

ALTERNATIVE FUELS CORRIDOR

Section 1413 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act requires the Secretary of Transportation to designate national electric vehicle (EV) charging, hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling corridors. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) seeks to create and expand a national network of alternative fueling and charging infrastructure and signage along National Highway System (NHS) corridors. This infrastructure will improve the mobility of passenger and commercial vehicles that employ electric, hydrogen fuel cell, propane, and natural gas fueling

technologies across the United States, promote energy security, and enhance our economy by reducing dependence on foreign oil. The designated alternative fuel corridors will support a national network of alternative fueling and charging infrastructure.



Current Status

FHWA received approximately 34 nominations from state and local officials for the initial round of corridor designations, which were announced in November 2016. The designations identified 55 corridors spanning 35 States that serve as the basis for a national network of alternative fuel corridors. *The second round of nominations are currently being analyzed and designations will be announced in early 2018.*

One of two designations were then assigned to each nominated highway segment: "Signage Ready," meaning that there are a sufficient number of facilities on the corridor to warrant signage alerting drivers of the availability of alternative fueling stations, or "Signage Pending," meaning that the corridor does

not have sufficient alternative fuel facilities to warrant highway signage at this time. Designation status for each fuel type were based on the following criteria:

- *EV charging:* EV charging¹ facilities at 50 mile intervals along designated EV corridors.
- *Hydrogen:* Hydrogen fueling facilities at 100 mile intervals along designated hydrogen corridors.
- *Propane:* Propane fueling facilities at 150 mile intervals along designated
- *Natural gas:* Compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities at 150 mile intervals and at 200 mile intervals along designated CNG and LNG corridors, respectively.

2020 Aspirational Goal for National Alternative Fuel Corridors

To ensure a user-centric experience in traversing Federal alternative fuel corridors and to establish a foundation for ubiquitous alternative fuel infrastructure in the United States. This will require a reliable, consistent, and high performance system that aligns with the USDOT's vision for the NHS and is augmented with effective coordination, outreach, and education.

¹ FHWA's objective is to establish DC Fast Charge (Level 3) infrastructure at 50 mile intervals for corridor designations made in 2017, and later.

FHWA has developed signage for Alternative Fuel Corridors in compliance with *The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways* (MUTCD). Information on the usage of this signage can be found on the website below.

FHWA intends to support the expansion of the national network of alternative fuel corridors, by establishing a process outlining the necessary steps and required information for future rounds of designations. The newly-established process will help to support and meet the 2020 aspirational goal outlined below.



Aspirational Goal

The FAST Act requires the US Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) to identify an aspirational goal for achieving strategic deployment of EV charging and hydrogen, natural gas, and propane fueling infrastructure by Fiscal Year 2020, and to identify standardization needs.

FHWA was responsible for developing the designation goal.

Some highlighted priorities supporting the 2020 Aspirational Goal include:

- Develop national signage branding to help catalyze applicant and public interest;
- Encourage multi-State and regional cooperation and collaboration on planning for and developing additional fueling
- Foster enhanced coordination and shared infrastructure investment and education/

outreach efforts among and between the public and private sectors, and;

- Continue USDOT-DOE collaboration to help promote and advance the alternative fuel corridor designations; to develop criteria and a plan for a national network of DC fast charging stations; and efforts to increase the availability of alternative fuel station data on mobile apps and tools that drivers utilize daily.

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For additional information, please visit: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/alternative_fuel_corridors