap.<sup>9</sup> This movement demonstrates steady progress toward wider EV adoption.
- **Infrastructure programs and incentives**, including the creation of the Fast Charge TN Network and the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program, have accelerated charging deployment timelines and increased urgency around grid readiness and planning since 2019. According to an October 2024 regional analysis, Tennessee led the Southeast in year-over-year growth of publicly accessible DC fast charging (DCFC) infrastructure, increasing its DCFC port count by 60 over the previous 12 months, the highest growth rate in the region.<sup>10</sup>
- **Manufacturing workforce development** has emerged as a key economic opportunity with training programs across the state and new battery production and critical materials processing facilities. Learn more about Tennessee's EV Training programs here: <https://www.driveelectrictn.org/ev-training/>.
- **Electrification of school transportation** gained traction, especially through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program, funded under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.
- **Grid resiliency and capacity planning** have become integral to transportation electrification, requiring increased coordination with electric utilities.

Together, these trends underscore Tennessee's importance in the national EV ecosystem and reinforce the need for an updated Roadmap that reflects expanded data availability and market experience to guide continued, coordinated statewide action.

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8. Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. *Tennessee Automotive White Paper*. July 2024. [https://tnecd.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/CERT\\_WhitePaper\\_Automotive\\_2024.pdf](https://tnecd.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/CERT_WhitePaper_Automotive_2024.pdf).

9. Tennessee Department of Revenue EV registration data, compiled by TDEC and published via Atlas Public Policy's EV Hub.

10. Atlas Public Policy and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. *Transportation Electrification in the Southeast: Fifth Annual Report*. 2024. [https://cleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/Transportation\\_Electrification\\_in\\_the\\_Southeast\\_2025.pdf](https://cleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/Transportation_Electrification_in_the_Southeast_2025.pdf)

## Development of the 2026 Roadmap

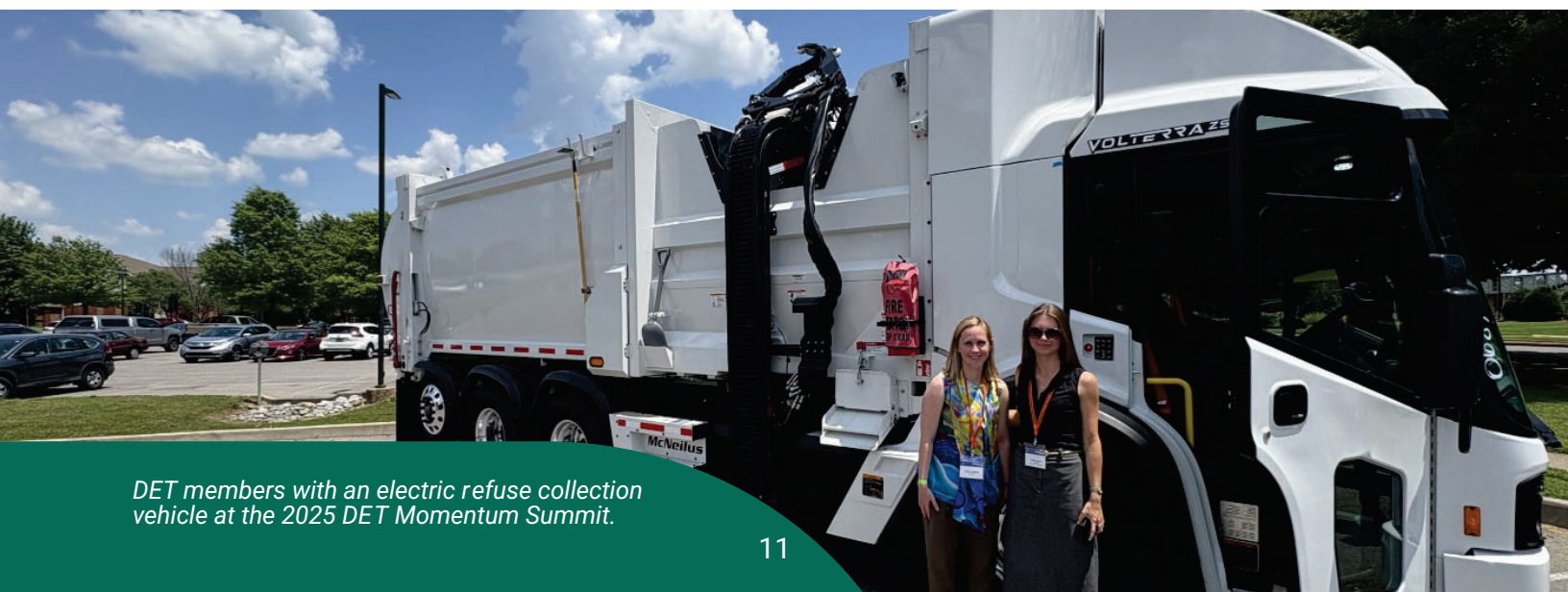
The 2026 Roadmap was developed through a collaborative, iterative process designed to incorporate expert guidance and the quickly evolving EV landscape. Its updated framework builds on the foundation established in the 2019 Roadmap while responding to changes in market conditions, policy landscapes, and stakeholder needs since that time. The revision process launched with DET Executive Committee working discussions, which drew on members' subject-matter expertise and statewide perspective to identify emerging challenges and opportunities. These discussions helped update goals, clarify metrics, and refine Opportunity Areas and Initiatives.

In parallel, DET engaged a broad range of stakeholders to ensure the 2026 Roadmap reflects diverse perspectives and real-world implementation considerations. (See [Section - Stakeholder Engagement and Audience Insight](#) to learn about the process.) Key stakeholders included:

- TVA and local power companies
- State agencies
- Local governments, planners, and MPOs
- Fleet managers and commercial operators
- Dealerships, automakers, and other OEMs
- Nonprofits and advocacy organizations
- Institutions of higher education

To engage these audiences more directly, DET hosted an informational webinar in November 2025. The webinar introduced new stakeholders to DET's work, summarized Roadmap progress since 2019, and outlined proposed updates to the Roadmap's goals, Opportunity Areas, and Initiatives. Participants were then invited to complete a survey to provide feedback on those proposals, including suggestions for new Initiatives, refinements to priorities, and input on proposed metrics. (See [Acknowledgements](#) to find a complete list of participating stakeholders.)

Survey responses were synthesized and shared with the DET Executive Committee, whose guidance informed content revisions reflected in the final version of the 2026 Roadmap. In this way, stakeholder input played a direct and meaningful role in shaping a new Roadmap that balances strategic vision with practical implementation needs.



DET members with an electric refuse collection vehicle at the 2025 DET Momentum Summit.

# Goals and Measures

As part of the Roadmap refresh effort, DET and its Executive Committee prioritized a goal-oriented framework to guide statewide action. Each goal in the 2026 Roadmap is paired with a measurable metric to support meaningful market tracking over time. Metrics will draw on a combination of publicly available datasets, programmatic reporting, and stakeholder inputs, and they will be reviewed periodically by the Executive Committee to inform Roadmap updates and publicly shared progress summaries.<sup>11</sup>

Note that these goals are not mandates; rather, they serve as data-informed benchmarks designed to guide strategy, measure progress, and support coordinated action across DET’s many partners, including electric utilities, local governments, industry partners, and community organizations.



## **GOAL 1: Support the deployment of 750,000 light-duty EVs (BEV & PHEV Registrations) in Tennessee by 2035.**

### ***Purpose of the Goal***

This goal updates DET’s original target of 200,000 EVs by 2028 to reflect current market conditions and Tennessee’s accelerating EV ecosystem. The new 2035 target represents a balanced, data-informed projection that builds on Tennessee’s historic EV registration growth rate (40.8% annually since 2019)<sup>12</sup> and applies it to a more sustainable long-term growth trajectory.

### ***Current State***

By the end of 2025, Tennessee had approximately 68,000 registered EVs.<sup>13</sup> This figure serves as the baseline for measuring progress toward the 2035 goal.

### ***Tracking Approach***

Progress for BEVs and PHEVs will be tracked using EV registration data from the Tennessee Department of Revenue, analyzed on a quarterly basis. DET will summarize trends in publicly available reports and use the data to monitor growth relative to the 2035 target.

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11. The metrics in this section reflect total EV progress made by 2035, including progress to date as well as new adoption over the next 10 years.

12. Drive Electric Tennessee. *Tennessee Numbers – EV and EVSE*. Accessed January 2026.  
<https://www.driveelectrictn.org/numbers/>

13. Tennessee Department of Revenue EV registration data, compiled by TDEC and published via Atlas Public Policy’s EV Hub.



**GOAL 2: Support the deployment of 1,500 medium- and heavy-duty non-passenger/freight EVs (e.g., trucks) in Tennessee’s fleets by 2035.**

***Purpose of the Goal***

Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles play an essential role in Tennessee’s transportation, logistics, utility, and municipal sectors. While electrification in class 4-8 vehicles (gross vehicle weight rating of 14,001 pounds and greater) is advancing, it remains at an earlier stage of market development than light-duty vehicles. As technology advances and more fleet operators explore electrification, setting a clear statewide target helps guide planning efforts and ensure Tennessee remains competitive as the market evolves. The 1,500-vehicle target represents a realistic but forward-leaning expansion from today’s deployment levels, while acknowledging that broader adoption will depend on continued progress in vehicle technology, the economics of electrification, and fleet readiness over time.

***Current State***

As of June 2025, Tennessee has 615 medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission truck (ZET) deployments, according to CalSTART’s *Zeroing in on Zero-Emission Trucks* report.<sup>14</sup>

***Tracking Approach***

Progress will be tracked using data such as the annual ZET adoption data published by CalSTART, which includes vehicle categories such as cargo vans, step vans, medium-duty trucks, heavy-duty trucks, refuse trucks, and yard tractors.



**GOAL 3: Support the deployment of 1,000 medium- or heavy-duty passenger EVs (e.g., buses) in Tennessee by 2035.**

***Purpose of the Goal***

Electrifying school, transit, and shuttle buses provides immediate community benefits, including improved air quality, reduced operating costs for school districts and transit agencies, and quieter, cleaner transportation for riders, with particular benefit to populations with heightened exposure to vehicle emissions, including students and older adults.

***Current State***

Based on Clean Cities and Communities Annual Report data (2019–2023), Tennessee had 102 electric buses in operation in 2023.<sup>15</sup> This updated goal is aligned with a projected growth rate of approximately 21% annually, representing a realistic but ambitious pathway given recent funding opportunities and expanding interest among school districts and transit agencies.

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14. CALSTART. *Zeroing in on Zero-Emission Trucks: June 2025 Market Update*. June 2025. <https://calstart.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/ZIO-ZET-June.pdf>.

15. Tennessee is served by two U.S. Department of Energy designated Clean Cities and Communities Coalitions, which report data on alternative fuel vehicle adoption and usage on an annual basis.

### Tracking Approach

Progress will be measured using datasets such as Clean Cities and Communities Annual Report data, which capture annual updates on school and transit bus deployments. DET expects tracking accuracy to improve as additional partnerships form and reporting structures strengthen with school districts and transit agencies.



**GOAL 4: Support the deployment of 5,000 light-duty fleet vehicles in Tennessee by 2035.**

### Purpose of the Goal

Electrifying light-duty fleets reduces operating costs, lowers emissions, and increases organizational familiarity with EV technology. It can also support quieter operations and localized air quality improvements in areas where fleet vehicles operate regularly. This goal reflects an estimated annual growth rate of approximately 18%, grounded in Clean Cities Annual Report data (2019–2023), and aligns with the pace of fleet electrification observed across Tennessee’s municipal, State, utility, and private-sector partners.

### Current State

As of the most recent Clean Cities and Communities Annual Report data (2019-2023), Tennessee has 684 light-duty fleet EVs in operation in 2023.

### Tracking Approach

Progress will be measured through Clean Cities and Communities Annual Report data and supplemented by information shared with DET through partnerships with electric utilities, local governments, State agencies, and private fleet operators. As reporting consistency improves, DET will refine tracking to better capture both public and private light-duty fleet adoption.



**GOAL 5: Support the deployment of 20,000 Level 2 and 2,000 DCFC public and workplace ports across Tennessee by 2035.**

### Purpose of the Goal

This goal is based on statewide charging needs modeled using the National Laboratory of the Rockies’ EVI-Pro Lite tool.<sup>16</sup> The analysis reflects Tennessee’s updated target of 750,000 EVs by 2035 and estimates the public and workplace charging infrastructure required to support that level of adoption. While ambitious, the goal provides a realistic benchmark aligned with long-term growth projections and ensures that Tennessee’s charging network keeps pace with consumer, fleet, and tourism needs.

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16. U.S. Department of Energy, National Laboratory of the Rockies. *EVI-PRO: Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Projection Tool*. Accessed January 2026. <https://www.nlr.gov/transportation/evi-pro>.

### Current State

As of January 2026, Tennessee has 2,039 Level 2 ports and 952 DCFC ports, for a total of 2,991 publicly reported charging ports statewide, as reported by the Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC).<sup>17</sup>

### Tracking Approach

Progress toward this goal will be monitored using publicly available datasets, including the AFDC, which tracks Tennessee’s EV charging infrastructure by port type, location, and year-over-year growth. DET will supplement AFDC data with local partner insights to capture new or planned installations not yet reflected in national databases.



**GOAL 6: Host 25 public education events annually, including Ride & Drives, workshops, and local outreach to increase awareness and understanding of EVs among Tennessee residents by 2035.**

### Purpose of the Goal

This goal reflects a modest increase from DET’s current self-reported average of 22 annual events to 25 per year by 2035. These events include Ride & Drives, Earth Day showcases, local DET Chapter outreach, and tabling at major festivals.

### Current State

DET currently conducts a variety of EV education and outreach events across the state, coordinated primarily by local DET Chapter and Tennessee’s two Clean Cities and Communities Coalitions. Event frequency depends on partner capacity, funding availability, and community demand.

### Tracking Approach

DET staff will track DET-affiliated events each year, including event type and participation metrics, to support annual reporting and identify opportunities for expanded engagement.

17. U.S. Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC). Accessed January 2026. <https://afdc.energy.gov/>.



DET members at the University of Memphis Ride and Drive.



**GOAL 7:** Establish additional DET Chapters, with intent for **Chapters to cover 80% of TN counties** by 2035, expanding grassroots leadership and community-driven engagement.

### *Purpose of the Goal*

The intent of this goal is to ensure that, by 2035, 80% of Tennessee counties are connected to a regional DET Chapter that can provide localized expertise, outreach, and support for EV adoption. This goal intentionally forgoes a fixed numerical target to allow flexibility in how DET most effectively expands its network across the state.

### *Current State*

As of Q1 of 2026, there are four fully active DET Chapters and three emerging DET Chapters, including both regional and campus-based groups. These DET Chapters vary in their stage of development and geographic reach, creating opportunities to expand into counties not yet represented.

### *Tracking Approach*

Similar to the above goal, DET staff will track annual progress on DET Chapter development, including the number of active DET Chapters, geographic coverage, and areas where further outreach or leadership formation is needed to achieve full statewide representation.



Attendees at a Drive Electric Nashville Ride and Drive for Earth Day at Centennial Park.

# Opportunity Areas and Initiatives

## Opportunity Areas

The 2026 Roadmap is organized around three Opportunity Areas, which are high-level categories of effort, reflecting the most significant opportunities, gaps, and barriers shaping Tennessee's EV landscape. Each Opportunity Area has individual Initiatives defined to further focus efforts. The three Opportunity Areas in the 2026 Roadmap are:

- **Charging Infrastructure Availability and Accessibility:** Focuses on expanding, optimizing, and improving access to EV charging across Tennessee's diverse communities and transportation needs.
- **Awareness and Adoption:** Supports education, outreach, and engagement strategies that help consumers, fleets, and communities make informed decisions about EVs and charging.
- **Innovative Policies, Programs, and Research:** Explores forward-looking solutions, cross-sector partnerships, and data-driven approaches that prepare Tennessee for emerging technologies, grid impacts, workforce needs, and evolving industry trends.

Each Opportunity Area is supported by a dedicated Working Group responsible for identifying and carrying out activities that best meet Tennessee's evolving needs. Rather than prescribing a fixed list of time-bound projects, as was done in the original 2019 Roadmap, the 2026 Roadmap emphasizes frameworks for Working Groups to have more flexibly and responsively plan and implement supportive projects during the Roadmap's lifecycle.

## Initiatives

Initiatives are core strategies and actions identified to advance DET's three Opportunity Areas. Collectively, they provide a flexible structure that allows Working Groups to define, prioritize, and implement specific activities that will best serve Tennessee's evolving EV goals. Initiatives are not prescriptive lists of projects; instead, they are guideposts to provide direction and support coordination among stakeholders. The Initiatives identified for each Opportunity Area are detailed below, along with an illustrative sampling of potential projects that could be considered during Roadmap implementation.

### ***Opportunity Area 1: Charging Infrastructure Availability & Accessibility***

Reliable and accessible EV charging is essential to continued EV adoption in Tennessee and represents one of the state's strongest opportunities to accelerate market growth. As more Tennesseans choose EVs, charging infrastructure must be functional, affordable, and strategically located. Tennessee's growing public charging network and strong electric utility partnerships are key strengths that help reduce range anxiety, improve the driver experience, and support both consumer and fleet electrification.

Stakeholder input during the 2026 Roadmap refresh effort identified several challenges that could limit future adoption if left unaddressed. These include charger reliability, the uneven quality and preparedness of charging sites across the state (ranging from inadequate electrical capacity and poor lighting to limited ADA accessibility and inconsistent signage), and the need to better prepare for the charging requirements of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

While progress has been made in mitigating some of these concerns, notable accessibility gaps remain with regard to reliable public charging and home charging options, particularly for residents of multifamily housing, rural communities, low-income populations, and areas that disproportionately experience environmental burden due to high vehicle traffic. Improving charging access for these audiences is important for expanding EV adoption and realizing additional benefits such as reduced transportation emissions and improved local air quality.

Identifying these challenges led to new opportunities for targeted action. In response, the 2026 Roadmap includes a new Initiative under this Opportunity Area focused on multifamily and workplace charging readiness, complementing ongoing infrastructure planning and deployment efforts. As EV technologies, markets, and user needs evolve, DET and its Working Groups will continue to refine these Initiatives to remain practical, relevant, and aligned with statewide priorities.

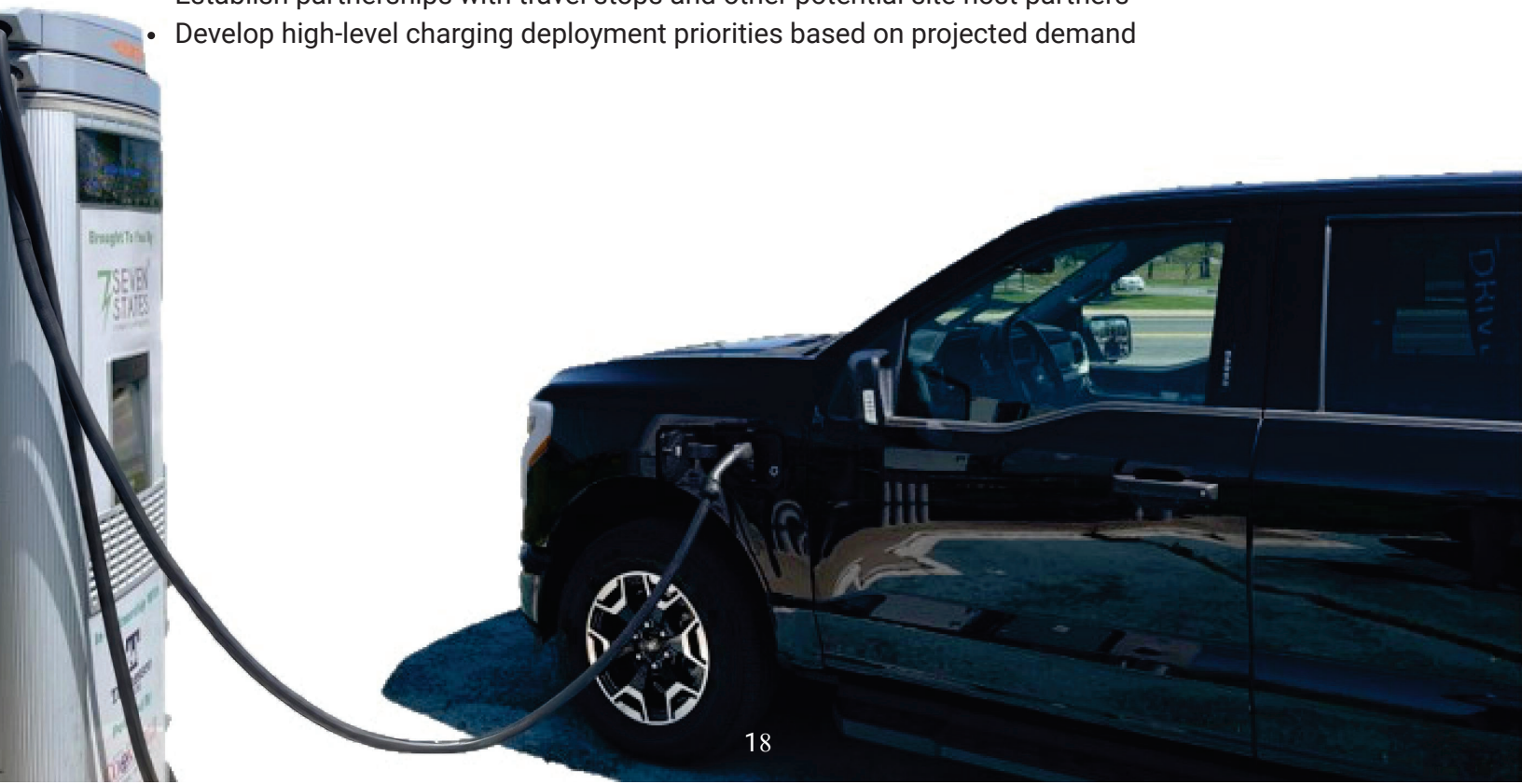
DET will advance this Opportunity Area by focusing on the following Initiatives:

**EV Infrastructure Coordination & Planning**

Guides future EV charging infrastructure strategy.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Update the statewide needs assessment of charging infrastructure
- Establish partnerships with travel stops and other potential site host partners
- Develop high-level charging deployment priorities based on projected demand



### **EV Infrastructure Build-Out**

Supports the installation and proactive maintenance of public EV charging infrastructure, focusing on areas identified under the EV Infrastructure Coordination & Planning Initiative.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Continue collaboration and consultation with partners deploying public charging infrastructure, including:
- Government agencies (e.g., TDEC, Department of Transportation, local governments), higher education institutions, and electric utilities
- Community partners such as Tennessee Tech University (via its Rural Reimagined project, in which Tennessee Tech University provides EV test drives in the Appalachian region and deploys charging infrastructure in rural areas)
- Private companies building out public charging networks
- Track and map public charging sites that can accommodate medium- and heavy-duty vehicles
- Assess and promote ADA-compliant charging station features statewide
- Develop a best-practices maintenance toolkit to help site hosts prevent public charger disrepair

### **Multifamily and Workplace Charging Readiness**

Supports growth of charging infrastructure at multifamily properties and workplaces, which can enable new EV adoption within households otherwise unable to access daily, reliable charging.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Begin tracking multifamily and workplace charging locations across the state with better sharing and multi-person editability
- Create owner and tenant education resources outlining charging options, costs, and available incentives
- Conduct a baseline assessment of existing multifamily and workplace charging availability across Tennessee for tracking purposes
- Form a task force to promote Empower Workplace Charging TN resources to employers<sup>18</sup>

### **Opportunity Area 2: Awareness & Adoption**

As DET's work has evolved since 2019, stakeholders have consistently emphasized that awareness, education, and hands-on experience are critical to increasing EV adoption across Tennessee. These efforts represent a clear strength for the state: when Tennesseans have access to reliable information and opportunities to experience EVs firsthand, both interest and adoption increase. While public understanding of EVs has improved in recent years, gaps remain, particularly around used EV options, emerging technologies, and the broader benefits of electrification, such as alternative fuel resiliency.

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18. <https://www.tncleanfuels.org/empower-workplace-charging/>

DET has expanded access to EV information statewide through several engagement efforts such as public EV demonstrations, online communications channels, and the creation and operation of regional DET Chapters. These engagement pathways provide a strong foundation for outreach and education to a variety of audiences, including individuals, fleet managers, and policymakers. However, stakeholder input indicates that misinformation and consumer hesitation continue to pose challenges, especially in rural and economically constrained areas. Additionally, limited vehicle availability and challenges in engaging OEMs and dealers continue to constrain market growth, particularly for medium- and heavy-duty fleets.

These challenges present opportunities for targeted action. DET has added two new Initiatives in the 2026 Roadmap under this Opportunity Area to expand consumer awareness of affordable used EV options and to elevate the resiliency and sustainability benefits of vehicle electrification. Together, these efforts are intended to build on existing strengths, address persistent barriers, and better position both individual consumers and fleets to make informed decisions as the EV market continues to evolve.

DET will advance this Opportunity Area by focusing on the following Initiatives:

### **Fleet Education**

Supports fleet owners in the decision to procure EVs (both light-duty vehicles and medium-/heavy-duty vehicles such as buses and trucks) and provide fleet as well as workplace charging assistance.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Research and document case studies from successful light-, medium-, and heavy-duty fleet transitions
- Compile and track available incentives and funding opportunities relevant to fleet electrification
- Conduct outreach to EV OEMs to build relationships and improve information sharing on fleet vehicle availability, timelines, and use cases

### **EV Consumer Education**

Broadly educates Tennesseans on the benefits, costs, and lifestyle impacts related to owning an EV; this includes sharing awareness of EV/charging station incentive availability, community resiliency, emissions reductions, and emerging technologies.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Develop myth-busting and FAQ content to address questions about EV costs, range, charging, and performance
- Continue documenting and sharing community resiliency stories showcasing real-world EV experiences
- Introduce V2X concepts to relevant stakeholders, to explain potential distributed energy benefits of EVs

### **EV Ride & Drive Promotion**

Creates first-hand experiences of riding in or driving an EV; efforts include getting potential customers in the seat and behind the wheel of light-, medium-, and heavy-duty vehicles and introducing customers to dealers.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Provide test rides during existing Earth Day or other sustainability-oriented festivals
- Organize open houses with local EV dealerships, featuring guest speakers on EV topics
- Feature electric fleet vehicles during municipal “touch-a-truck” showcases

### **Used EV Market Awareness**

Increases consumer awareness of the used EV market and how to access lower-cost vehicles with plenty of useful life remaining.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Conduct a baseline assessment of used EV sales and registrations in Tennessee
- Track and share used EV availability and price trends
- Partner with dealerships, lenders, and community organizations to highlight financing options and pathways to lower-cost used EVs

### **EV Resiliency and Sustainability (Emergency Planning)**

Educates customers, fleets, electric utilities, government, and other audiences on the resiliency and sustainability benefits of vehicle electrification, including alternative fuel resiliency during fuel shortages and use of EVs as distributed energy resources during emergencies (e.g., V2X innovations).

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Develop storytelling collateral (briefs, blogs, short videos) highlighting how EVs have supported continuity of operations during emergency response, both at home and in the community
- Assemble a resources and best practices toolkit for first-responder training related to battery technology applications and safety mitigation during emergencies
- Compile a resource library of guidance, research, and case studies on EVs as resiliency and sustainability tools



*Attendees at the 2025 DET Momentum Summit ask questions during the fleet EV Showcase.*

### ***Opportunity Area 3: Innovative Policies, Programs, and Research***

Innovative policies, programs, and research have been identified as three critical drivers of long-term EV market growth. Regarding policies and programs, strong coordination among State and local governments is essential for collaboratively designing and sharing effective models that benefit industry partners, EV adopters, and communities at large. Equally important is collaboration with electric utilities in their own EV program deployment efforts, particularly as medium- and heavy-duty fleet electrification accelerates and increases urgency for addressing grid capacity, load balancing, and system planning.

Research has also been elevated as a core focus within this Opportunity Area, addressing both rapid technological change and the identified risk of falling behind emerging trends if industry preparedness does not keep pace. Embracing research on evolving EV technologies—such as second-life battery applications, battery recycling, V2X, smart charge management, and other innovations still on the horizon—positions Tennessee to anticipate future industry needs and proactively inform policy and program design. In response, the 2026 Roadmap features a newly added Initiative to support research on current and future emerging technologies.

Finally, Tennessee’s role as a major hub for EV manufacturing and innovation further reinforces the importance of workforce readiness. The state ranks second in the Southeast for anticipated EV manufacturing jobs, reflecting both the scale of investment already underway and the opportunities ahead.<sup>19</sup> At the same time, workforce capacity represents a potential constraint if training and access do not keep pace with industry growth. To address this, a new Initiative has been added to the 2026 Roadmap to support workforce development and job training in EV and charging infrastructure related fields. While DET does not directly operate workforce development programs, it plays a critical convening and promotional role by elevating existing training efforts, connecting partners, and sharing information on workforce opportunities as the EV ecosystem continues to expand.

DET will advance this Opportunity Area by focusing on the following Initiatives:

#### **State Government Relations**

Maintain open lines of communication about EVs across State offices and departments.

#### *Examples of potential projects:*

- Host regular interagency check-in calls with TDEC, Tennessee Department of Transportation, TVA, and local power companies on EV planning and implementation
- Provide relevant State agencies with periodic reports or calls to action for Roadmap implementation efforts, including real-time snapshots on progress toward goal metrics
- Where possible, coordinate on EV program and project design, particularly where local organizations may offer strong partnership to State agencies

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19. Atlas Public Policy and Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. *Transportation Electrification in the Southeast: Sixth Annual Report*. 2025. [https://cleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/Transportation Electrification in the Southeast 2025.pdf](https://cleanenergy.org/wp-content/uploads/Transportation_Electrification_in_the_Southeast_2025.pdf)

### **Local Government Relations**

Identifies, designs, and shares best practices, policies, and programs to support EVs at the local government level (city/county), as well as establishes lines of communication about EVs with local government stakeholders.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Develop and share best practices of local policies to support EV adoption, charging, and fleet electrification
- Host regular check-in calls or peer exchanges for city and county staff to share EV-related updates and lessons learned
- Create guidance resources for local governments on EV planning, permitting, and community engagement

### **Coordinated Utility Programs**

Identifies, designs, and shares best practices, policies, and programs for electric utilities to support EVs throughout Tennessee.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Convene regional meetings for electric utilities to discuss and share EV related planning and programs
- Monitor and document emerging utility EV programs, pilots, and customer offerings
- Track and share best practices and case studies from electric utilities implementing EV programs

### **Supporting Research on Emerging EV Technologies**

Supports research and development of emerging technologies in the EV landscape, including second-life battery use, battery recycling, V2X, smart charge management technologies, and technologies yet to be conceived.

*Examples of potential projects:*

- Track and share existing research findings of emerging EV technologies
- Develop consumer- and stakeholder-facing materials explaining what happens to EV batteries at end of life and how second-life uses can extend value
- Convene a virtual workshop series featuring presentations and Q&A with experts on the forefront of emerging technologies, including V2X



### Training Access and EV-Related Job Creation

Supports workforce development and job training in EV and charging infrastructure markets, including activities for increasing access to training across the state.

#### Examples of potential projects:

- Track the number and geographic distribution of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP)<sup>20</sup> certified technicians in Tennessee to identify gaps and opportunities
- Highlight career pathways and success stories in EV- and charging infrastructure related jobs through case studies and storytelling content
- Conduct outreach and partnership-building with educational institutions offering EV related job training and with OEMs that support EV apprenticeships

20. Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program is a nationally recognized training and certification program for electricians and technicians who install and maintain electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and it's often referenced by electric utilities, States, and funding programs as a preferred or required credential.



Tennessee Clean Fuels and DET table and staff at the 2025 DET Momentum Summit.

# Roadmap Implementation Roles & Responsibilities

## DET Executive Committee

The Executive Committee provides strategic leadership for DET and its operations. The Executive Committee is responsible for setting vision and priorities for DET staff, monitoring progress of the Roadmap, evaluating suggestions from DET's membership, overseeing fiscal administration, and identifying opportunities for collaboration across all sectors supporting EV adoption and market growth in Tennessee.

The Executive Committee meets periodically to review progress within the Roadmap's Opportunity Areas, Initiatives, and goals and to provide guidance on emerging opportunities and challenges. Members of the Executive Committee leverage their diverse professional expertise, perspectives, and relationships to help advance work under the current Roadmap as well as help share new Roadmap iterations. The Executive Committee values transparency, flexibility, and active collaboration with its many Roadmap implementation partners, including DET Working Groups and DET Chapter leadership appointed from DET's active membership base.

DET aims for Executive Committee membership to reflect the geographic, economic, and cultural diversity of Tennessee, recognizing the importance of broad representation in shaping a comprehensive and effective statewide strategy.

## DET Working Groups

### *Working Groups and Their Role*

Much of DET's project work is accomplished through its established Working Groups, which serve as the primary mechanism for identifying, prioritizing, and advancing projects in support of statewide EV adoption. These Working Groups align with the Roadmap's Opportunity Areas and provide a structured but flexible forum for collaboration, information sharing, and action.

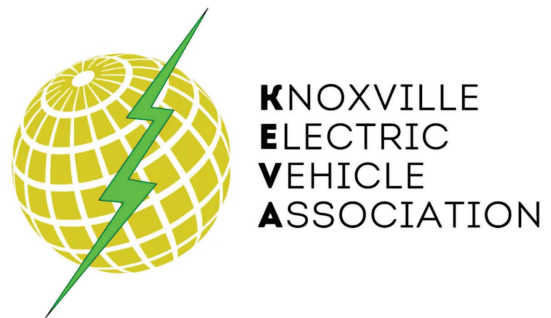
Working Group members include representatives from electric utilities, State and local government, nonprofits, industry, EV enthusiasts, and other stakeholders. Each Working Group is customarily led by a pair of co-chairs, typically one subject-matter expert and one Executive Committee member, supported by DET's administrative staff. Members sometimes assemble into smaller, temporary task forces to address specific, time-limited projects.

Within their respective Opportunity Areas, Working Group members share expertise, identify emerging needs and opportunities, strengthen partnerships, and translate Roadmap priorities into coordinated action. Membership may evolve over time to reflect changes in capacity, expertise, or sector representation. At present, DET has three active Working Groups, one for each Opportunity Area.

To learn more about DET's Working Groups or to get involved, visit [www.driveelectrictn.org/working-groups](http://www.driveelectrictn.org/working-groups).

## DET Chapters

In addition to Working Groups, DET's Chapters play a significant and complementary role in Roadmap implementation, particularly in support of awareness and education. Made up largely of local EV owners and enthusiasts, DET Chapter members support community and stakeholder engagement by hosting outreach events, arranging Ride & Drives, sharing market information, and connecting the public with EV adoption resources. While DET Chapters do not typically originate Roadmap projects, they are critical instruments for outreach, education, and on-the-ground engagement that help translate Roadmap strategy into community-wide results.



## Stakeholder Engagement & Audience Insights

In 2025, DET conducted an audience-mapping exercise to more clearly understand the diverse stakeholders involved in advancing EV adoption across the state. Through this process, DET identified three broad audience tiers, each playing a distinct role in advancing the Roadmap:

### *Primary Audiences*

**Role:** Stakeholders with direct influence over infrastructure deployment, policy, planning, and system readiness.

**Examples:**

- Electric Utilities
- State Agencies
- Local Governments and Planners

### *Secondary Audiences*

**Role:** Stakeholders that shape market adoption, implementation, and supply.

**Examples:**

- Fleet Managers and Commercial Operators
- Dealerships and Automakers
- Private Sector / OEMs

### *Tertiary Audiences*

**Role:** Groups that influence long-term adoption, public awareness, and community engagement.

**Examples:**

- Youth
- Community-Based Organizations
- Retail
- General public

With this refined understanding of audiences, DET can better prioritize stakeholder engagement, particularly as Roadmap goals increasingly focus on fleet electrification, large-scale infrastructure investments, and continued messaging and engagement.

For primary audiences with direct influence over planning, policy, and system readiness, DET will conduct targeted outreach to key utility leadership and State and local government representatives, to engage them primarily in Working Group efforts focused on accelerating EV adoption. DET will also facilitate periodic coordination calls and share timely briefings or written summaries to support alignment among these stakeholders about emerging EV related news. Together, these activities are intended to strengthen coordination, help resolve shared challenges, and support informed decision-making as EV-related investments and planning efforts continue to scale statewide.

For secondary audiences that shape market adoption and supply, such as fleet operators, OEMs, dealers, and private-sector partners, DET will focus on information exchange, relationship-building, and practical learning opportunities. To enhance fleet manager engagement, DET may host workshops and webinars that spotlight successful fleet management role models to inspire peers considering a transition to EVs. To more deeply engage vehicle suppliers, DET staff and Working Groups may conduct targeted outreach with EV industry leadership, inviting them to participate in DET awareness events where fleet managers and the public can view and test the wide variety of available EV models.

For tertiary audiences, DET will emphasize local engagement. DET will encourage community leaders to support or start new DET Chapters, increase the frequency of local events, and share educational materials tailored to community needs. DET will identify and engage local leaders through Ride & Drive events, participating in community gatherings, and leveraging existing DET Chapter networks to surface new champions for transportation electrification.

This refined, audience-informed approach to engagement reinforces DET's commitment to collaboration and partnership. As the Roadmap moves into implementation, continued stakeholder participation will remain central to translating DET's shared goals into meaningful, on-the-ground progress across Tennessee. DET is committed to actively nurturing those connections and maintaining an active pipeline for stakeholder insights and suggestions.



*DET staff member speaking with attendees at the 2025 DET Momentum Summit.*

# Conclusion

DET is proud to be a driver of Tennessee’s collective efforts related to EV adoption. This Roadmap is just the beginning—we invite you to be an active part of the movement toward a cleaner, more connected, and accessible transportation future.

## Ways to Stay Involved:

- **Become a DET member** to stay up to date on emerging EV trends and opportunities and to promote DET’s education goals.
- **Join a DET Working Group** to help DET prioritize, complete, and share diverse projects designed to support EV adoption.
- **Participate in or help grow a DET Chapter**, which includes co-hosting regional events and serving as a connector among local organizations and communities.
- **Attend events**—including Ride & Drive experiences, webinars, trainings, community briefings, and DET’s annual Momentum Summit—to learn about EV technology, share best practices, and connect with stakeholders working to advance transportation electrification across Tennessee.
- **Purchase a Drive Electric Tennessee specialty license plate** to support DET’s nonprofit work. Proceeds from the plate help fund education, outreach, and chapter development efforts statewide. You do not need to own an EV to show your support.
- **Stay informed and connected** by subscribing to the DET newsletter and following us on social media. These communication channels offer updates on Roadmap progress, upcoming events, funding opportunities, success stories, and ways to collaborate as Tennessee’s EV ecosystem continues to grow.

## Let’s Keep Driving Forward

This Roadmap represents just one chapter in Tennessee’s evolving EV story. The path ahead requires continued collaboration, bold ideas, and shared investment. We hope you’ll travel it with us.

Visit [driveelectrictn.org](https://driveelectrictn.org) to learn more, sign up for updates, or get involved.

Email [info@driveelectrictn.org](mailto:info@driveelectrictn.org) for more information.

# Thank You to Our Supporters!

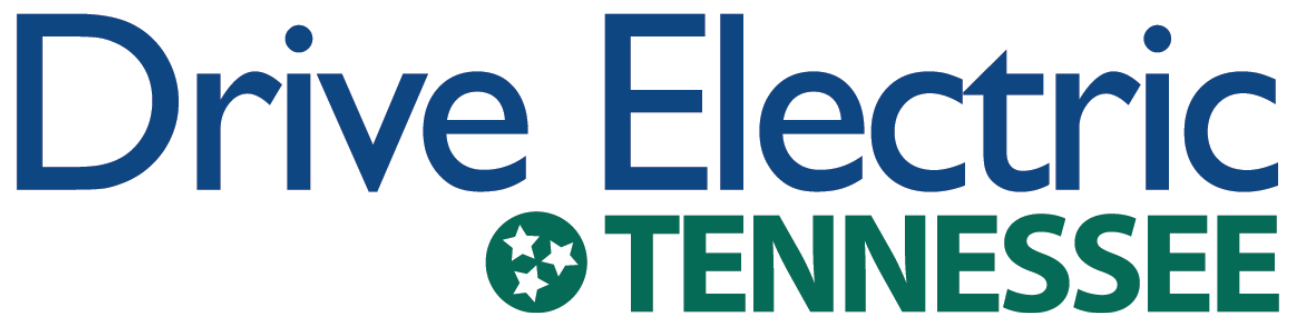


Many stakeholders helped during the first 7 years of DET. We appreciate all their time to help us accomplish what we have so far in the collaborative efforts!

[DriveElectricTN.org](http://DriveElectricTN.org)

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