HOW CAN WE MAKE A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO BATTERY ELECTRIC BUSES?

Cities and States in the US are in the early stages of a large-scale transition from diesel and compressed natural gas buses to zero-emission, battery-powered electric buses. While battery-electric bus (BEB) technology is still developing, BEBs are expected to have lower lifetime costs than conventionally fueled buses. BEBs can also help improve urban air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create good manufacturing jobs. But, there are significant challenges in upgrading existing technology and overcoming fears of job loss and economic hardship. Here’s how to bring all of the pieces together.

"Public Transportation is so complex. Where do we even start?"

**GO BIG.**

**PLAN & COLLABORATE.** Commit to ambitious targets on specific timelines and work closely with local government, agency workers, utilities, & communities.

**SHARE & COMMIT.** Create a constructive dialogue to foster a shared sense of mission and provide robust support for data gathering and sharing with targeted funding streams.

"But, improved environmental conditions only benefit the wealthy, right?"

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS EVERYTHING.**

**FIND THE NEED.** Identify the neighborhoods that are most impacted by air pollution and prioritize deployment in those neighborhoods.

**PUSH RENEWABLE.** Incentivize utilities to adopt on-site renewable energy generation to maximize greenhouse gas reductions.

"Well, new technology and automation will kill jobs and create high unemployment, won’t it?"

**NO WORKER LEFT BEHIND.**

**SET THE STAGE.** Develop sustainable jobs policies and incentives to ensure family-supporting wages, benefits, and training in transferable skills.

**SUPPORT RETRAINING.** Consult bus operators, maintenance workers, and unions to determine what training to procure, and support technical skills training for BEB manufacturing workers.

"OK, but any large-scale transition like this will just be monopolized by large companies with deep pockets. Who will be accountable to the community?"

**REAL TRANSPARENCY. REAL ACCOUNTABILITY.**

**WELCOME PARTICIPATION.** Encourage and create opportunities for large-scale stakeholder participation.

**WELCOME SCRUTINY.** Commit to regular and open review.

With planning, collaboration, and a commitment to equity and transparency, cities and states have an unprecedented opportunity to facilitate improvements in air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create family-supporting manufacturing jobs through the implementation of battery-electric buses. Visit www.jobstomoveamerica.org to read the full report and find out more.