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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Michiana Area of Council Governments and Drive Clean Indiana Host**  
**Electric Vehicle Test Drive for**  
**Local Government Leaders and Law Enforcement**



**South Bend, IN (January 29, 2025)** – Michiana Area of Council Governments (MACOG) and Drive Clean Indiana partnered to host their second electric vehicle test drive catered to local governments. The test drives were held on a test track at the Tire Rack Corporate Headquarters in South Bend.

Please find the official event video [here](#). Please find official event photos [here](#).

Local law enforcement and other local municipal departments like parks, utilities, and public works had the opportunity to get behind the wheel of electric vehicles. The line-up included a variety of light-duty electric vehicles suited for day-to-day municipal operations. Vehicles available for test drives included the Chevy Blazer EV, Chevy Bolt Equinox, Chevy Silverado Work Truck, Ford F-150 Lightning, Ford Mustang Mach-E, and Tesla Model 3. Other display vehicles included the Tesla Model Y, Subaru Solterra, Hyundai Ioniq 5, and Chevy Bolt EUV. The event was made possible thanks to the participation of local dealerships Campbell Ford, Gates Chevy South Bend, Gurley Leep Ford, and McCormick Motors.

“This first-hand experience positions our local governments to make informed decisions for their fleets, and act on time-sensitive grants and other incentives for electric vehicles,” said MACOG Director of Sustainability Leah Thill.

Following the first event, ten local governments applied for a grant, and four were awarded including Marshall County Highway, City of Plymouth, City of Nappanee, and Town of Walkerton. Walkerton

expects to put the first all-electric law enforcement vehicle in the MACOG region into service shortly after their new Chevy Blazer EV PPV is outfitted.

“MACOG and Drive Clean Indiana’s EV Ride and Drive event has provided a positive experience to help deploy EVs in our fleet,” said the Mayor of Nappanee Phil Jenkins.

This event was in partnership with MACOG’s Northern Indiana Green Fleet program and part of the **GO Electric Vehicle INdiana** (GOEVIN) program, a collaborative, statewide initiative dedicated to advancing the adoption of electric vehicles across the state. At each GOEVIN event, attendees can expect to discover the future of EV transportation within Indiana’s MPOs and test drive an array of passenger and fleet EVs that can be fitted to address their municipal needs.

Drive Clean Indiana supports the nation’s energy and economic security by building partnerships to advance affordable domestic transportation fuels, energy-efficient mobility systems, and other fuel-saving technologies and practices.

#### **About MACOG**

*[The Michiana Area Council of Governments](#) (MACOG) is a voluntary organization of local governments that studies and attempts to resolve, for the benefit of each member and the region, areas of interlocal issues, which includes but is not limited to transportation, transit, economic development, environment, and other issues that impact the region.*

#### **About Drive Clean Indiana**

*[Drive Clean Indiana](#) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization managed by [Legacy Environmental Services, Inc.](#), an Indiana Certified Women’s Business Enterprise, and serves the entire state of Indiana. Designated as the 71st [Clean Cities and Communities](#) coalition on June 15, 1999, Drive Clean Indiana is one of the U.S. Department of Energy’s more than 75 Clean Cities and Communities coalitions and is the only Clean Cities and Communities coalition throughout the state of Indiana. The organization supports our nation’s energy and economic security by building partnerships to advance affordable domestic transportation fuels, energy-efficient mobility systems, and other fuel-saving technologies and practices. Learn more at [www.drivecleanindiana.org](http://www.drivecleanindiana.org).*

#### **About GOEVIN**

*[GO Electric Vehicle INdiana \(GOEVIN\)](#) is a collaborative, statewide initiative dedicated to advancing the adoption of electric vehicles across the state. The goal of the GOEVIN team, which consists of IDEM, the Indiana Utility Group, and Drive Clean Indiana, is to increase consumer awareness and comprehension of EVs to promote their general acceptance throughout the Hoosier state.*

#### **About Northern Indiana Green Fleet Program**

*Drive Clean Indiana manages the [Northern Indiana Green Fleet](#) program for our metropolitan planning organizations, including the Michiana Area Council of Governments ([MACOG](#)). The goal of the program is to significantly improve the environmental performance of business and government vehicle fleets across each the MPO’s territory through diesel retrofits and other fuel reduction strategies. Drive Clean Indiana works with and guides these fleets to help mitigate barriers preventing the adoption of alternative fuels*

*and advanced technology vehicles while creating policies supporting petroleum and vehicle-emission reductions.*

***About Tire Rack***

*Tire Rack, family-owned and headquartered in South Bend, Indiana, is a leading independent tire tester and consumer-direct source for tires, wheels, and performance accessories. Their team tests tires from every major tire manufacturer at the company's 12-acre test facility on the headquarter campus, at Treadwell Research Park in Pearsall, TX, and winter test facilities in Northern Michigan. Findings are published on the company's website, [www.tirerack.com](http://www.tirerack.com), where consumers can make an educated decision on their purchase. Tire Rack has also collected the largest known cache of consumer ratings and reviews anywhere, with more than 200,000 consumer surveys representing over 2.9 billion miles of real-world tire data. In addition, various testing and informational videos are available online in their Video Center at [www.tirerack.com/videos](http://www.tirerack.com/videos).*