# 2020 Annual Report

Forth Mobility Fund, Backstop Aggregator for the Oregon Clean Fuels Program





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# **Executive Summary**

Oregon's Clean Fuels Program is designed to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels through an efficient, market-based mechanism based on the exchange of credits. Generally, these credits are generated or purchased by fairly large market actors, such as oil companies, biofuel producers or electric vehicle charging networks. Credits are also generated when electricity is used as a transportation fuel by people charging cars at home. Because it is not efficient to try to have thousands of individual households manage these fairly small numbers of credits, Oregon's program provides that these credits be aggregated and awarded to the electric utility, if it chooses to opt in to the program. If the local utility chooses not to opt in, those credits are awarded to a Backstop Aggregator chosen through a competitive RFP process by Oregon DEQ. The Forth Mobility Fund was chosen by DEQ as Backstop Aggregator in 2017. Forth Mobility Fund is a charitable 501 (c)(3) organization focused on advancing clean transportation, and is closely affiliated with the 501 (c)(6) organization Forth; this report generally refers to "Forth" for simplicity.

**Impact.** This report summarizes Forth's second full year of work as the Backstop Aggregator. This work was divided between the following four areas: 1) Statewide Consumer Engagement, 2) Utility Engagement, 3) Focused Local Programs, and 4) Program Administration. Over the course of 2020, Forth facilitated over **3,100 virtual impressions** and engagements, over **200 in-person test drives** before COVID-19, and over **600 in-person engagements** through consumer engagement events and activities. We engaged with over **25 Oregon utilities** and over **20 employers** from across the State.

**Adaptability.** The COVID-19 pandemic challenged traditional methods of consumer education and outreach. As a nonprofit, Forth brings a tremendous ability to pivot and revision its programming in the midst of change and uncertainty. Forth worked closely with DEQ and its partners in 2020 to transition its programs to take place online and even created new programs to bring the benefits of transportation electrification to communities more broadly.

**Leverage.** Forth is constantly seeking other opportunities and funds to advance transportation electrification and manages a variety of projects that leverage Clean Fuels funds including contracts with Oregon utilities, U.S. Department of Energy projects, and partnerships with regional environmental groups. In 2020, Forth also worked under contract with Oregon DEQ developing assets to promote the State's electric vehicle rebate, creating additional opportunities for synergy across both programs. All told, Forth leveraged over \$560,000 in additional investment into raising awareness of electric vehicles for Oregonians, nearly doubling the impact.





### Introduction

Forth Mobility Fund, hereafter referred to as Forth, entered into a contract with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality in August 2018. This report summarizes the activities carried out by Forth and any approved subcontractors in 2020. That work is based on a workplan developed based on the aggregation of credits generated in 2018 from the following utilities: Central Electric Coop, City of Ashland, Consumers Power, Midstate Electric Coop, Blachly-Lane, City of Forest Grove, City of Milton-Freewater, Clearwater Power Company, Coos-Curry Electric Coop, Oregon Trail Electric Coop, Salem Electric, West Oregon Electric Coop, Hood River Electric Coop, Canby Utility Board, City of Bandon, City of Monmouth Power & Light, Columbia Basic Electric Coop, Douglas Electric Coop, Harney Electric Coop, Idaho Power, Surprise Valley Electric Coop, and Wasco Electric Coop. The programs described in this report are included to provide a complete picture of the activities Forth has leveraged Clean Fuels Program revenue to carry out. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt across the transportation electrification industry and certainly across Forth's event-driven programs set. Some programs were easily adapted to be carried out virtually while others shifted direction or were put on hold until in-person events were possible again. Forth maintained regular communication with DEQ as updates and modifications to the workplan were made and is grateful for the flexibility we were afforded in the face of uncertainty.

#### **Monetization of Credits**

In early 2019, Forth received 5,109 credits as the Backstop Aggregator for credits that were generated during 2018. These credits were monetized through a subcontractor, CleanFuture. The total revenue generated was \$789,340.50. In early 2020, Forth received and monetized 2,445 that were generated during 2019. These credits were monetized through CleanFuture, on one occasion. The total revenue generated was \$273,840.00. This revenue was intended to be reserved for 2021 but was utilized in part in 2020.

#### **Summary of Expenses**

The following table summarizes all expenses undertaken for work as the Backstop Aggregator of the Oregon Clean Fuels Program in 2020. Forth Mobility Fund is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit closely affiliated with Forth, which is a 501 (c)(6) trade association. Forth Mobility Fund, the Backstop Aggregator, receives and then deposits revenues generated from the monetization of the Clean Fuels credits while Forth carries out the scope of work outlined in the work plan and the activities described in the annual report. The funds Forth Mobility Fund receives are recognized as a separate revenue source titled Clean Fuels in our accounting system. Forth generates expenses relevant to carrying out the Clean Fuels work such as employee salaries and contracts. These expenses are identified in the Forth accounting system as work specific to the Clean Fuels contract. On a monthly basis, these Forth expenses are outlined in an invoice to Forth Mobility Fund and a transfer between the two entities is completed. Forth then recognizes the revenue source as Clean Fuels funding. An audited report, consolidated for both organizations, is provided along with this report. It includes "Clean Fuels Program" revenue listed as a separate revenue source.

Expense Category	Expense
Statewide Consumer Engagement	\$ 499,557
Utility Engagement	\$ 60,147
Focused Local Programs	\$ 89,341
Administration	\$ 72,116
Total	\$ 721,160.76

# Statewide Consumer Engagement

Since becoming Backstop Aggregator, Forth has committed time and resources to pursue and implement programs across all of Oregon. We partner with local organizations and utilities who know their communities best to implement programs with clear and consistent messaging. The workplan which informed Forth's activities in 2020 was created in collaboration with Oregon DEQ with a goal of maximizing awareness and adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) to support the State's target of having 50,000 EVs registered in Oregon by the end of 2020. With this in mind, Forth also applied a targeted universalism approach to its work as we believe that a strategy crafted to benefit frontline and rural communities is not only critical but will benefit all communities in the end. Throughout the year we aimed to partner with various community-based organizations, extend our reach into rural communities, and leverage many of our previously developed resources to increase access to our programs. Our 2020 workplan featured a suite of continued and new program concepts and we are pleased to present a report of how these programs evolved and adapted to be virtual over the course of the year.

#### **Dealer Engagement**

Most automotive dealerships and their sales staff are not effectively promoting electric vehicles (EVs). According to the Sierra Club's 2019 Rev Up EV's report, prospective EV buyers still find that most automotive salespeople know relatively little about EVs and dealerships remain disinterested in promoting them. To combat these issues, Forth worked to enhance relationships with dealerships and educate consumers so they are better prepared to handle dealership interactions. Forth implemented several strategies during 2020.

#### **Portland Auto Show**

The Portland International Auto Show (PIAS) is one of the biggest events hosted in Portland each year, seeing more than 50,000 attendees. Forth organized "Electric Avenue" and "Electric Drive" (EV ride and drive area). This booth was co-sponsored with Oregon's largest utilities, Portland General Electric and Pacific Power. Vehicles were provided by four Portland area dealerships (Audi Beaverton, Beaverton Hyundai, Subaru of Portland, and Gladstone Hyundai).

Some of the other attractions at the space included a vehicle display wall highlighting nearly 40 of the currently available and up-and-coming EVs, Chargeway Beacons, and Information Booth with various EV resources and giveaway items.

Forth trained more than 20 volunteers and had nearly 20 staff members during the four-day event, answering questions and providing resources for thousands of consumers. 319 folks took a general survey at the Electric Avenue booth (a small percentage of the overall number engaged). In a 3-month follow up survey, 15% of respondents reported purchasing an EV following the Auto Show. Forth also delivered 196 test drives during the course of the Auto Show. With the onset of COVID-19 just a few weeks after PIAS, this was the only large-impact in person event Forth was able to deliver in 2020.



#### **EV-Drive Program**



Forth also developed the "EV-Drive Dealership Certification Pilot Program". Forth partnered with Eugene Water and Electric Board and Emerald People's Utility District to increase the dealership experience for their customers. Taking place from October 2020 to January 31, 2021, Forth trained 22 sales staff at two dealerships, Kendall Chevrolet and Sheppard Hyundai. Additionally, Forth facilitated an incentive program for sales staff and consumers (incentives were paid by the utilities) to encourage EV sales. 14 sales were recorded during the pilot program. There is interest to extend this program indefinitely and expand its reach, with new

dealerships and utilities enrolled into the program.

Forth also used this opportunity to test out a new method for educating consumers in the Greater Eugene area. Through the Electrifyze "Car Buying and Education Coach", interested consumers received 1 on 1 coaching to get all the EV questions answered. Forth was able to provide one on one coaching to 6 individuals. Forth also was able to provide price quotes directly from dealers to consumers, so they did not need to directly interact with the dealership until they were ready to purchase. Forth is looking at opportunities to continue expand the Electrifyze platform to educate more Oregon residents and improve the car-buying experience. Forth expects to grow the impact of this program in 2021.

#### Forth Electric Showcase and Fleet Management

The Forth Electric Showcase is a physical space in Downtown Portland where the public can learn about electric vehicles and charging, and take test drives from a number of electric vehicles in Forth's fleet. Forth also provides the opportunity for long-term reservations of some fleet vehicles. Operations ran normally through the first two and a half months of 2020. We educated 350 consumers who had questions about electric vehicles and conducted 32 test drives. Forth hosted a safe scooter workshop with the e-scooter company Razor where participants learned how to ride a scooter, how to navigate in traffic, received a free helmet and practiced riding scooters nearby. Forth also hosted 3 tours of the Showcase to PGE employees.

In the second quarter of 2020, Forth closed the Showcase as a COVID precaution as well as damage suffered from protests occurring in Portland starting in late May 2020. Forth's long term vehicle rental program was still able to operate and we conducted four test drives during this period. Forth also

published and promoted an updated <u>virtual showcase</u> so that consumers were still able to experience the Showcase during social distancing.

Beginning in June 2020, Forth pivoted its consumer education to take place online. It started a webinar series called the *EVening Commute* which focused on answering consumer questions related to EVs as well as profiling emerging topics in electric transportation such as electric pickup trucks and motorcycles. Through the second half of 2020 Forth held 9 *EVening Commute* webinars with a total of 600 attendees and 930 YoutuTube views. Forth also began to write and publish articles in the international blog CleanTechnica and published 11 articles on electric transportation. Each article received an estimated 10,000-20,000 reads by CleanTechnica's international audience of over 7 million readers a month.

#### **EVening Commute Webinar Series**

Introducing the EVening Commute (6/24/20)

• 43 Attendees, 24 YouTube views

EVs Here to Help (7/8/20)

48 Attendees

Electric Micromobility (7/22/20)

• 57 Attendees, 82 YouTube views

Electric Motorcycles (8/19/20)

• 76 Attendees, 267 YouTube views

An EV Buyer's Journey (9/24/20)

• 20 Attendees, 35 YouTube views

Light Duty Trucks (9/30/20)

• 202 Attendees, 112 YouTube views

Oregon National Drive Electric Week (10/3/20)

• 39 Attendees, 51 YouTube views

Vehicle to Grid Charging (10/20/20)

• 75 Attendees, 89 YouTube views

What's Coming in 2021 in Electric Mobility (12/16/20)

• 145 Attendees, 321 YouTube views

During the fourth quarter of 2020, Forth began an internal revisioning process to decide the future of Forth's Electric Showcase post-Covid. Staff listed and scored various options for the 3 year-old space and identified the creation of a mobile showroom to bring to communities across the Pacific Northwest to be the top priority for the organization. Staff wrote and won funding for this priority through a Pacific Power Clean Fuels grant and will be building and displaying this mobile EV educational center across Oregon in 2021 and 2022. Finally, Forth continued its long-term test drive program and completed 20 test drives through the second half of 2020.

Since Forth's fleet was not being utilized to its full potential during the pandemic-related closures, Forth sought out opportunities to share its vehicles with organizations that could put them to good use. In the first instance of this, Forth loaned a few of its vehicles to the restaurant Botanist House which had begun

delivering free meals to service workers impacted by the pandemic. Over the course of 12 weeks, Botanist House utilized three of Forth's vehicles to deliver **4,916** meals, part of a <u>larger effort</u> that served over 35,000 meals. A Forth staff member also volunteered in this effort and contributed to roughly half of the all-electric deliveries made.

Forth also loaned a vehicle to Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center for two months in the summer of 2020 to support efforts to deliver supplies and COVID-19 screening and educational materials to migrant farmworker camps in Washington and Yamhill counties. With Forth's vehicle, the outreach team visited three large migrant farmworker camps and two small camps in Washington County weekly, plus two commercial plant nurseries, completing a total of 24 outreach events, screening 1,953 individuals for COVID-19 and providing medical care to 330 individuals.



#### **Workplace Engagement**

Workplaces and employers provide an opportunity to reach both general consumers in an effort to increase EV adoption as well as employers to encourage and support the installation of charging infrastructure. Forth hoped to leverage and grow its network of employers across Oregon to host ride and drive events and lunch and learns throughout 2020. These employee focused efforts would be paired with employer education about the benefits of workplace charging and resources to support employers interested in installing charging infrastructure. In the midst of COVID-19 precautions, we pivoted slightly to deliver a number of smaller programs virtually.

#### **EV Cafeteria Webinar Series**

Though we were unable to host any in-person events, we introduced a virtual webinar option called the EV Cafeteria. Meant to resemble a lunch and learn, these events took place over the lunch hour and provided information about EVs, charging, rebates and incentives. Forth conducted outreach to numerous employers, including municipalities, consulting firms, and employer organizations.

- Total number of webinars: 7, including 5 employer-specific events and 1 event specifically promoted for community-based organizations
- Attendees: 340

#### **Workplace Charging Support**

In addition to the employee-focused efforts Forth engaged in, we also continued working on resources and support for employers to encourage the adoption of workplace charging. This included the development of a workplace charging toolkit which includes a roadmap and key considerations for organizations or individuals who are interested in installing and implementing a workplace charging program.



Additionally, Forth spent 2020 developing a workplace certification program called Electric Vehicle Adoption Leadership (EVAL) which provides resources, a roadmap, and recognition for businesses aiming to support employees transitioning to cleaner transportation technologies.

#### **EV Charger Giveaway**

In late 2019, 50 Level-2, non-networked EV chargers were donated to Forth to be given away for workplace charging purposes. Forth worked with partners from across Oregon to help distribute these chargers, with the goal of prioritizing rural areas. Due to COVID-19 and uncertainties around budgeting, some organizations, though interested, were unable to commit resources to install these chargers but, in total, 28 of these chargers were donated and installed in 2020 across 11 different locations and 5 counties in Oregon. Businesses and organizations that received chargers are as follows:

- City of Ashland
- The Environmental Center (Bend, OR)
- Ashland Airport
- The Bite (Tumalo, OR)
- City of Enterprise
- Moonshine Glass Art (Enterprise, OR)
- Chetco Brewery (Brookings, OR)
- Ashland Fire Department
- Columbia Area Transit (Hood River, OR)

#### **EV** Ambassadors

EV Ambassadors are EV owners and advocates that can be a great resource and provide testimony for driving consumer adoption. Forth has supported and has been supported by a small group of EV Ambassadors for the past few years and hoped to be able to spread its geographic footprint by leveraging EV owners' networks and community spaces. This program was designed to be heavily event-driven whereby Forth would sponsor EV Ambassador-hosted community gatherings that would focus on educating about EVs in a fun comfortable environment. However, due to precautions around COVID-19, in-person events were no longer possible.

Instead, in 2020, we partnered with a number of EV Ambassadors that volunteered to speak at <u>webinars</u> <u>featuring</u> EV owners or share EV <u>testimonial videos</u>. Forth fostered relationships with EV Ambassadors in many ways, including attending monthly meetings help by groups such as Oregon Electric Vehicle Association, Southern Oregon Electric Vehicle Association, and Emerald Valley Electric Vehicle Association. These events were held and broadcast in coordination with National Drive Electric Week (September 26<sup>th</sup> - October 4<sup>th</sup>). These webinar recordings and EV testimonials have a combined total of over 400 views to date.

Forth promoted and/or hosted a total of 5 webinars or community Zoom sessions led by EV Ambassadors using Forth's social media accounts and cross-promoted with volunteer-led organizations such as Oregon Electric Vehicle Association, Lake Oswego Sustainability Network, and Emerald Valley EV Association. These EV Ambassador-led events, such as <a href="this one">this one</a> from October were able to reach over 200 people throughout Oregon.

#### **Shared Mobility**

With funding from Clean Fuels, Forth was able to continue its outreach and educational efforts for Forth's Fair Financing Program, a pilot that is designed to help break down the initial financial barrier to EV adaption among rideshare drivers in the Portland metro area. These funds assisted Forth in reaching low-income TNC drivers who would financially benefit from switching to an EV. Our education outreach included 11 driver testimonial videos, 2 driver compilation videos, infographics for social media, and a 9 episode long podcast series. Some results of our educational outreach include 2,000+ clicks to the website as a result of the social media campaign, 264 downloads of our "Plugged In" Podcast, which features drivers discussing their experiences with using an EV for rideshare available HERE. Thus far the program has received inquiries from over 40 potential applicants and the education and outreach campaign has resulted in 2 drivers already purchasing a Chevy Bolt each. The current focus is to expand the program beyond rideshare and build out a more robust financial counseling component.

#### **Other Demonstration Projects**

In addition to the above projects and programs mentioned, Forth utilized some of its Clean Fuels Revenue to support the development and implementation of projects largely funded by other sources. Both of the following programs focus on rural communities in Oregon. Forth sees these efforts as a key strategy to equitably provide education and outreach about electric transportation to all Oregonians.

#### **E-Tractor Pilot**

In partnership with Sustainable Northwest and Bonneville Environmental Foundation, Forth launched a demonstration project which will place several electric tractors and install charging infrastructure at a number of farms across Oregon. Tractors and other farm equipment present a tremendous opportunity to reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions but the market has been slow to provide viable options. Forth is excited to launch and grow this program in the coming months to create market demand for these vehicles and inform policy outcomes around electrification of the agricultural sector.

#### CRuSE

The Clean Rural Shared Electric Mobility Project (CRuSE) began in 2019 and has been building toward a public launch, though COVID-19 has created a number of delays. The project's objective is to place five electric vehicles around Hood River, OR, to identify a financially sustainable model for carsharing in a rural community, while addressing some of the major barriers that exist in rural and low-income communities to participating in traditional carshare programs. This project is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy and supported by Pacific Power as well.

# **Focused Local Programs**

#### **Central Oregon**

In 2020, Forth continued its partnership with subcontractor, The Environmental Center, to carry out work in Central Oregon. The Environmental Center is well-positioned to understand the needs and perspectives of its community. Forth worked with The Environmental Center to develop its workplan for 2020 and remained in contact throughout the year as the workplan needed to be modified due to COVID-19 precautions. Some of the below activities were carried out in collaboration between Forth and The Environmental Center and Forth worked to cross-promote these efforts when possible.

#### **Virtual Events**

For its virtual events, The Environmental Center tried out a number of virtual platforms to better reach various audiences; platform and metrics used are included.

Power Hour (5/19/20)

Topics included affordable paths to EV ownership, used EV rebates, and basics of EVs; hosted on Facebook Live.

 Attendees: 98 views on Facebook over 1 minute, 19 views on YouTube, 3500 Facebook Impressions, 173 Likes, 119 Comments

Who Drives Electric Vehicles Event (6/30/20)

With additional support from Pacific Power produced a short 10-minute video profiling an EV driver who is an apartment dweller and commuter. The Environmental Center shared the video and held a live event to ask questions and build understanding about used EV options, charging in a rental, and adventures possible even in a short-range EV, hosted on YouTube and Facebook Live.

 Attendees: 32 event views on YouTube, 57 video views on YouTube, 20 viewers on Facebook live and an estimated reach of 366

Driving on Sunshine (9/21/20)

Presentation and panel discussion during the 2020 Central Oregon Green Home Tour focused on EV ownership and buildings, covering topics from basics of EVs to battery backup and solar energy; hosted on Zoom, <u>Facebook</u> and YouTube.

- Partners: E2 Solar, EV Driver Henry Able, BASE Zero LLC, and Pine Mountain Sports
- Attendees: 23 on Zoom, 27 views on Facebook over 1 minute, 23 views on YouTube, 240
  Facebook Impressions

Transportation Electrification Presentation (9/24/20)

Presentation to a Science and Technology group of a senior education network focused on transportation electrification, basics of EVs, rebates and e-bikes; hosted on Zoom.

- Partner: Osher Lifelong Learning
- Attendees: 28

National Drive Electric Week Virtual Test Drive Event (10/2/20)

Presentation covering EV basics, a video testimonial of an EV driver, a virtual test drive at a dealership, and details about financing and incentives; hosted on Zoom, <u>YouTube</u>.

• Attendees: 16 on Zoom, 28 on YouTube

#### In-Person Events

The Future of Electric Cars, Bikes, and Transit - East Bend (3/3/20)

• Partner: Deschutes County Library

Attendees: 17

The Future of Electric Cars, Bikes, and Transit - Sisters (3/11/20)

• Partner: Deschutes County Library

• Platform: In Person and <u>Facebook Live</u>

• Attendees: 19 in-person, and 535 views on Facebook

#### **Tabling Events**

Northwest Crossing Saturday Farmers Market (9/26/20)

Testing how in person events may be able to continue in a pandemic year

• 32 conversations

Sisters Farmers Market (9/27/20)

Testing how in person events may be able to continue in a pandemic year

8 conversations

#### Other Activities

#### **Dealership Outreach**

 In person meetings at 3 regional dealerships to go over state rebate qualification information and encourage them to apply/ start using the Cash on the Hood rebate for the OCVRP.

#### Virtual assistance for EV questions

- Two blogs about Oregon EV incentives and charging tax credits have 3,179 page views and 9,495 minutes of reading time
- Worked with 15 people responding to general EV guestions and inquiries

#### Workplace Charging

 Educated 10 different businesses and institutions about EV charging at the workplace in person and in virtual meetings.

#### ODOT Region 5 Lunch and Learn

• Lunch and learn Presentation to ODOT office online. Included EV101 and charging grant opportunities; 35 attendees

#### City assistance in transportation electrification planning

- Engaged in multiple meetings with city staff on including transportation electrification in city transportation planning.
- Advocated for Bend Climate Action plan to recognize the value in increasing EV adoption

#### Southern Oregon

#### **Dealer Engagement**

Forth worked with consultant Greg Lemhouse to coordinate rural dealership engagement with a

focus in the Ashland area. Greg provided great contacts at TC Chevy which is one of the leading new and used EV sellers in the area.

#### **Ride and Drive Events**

Forth also coordinated a corporate ride and drive event at Providence and Asante hospitals, both were planned for April during Earth Day and unfortunately had to be canceled due to COVID-19.

#### **Other Focused Community Work**

#### Rural Public Event/Webinar Outreach and Planning

Forth planned another Earth Day Ride and Drive at Clackamas County that was later postponed and then converted into a webinar event hosted by Clackamas Public Library. Unfortunately, due to the wildfires in Oregon this event was canceled as well due to the Clackamas Public Library staff inability to safely travel to the library during the fires.

#### **University Outreach**

Forth reached out to many rural community colleges and public universities to offer free electric vehicle webinars, events and electric vehicle informational hand-outs. Ride and Drives were planned with Portland Community College or PCC and Lewis and Clark College before they were also canceled due to COVID-19. Neither college wanted to pursue webinar opportunities because during that time they were still figuring out how to go virtual with their college courses.

#### Webinars

# Consumer Engagement & Transportation Electrification: Addressing the Challenges of a Global Pandemic (8/23/20)

2020 was a challenging year for EV outreach. This webinar was an opportunity to share the efforts of shifting outreach strategy amidst the pandemic. Recording available <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

#### Electrify Your Commute! (12/3/20)

Forth partnered with Wallowa Resources, The Environmental Center and The Oregon Clean Vehicle Rebate Program to offer a rural facing webinar. The webinar was hosted on Forth's webinar platform and can be viewed <a href="https://example.com/here/bath/">here</a>.

• 24 Attendees, 35 YouTube views

### **Utility Engagement**

Forth's work with consumer-owned utilities continues to represent a great opportunity to expand electric vehicle adoption efforts across Oregon. This is specifically important to ensure our less-urban and diverse communities maintain equitable access to these technologies, and are not left behind in the transportation electrification revolution. Forth enlisted several strategies for engaging with these utilities in 2020.

Forth continued to provide support to several utilities throughout the year. Along with providing responses to occasional questions and industry introductions, this included providing project consulting support to Oregon utilities applying for Bonneville Environmental Foundation's (BEF's) Zero Emission Vehicle Innovation grant (Ashland, Forest Grove, Hood River Electric Coop, EPUD, Midstate Electric) which led to more than \$400,000 in additional grants funds to support EV projects in Oregon. Acknowledging that smaller and consumer-owned utilities are not accustomed to participating in formal grant processes, our support included grant writing, charging infrastructure recommendations, project planning and budgeting, and more.

Forth also completed two reports on behalf of Bonneville Environmental Foundation, focusing on the benefits and implications of electric vehicle charging for Pacific Northwest Consumer-Owned Utilities. The findings showed that each EV in our region can add \$300-\$1000 in ratepayer benefits and over \$4,000 in regional benefits. The report also highlighted how Oregon's Clean Fuels program increased these benefits. Forth wrote a newsletter article about these reports, shared at utility webinars, and hosts the reports on its website.

#### **Utility Webinars**

Forth hosted a series of webinars and workshops to specifically to bring Oregon utilities together and share resources, transportation electrification best practices and apprise of funding opportunities. The three events Forth hosted in 2020 included:

- March 2020 Utility Webinar: 80 Attendees (101 registrations)
- August 2020: Utility Webinar/Workshop: 18 attendees (25 registrations)
- November 2020: Utility Webinar/Workshop: 43 attendees (56 registrations)

These webinars were in addition to the dozen or so regularly scheduled webinars which Forth hosts, which covered many topics relevant to Oregon utilities' transportation electrification efforts.