Designing Equity-Centered EV Programs

Joel Espino
Hana Creger
Román Partida-Lopez
The Greenlining Institute

Vision

We envision a nation where communities of color thrive and race is never a barrier to economic opportunity

Redlining

25 years fighting racial and economic injustices caused by discriminatory redlining

Greenlining

Advocacy, policy, research, coalition building, and leadership development aimed at greenlining historically disinvested communities of color with investments and opportunity
Welcome

- Setting the Stage

- Our Objectives - Interactive, Equity, Learning
Agenda & Logistics

- Defining Equity (small group discussion)
- Framework for Implementing Equity (presentation)
- How do we operationalize equity in EV programs? (case studies, small group discussion)
Community Agreements

1. Take space, make space
2. One microphone
3. Be fully present and participate
What is “Equity”?
Equity

- The fair and just distribution of societal benefits and burdens

- The ability of marginalized communities to influence decisions in a way that addresses their needs and concerns.
How does equity show up in your community?

How does inequity show up in your community?
4 Categories for Implementing Equity
Mission, Vision, & Values
Environmental & Mobility Injustices

- Transportation-related pollution
- Longer, less reliable commutes
- Unsafe conditions
- Suburbanization of poverty

I-105/405 interchange bisecting four communities in Los Angeles, California

(Caltrans)
Economic Injustices

FAMILY WEALTH BY RACE

(The Greenlining Institute)
Lack of Community Power & Engagement

Figure 2
RACIAL/ETHNIC COMPOSITION OF MPO VOTING BOARD MEMBERS AND CURRENT COMPOSITION OF THE CORRESPONDING METROPOLITAN AREAS

MPO Board Makeup
- White 88%
- Hispanic 3%
- Asian 1%
- Other 1%
- Black 7%

Metropolitan Area Makeup
- White 61%
- Hispanic 17%
- Black 15%
- Asian 6%
- Other 1%

(SSTI, 2011)
Mission, Vision, & Values

Components that must be embedded:

- Environmental/Mobility Equity
- Mobility Equity
- Economic Equity
- Community Power & Engagement
Process
1) Mobility Needs Assessment

- Geography
- Demographics
- Types of trips
- “Right-sizing” EVs
2) Equity Analysis

Evaluates impacts on low-income communities of color across:

1. Mobility
2. Air Pollution/Health Benefits
3. Economic Opportunities

- Greenlining’s Mobility Equity Framework
3) Community Decision-Making

- Partnerships between community based organizations, cities, agencies, and stakeholders
- Train city & agency staff in community engagement and partnership
- Technical assistance & leadership development of community groups
- Participatory Budgeting
Projects, Programs, & Services
Equity Design Features

- Must be community-driven and/or informed
- Must significantly address priority needs of priority populations
- Must provide meaningful, measurable, and assured benefits to priority populations
- Must avoid substantial burdens
Case Study: Van y Vienen, CA

- **Community driven**
  - Builds off existing grassroots network started by two local women

- **Addresses community needs**
  - Poor access to grocery stores, medical services, and affordable drinking water

- **Meaningful, measurable, assured benefits**
  - Clean, reliable, and affordable mobility

- **Avoids substantial harms**
  - Women that started the network are the EV drivers
Measurement & Analysis
Evaluation & Adaptive Management

- Adjust programs to address challenges and lessons learned
- Involve communities in evaluation
- Demographics, location, & number of users
4 Categories for Implementing Equity

1. Mission, Vision, & Values
2. Process
3. Projects, Programs, & Services
4. Measurement & Analysis
Guiding Questions
Who is at the decision-making table?

- Are there groups/individuals representing low-income communities & communities of color & others with limited mobility?
Who benefits?

- How can we ensure that low-income individuals & people of color benefit the most?
- How can we ensure our proposed action meets a community identified mobility need?
- Are we “right-sizing” our EV action?
- Do the target communities have power and influence over the decision/action?
Who is harmed?

- How can we ensure low-income individuals and people of color are not harmed most?
How do you measure equity?

- What equity performance measures track how our actions benefit or harm to vulnerable communities?
What does “adaptive management” look like?

- How do we use data collected to make design or process adjustments to our action--mid program--to ensure we are maximizing our resources and opportunity to create the most equitable outcomes possible?
How do we operationalize equity?
Hypothetical Case Study

Your local utility is proposing a $100M program to deploy charging infrastructure for light-duty, medium-duty, and heavy-duty EVs. With no equity commitments.

INSTRUCTIONS:

Your goal is to negotiate and advocate for modifications that will maximize equity outcomes for low-income people and people of color. In your groups, please discuss and identify a set of equity asks that would meaningfully incorporate the following equity design features:

- Community driven
- Addresses community needs
- Meaningful, measurable, assured benefits
- Avoids substantial harms
Case Study: PG&E’s Light-Duty EV Charging Infrastructure Proposal (2016)

- $160M
- 7,500 level 2 charging ports and 100 DC fast chargers
- Multi-unit dwellings, workplaces, and destination locations such as shopping centers
Settlement: Greenlining’s Equity Asks

**Meaningful, measurable, assured benefits** → $5M set aside for equity programs to help increase access to electric mobility in disadvantaged communities (DAC); 15% minimum of charging stations in disadvantaged communities; training and hiring individuals from DACs who can benefit most; commitment to spending 40% on goods/services from diverse-business enterprises

**Community driven and addresses community needs** → CBO partnership and collaboration for designing equity programs from $5M set aside; CBO partnerships for education and outreach and siting of charging stations; community representation on program advisory committees

**Avoids substantial harms** → ensures EVs benefits will reach vulnerable populations; promotes community buy-in and trust by democratizing design
Audience Questions?