

## ***Clean Cars Nevada Means Healthier Air and a Stronger Economy for Nevadans***

[Millions of Nevadans](#) live in communities with unhealthy levels of air pollution. Reducing that pollution from cars, SUV's and passenger trucks is an important step Nevada can take to save lives and keep people safe. *Clean Cars Nevada* can help reach that goal – while also saving Nevadans money at the gas pump and delivering jobs and health care cost-savings to the state.

### **Air pollution from roadway vehicles harms Nevadans' health**

The [Las Vegas-Henderson area](#) is the ninth most polluted city in the entire country for ozone and is in the top 25 dirtiest cities for particle pollution.

- The passenger cars and trucks that travel Nevada roads are one of the largest sources of the dangerous pollutants, including air toxics and the pollution that causes smog and soot.
- Exposure to these pollutants can be [serious, and often deadly](#). It can cause heart disease, stroke, aggravation of asthma, permanent lung damage and premature death from respiratory causes – especially in children and the elderly who are at greatest risk.
- The health risks of near-roadway pollution are also disproportionately high for people of color and those with lower incomes, because these groups already face [health disparities](#) and constitute a higher percentage of the [population near major roadways](#).

### **Climate change is endangering Nevada**

- In Nevada, the transportation sector is the [largest contributor to climate pollution](#), emitting 15.5 million tons of carbon dioxide in 2017.
- Nevada is one of the [fastest-warming states in the country](#). The state's annual average temperatures have already increased by two degrees F over the past century.
- [Las Vegas is the fastest warming city in the nation](#) and is nearly six degrees F warmer than it was in 1970.

As a result, heat waves are becoming more common, snow is melting earlier in spring, the frequency and intensity of wildfires are increasing, and water is becoming scarcer.

- August 2019 broke a record in Nevada for [most consecutive days over 105 degrees F](#).
- [Drought in the Colorado River basin](#) reduced the volume of water in Lake Mead by over half since 2000.
- [Wildfires are more prevalent](#). Over the last five years, Nevada has reported wildland fires almost every month year-round. And dry forests help foster the [invasive pine beetle](#), which infested more than 24,000 acres in Nevada in 2014, creating additional fuel for fires.

### **Cleaner Cars = Cleaner Air**

*Clean Cars Nevada* will help reduce harmful air pollution, providing healthier and longer lives and cutting health care costs.

- A Low-Emission Vehicles (LEV) standard will require new gasoline- and diesel-powered cars and passenger trucks to apply cost-effective technology to reduce greenhouse gases and harmful air pollutants.
- A Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) program will ensure that automakers deliver more battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles to Nevada. Electric vehicles emit zero tailpipe pollution and less climate pollution than their conventional counterparts, even when accounting for upstream power plant emissions.
- Nevada's Renewable Portfolio Standard will make ZEVs even cleaner as the electricity grid transitions toward more renewables.

### **Clean cars save money and provide jobs**

*Clean Cars Nevada* will save families an estimated [\\$500 per year in fuel cost savings](#) and maintenance over the life of a new model year 2025 car.

It will also provide jobs. Nearly [1,200 Nevadans already have clean transportation jobs](#) and a ZEV program would create even more. For example, Sparks is home to Tesla's 1.9 million square foot [Gigafactory](#), which produces the Model 3 electric motors and battery packs and employs thousands of Nevadans. Tesla's Model 3 recently became the [best-selling car](#) across all passenger segments in California, where almost 19,000 Model 3's were sold in the first three months of 2020.

### **States are driving the shift to cleaner cars and trucks**

Under Section 177 of the Clean Air Act, fourteen states and the District of Columbia have adopted LEV standards, with three more states considering adoption.

Eleven states have [adopted a ZEV program](#) for light-duty vehicles. Together those states represent more than 30 percent of the new car sales market in the United States. Nevada would be the 12<sup>th</sup> state to adopt ZEV standards, and three more states are considering them.