

Clean Transportation Technology Collaborative

Kick off Meeting February-04-2025

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Meeting notes:

- **Introduction of Clean Transportation Technology Collaborative:** Marques McCammon explained the purpose of the meeting, which is to discuss the Clean Transportation Technology Collaborative (CTTC) and its goals of promoting technology adoption, prosperity, and global competitiveness.
 - **Meeting Purpose:** Marques McCammon explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Clean Transportation Technology Collaborative (CTTC) and its goals of promoting technology adoption, prosperity, and global competitiveness.
 - **CTTC Goals:** Marques outlined the goals of the CTTC, including building an inclusive future, promoting technology adoption, and ensuring energy security.
 - **Collaboration Importance:** Marques emphasized the importance of collaboration between industry, academia, community, and government to achieve the goals of the CTTC.
- **Goals of CTTC:** Marques McCammon outlined the goals of the CTTC, including building an inclusive future, promoting technology adoption, and ensuring energy security.
 - **Inclusive Future:** Marques McCammon outlined the goal of building an inclusive future by forging opportunities that promote technology adoption, prosperity, and global competitiveness.
 - **Technology Adoption:** Marques emphasized the importance of promoting technology adoption to stay competitive globally and to advance the EV industry.
 - **Energy Security:** Marques highlighted the need for energy security and the importance of creating work plans that everyone can understand and engage with, especially in California.
- **Challenges in EV Adoption:** Marques McCammon discussed the challenges in EV adoption, including the lack of workforce readiness and the need for better community engagement and education.
 - **Workforce Readiness:** Marques McCammon discussed the challenge of workforce readiness, noting that many educators and workers are hesitant to engage with EV technology, which hinders the development of a skilled workforce.
 - **Community Engagement:** Marques emphasized the need for better community engagement to help people understand their role in the EV industry and to embrace new technologies.

- **Importance of Small Businesses:** Marques McCammon emphasized the importance of small businesses in the EV ecosystem and the need to support them through training and education.
- **Research and Innovation:** Marques McCammon highlighted the importance of research and innovation in the EV industry and the role of Karma Automotive in pushing new technologies.
- **Workforce Development:** Marques McCammon discussed the need for workforce development, including training programs for middle school through junior college students and internships at Karma Automotive.
- **Community and Entrepreneurship:** Marques McCammon outlined the importance of community and entrepreneurship, including small business incubation and promotion of degree credits.
- **Research Collaboration:** Marques McCammon mentioned the collaboration with four-year institutions and the importance of sponsored IT programs and internships.
- **Municipal Integration:** Marques McCammon discussed the integration of technology with municipalities and the importance of real-life testing of new technologies.
- **Benefits of Collaboration:** Marques McCammon highlighted the benefits of collaboration, including economic growth, fostering innovation, and creating jobs.
- **Current Initiatives:** Frank Chi provided examples of current initiatives, including partnerships with UCI Business School, San Diego State University, and UC Riverside.
- **Call to Action:** Marques McCammon called for the participants to join the CTTC and collaborate on various initiatives, emphasizing the importance of working together to achieve common goals.
- **Questions and Discussion:** Participants asked questions and discussed various topics, including the distribution of workforce between community colleges and universities, engagement with competitors, and the importance of educating legislators.
- **Networking and Collaboration:** Participants discussed the importance of networking and collaboration among educators, engineers, and small businesses to strengthen the EV ecosystem.
- **Closing Remarks:** Marques McCammon shared a personal story about the founder of Karma Automotive and emphasized the importance of working together to achieve the goals of the CTTC.

Follow-up tasks:

- **Consortium Agreement:** Send a formal consortium agreement invitation to all participants with details on the collaborative. (Frank)
- **Event Planning:** Organize and announce the March 20th event to share the vision and progress of the Clean Transportation Technology Collaborative. (Frank)

- **Equipment Donation:** Identify and inform which trade school programs should receive the donated late model vehicles and hardware from Karma Automotive. (Karma)
 - **Internship Program:** Develop and offer internships and participation in launch events for students from middle school, high school, and community colleges. (Kathy and Frank)
 - **Annual Impact Statement:** Prepare and publish an annual impact statement detailing the achievements and progress of the consortium. (Karma))
 - **Career Fair:** Plan and host an annual collaborative career fair to expose the program to business opportunities and job prospects for the community. (Kathy)
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- **Introduction of Marques McCammon:** Marques McCammon introduced himself as the President and Chief Executive of Karma Automotive, sharing his extensive experience in the auto industry and his excitement about the meeting.
 - **Role and Experience:** Marques McCammon introduced himself as the President and Chief Executive of Karma Automotive. He shared that he has been with Karma for almost two years and has over 30 years of experience in the auto industry, including roles at Chrysler Corporation, tier one suppliers, and running an engineering firm in the UK.
 - **Meeting Purpose:** Marques expressed his excitement about the meeting and mentioned that he would explain the reasons for gathering everyone together, focusing on the Clean Transportation Technology Collaborative (CTTC) and its goals.
- **Introduction of Participants:** Various participants introduced themselves, including their roles and affiliations, such as Matthew from Inland Economic Growth and Opportunity, Janette from Inland SoCal United Way, and Brian from UC Riverside Office of Technology Partnerships.
 - **Matthew's Introduction:** Matthew introduced himself as representing Inland Economic Growth and Opportunity, covering San Bernardino and Riverside counties for economic development.
 - **Janette's Introduction:** Janette Sepulveda introduced herself as the Executive Director of Economic Mobility for Inland SoCal United Way, mentioning their community-based organization and workforce development department.
 - **Brian's Introduction:** Brian introduced himself as the Senior Executive Director at the University of California, Riverside Office of Technology Partnerships, managing technology transfer, intellectual property, corporate engagement, and innovation and entrepreneurship.
- **Introduction of Participants:** Additional participants introduced themselves, including Chris Mee from San Diego State University, Bill Maurer from UC Irvine, and Jack Brauer from UC Irvine's Clean Energy Institute.

- **Chris Mee's Introduction:** Chris Mee introduced himself as a professor at San Diego State University, focusing on research in production and battery management systems.
- **Bill Maurer's Introduction:** Bill Maurer introduced himself as the Dean of Social Sciences at UC Irvine and a board member of Orange County United Way, working on a proposal for upskilling auto mechanics to become EV technicians.
- **Jack Brauer's Introduction:** Jack Brauer introduced himself as a professor in mechanical and aerospace engineering at UC Irvine and the Director of the Clean Energy Institute, with 30 years of research in electrochemical energy conversion technologies.
- **Introduction of Participants:** More participants introduced themselves, including Donya Nojavanzadeh from Karma Automotive, Jen Volker from Karma Automotive, and Greg Quirin from San Diego Unified School District.
 - **Donya's Introduction:** Donya Nojavanzadeh introduced herself as a software engineer at Karma Automotive, with three and a half years of experience at the company.
 - **Jen Volker's Introduction:** Jen Volker introduced herself as the Senior Director of Program Management at Karma Automotive, with over 20 years of experience in automotive manufacturing and a focus on educating and sparking interest in the next generation of leaders.
 - **Greg Quirin's Introduction:** Greg Quirin introduced himself as a program specialist at San Diego Unified School District, supporting about 80 instructors in various fields, including automotive engineering, and organizing an annual automotive educators conference.
- **Introduction of Participants:** Further introductions included Scott Kitcher from Sustain SoCal, Frank Chi from Karma Automotive, and Ryan Blanchette from Karma Automotive.
 - **Scott Kitcher's Introduction:** Scott Kitcher introduced himself as the President and CEO of Sustain SoCal, a trade association focused on accelerating sustainability initiatives, clean technology, and building an impact fund.
 - **Frank Qi's Introduction:** Frank Qi introduced himself as the Chief of Staff to Marques at Karma Automotive, with a background in San Diego and currently a UC Irvine MBA student.
 - **Ryan Blanchette's Introduction:** Ryan Blanchette introduced himself as the Senior Vice President for Supply Chain and Manufacturing at Karma Automotive, with over 20 years of experience in the auto industry.
- **Introduction of Participants:** Additional introductions included Ben Freck from Karma Automotive, Jeff Ball from Orange County Business Council, and Rosibel Ochoa from UC Riverside.
 - **Ben Freck's Introduction:** Ben Freck introduced himself as a partner with Karma Automotive on community engagement efforts at the local and statewide level.

- **Jeff Ball's Introduction:** Jeff Ball introduced himself as the President and CEO of the Orange County Business Council, focusing on economic development for Orange County and working with business, education, and public sector partners.
- **Rosibel Ochoa's Introduction:** Rosibel Ochoa introduced herself as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Technology Partnerships at UC Riverside, focusing on sustainability, innovation, workforce development, and building incubation facilities for technology-intensive companies.
- **Introduction of Participants:** Final introductions included Ian Williamson from UC Irvine, Nikki Arora from Sarah Cap Cares, and Bob Li from Karma Automotive.
 - **Ian Williamson's Introduction:** Ian Williamson introduced himself as the Dean of the Pomero School of Business at UC Irvine, participating remotely from an event in Las Vegas.
 - **Nikki Arora's Introduction:** Nikki Arora introduced herself as the AGP of Sarah Cap Cares, an impact fund focused on investing in ethical, human-centric tech solutions and supporting early-stage female founders.
 - **Bob Li's Introduction:** Bob Li introduced himself as the Powertrain Systems Director at Karma Automotive, with over 30 years of experience in the automotive industry.