

Introduction

Coordinating Research Council & Sustainable Mobility Committee

August 2025

Contacts:

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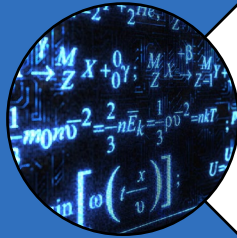
Dr. Chris Tennant, Executive Director ctennant@crcao.org



CRC Mission & Objectives

Mission

The Coordinating Research Council (CRC) fosters cooperative scientific research in the technological advancements of fuels, lubricants, vehicles, and equipment in matters of national and global interest.



Be a focal point for cooperative, pre-competitive research.



Provide a forum for all stakeholders to participate in the research.



Make technical information available to industries, governments and the public.

Formed in 1919,
incorporation in 1942.

501(c)(3) nonprofit
association organized to
direct scientific research.

No advocacy or lobbying.
Intellectual property and
antitrust protections.

All CRC research reports
are available to the public.



Coordinating Research Council (CRC) Strategic Plan – established 2025



Research

Facilitate high-quality, science-based precompetitive research.

Credibility

Leverage subject matter experts to uphold the reputation and the quality of research at CRC.

Priorities

Identify and prioritize collaborative research among the mobility industry, energy industry, and government scientists.

Research

Conduct research on emissions, performance, atmospheric and sustainability impacts of fuels, lubricants, vehicles and equipment.



Collaboration

Provide forums for all stakeholders to participate in the research.

Subject Matter Expertise

Nurture subject matter experts throughout member companies.

Recognition

Increase recognized value of CRC participation within Member Companies.

Engagement / Personal Development

Support effective and efficient collaborative processes.

Future Focus

Identify & evaluate processes of collaboration.



Visibility

Make technical information available to industries, governments and public.

Internal

Articulate complex research and CRC value within member companies.

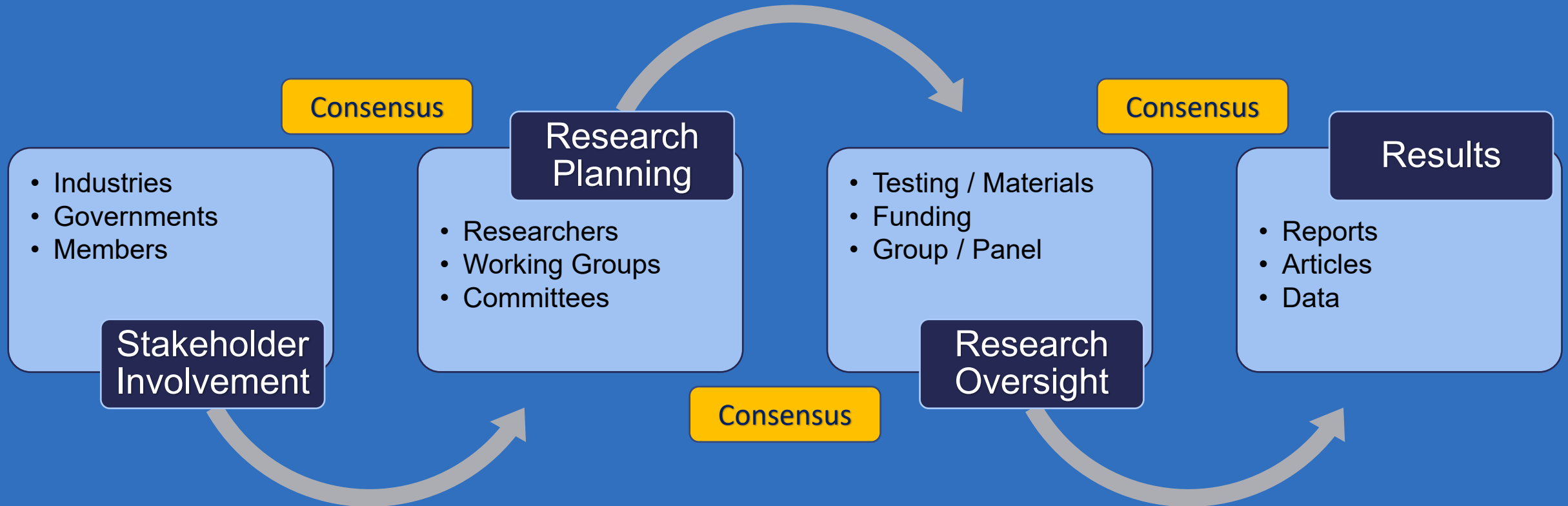
External

Focused outreach of data driven information to the technical community, in easily accessible, searchable, and trackable work products.

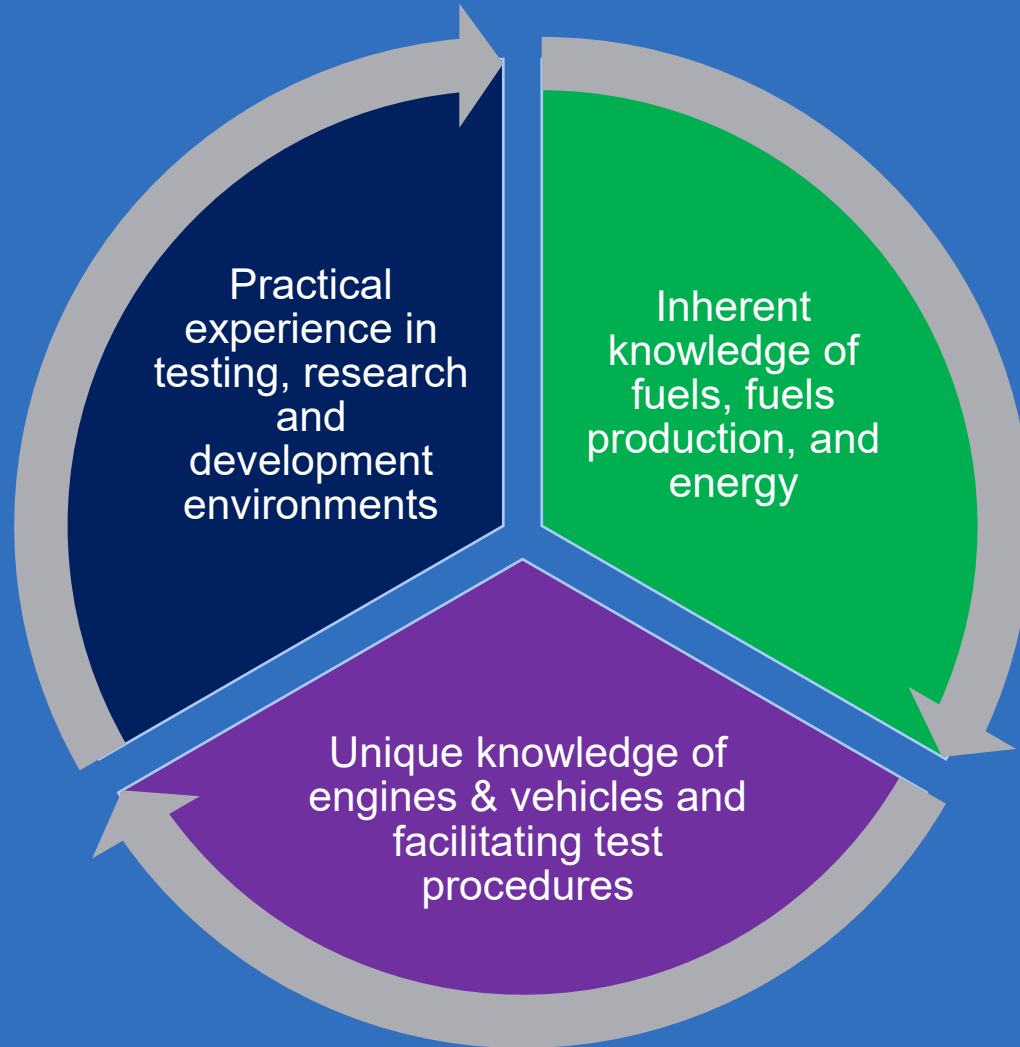
Exposure

Access to subject matter experts and the technical community across industries. Collaboration with the broader technical community to advance science.

Core Function of CRC: Enable a Process for Cooperative Research



CRC Research Benefits From Synergy Between Industries



DIVERSITY and **BALANCE** of industry representation and perspectives are the foundation of CRC's objective research.



Benefits of Cooperative Science Facilitated by CRC



Impact

Independent, balanced results available to the public **inform regulations and standards.**

CRC research informs and can be referenced to improve models and regulations from EPA and CARB. CRC research is also used extensively by ASTM.



Leverage

Collective effort supports a **research program value of much larger size** than any individual member contribution.

The current average **leverage** (ratio of the value of total research to the individual Member's contribution) for a CRC Sustaining Member is **a factor of 30.**



Network

Technical expertise is available from a **diverse group of peer researchers** in a noncompetitive environment.

CRC Members have access to Committees, Groups, and Panels made up of hundreds of subject experts. This can be particularly valuable in professional development for newer staff.



Protection

Policies govern **intellectual property** and **compliance with antitrust regulations.**

CRC facilitates cooperative research between competitors, different industries, governments, and academia with important protections for all involved.

A Century of CRC History

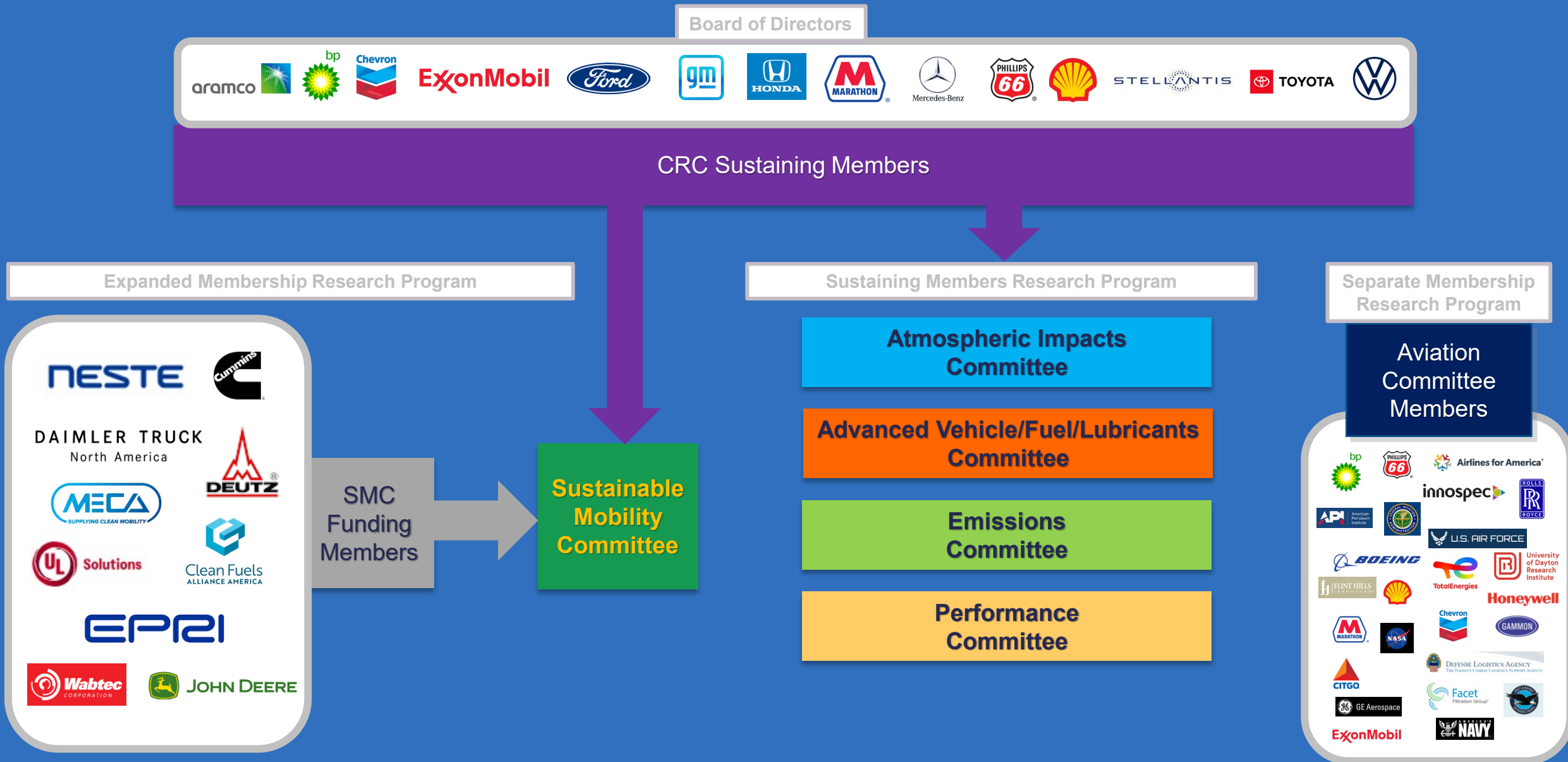
1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s	2020s+
Beginning: Cooperative Fuels Research (CFR) Committee of SAE		Military Research: Aviation & Vehicle Performance			Air Quality: Light-Duty Vehicle Focus			Wider View: +Autos, +Committees	Global View: Sustainability	



Research emphasis of the Council adapts to the needs of Members. More diverse than this simple summary, research continues today in all topics listed.



CRC Organization: Members & Committees



CRC Workshops & Technical Meetings

Life Cycle Analysis of Transportation Fuels

9th Event: October 7-9, 2025
Argonne National Lab, IL

Real World Emissions

36th Event: March 8-11, 2026
San Diego, CA

Aviation

Annually - 1st Week of May
2026: Alexandria, VA

Mobile Source Air Toxics

12th Event: February 10-11
2026
Riverside, CA

Sustainable Mobility

4th Event: April 2026
with SAE WCX
Detroit, MI

Special Events

Liquid Hydrogen - NASA (2023)
Air Quality Modeling Research Needs (2016, 2022)
Fuels and Engines: The Road Ahead (2020) / Stochastic Pre-Ignition (2020)
Driveability (2019)
Southern California Ozone Research Symposium (2018)





What's New at CRC?

Expanding Research Focus



UPSTREAM –
SOURCES FOR
RENEWABLES



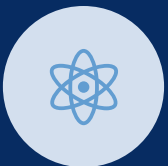
BRAKE & TIRE WEAR



WILDFIRES



ELECTRIFICATION



HYDROGEN



TECHNOECONOMIC
ASSESSMENT



TOPICS EVOLVE WITH
MEMBER NEEDS

Expanding Industry Membership



MEDIUM / HEAVY-
DUTY & NONROAD



BIO- &
RENEWABLE FUELS



ELECTRIFICATION
EQUIPMENT



NEW
STAKEHOLDERS

Advanced Vehicle/Fuel/Lubricants Committee

11 Active
Projects

14 Publications
in last 5 years

167
Researchers

- Advanced automotive hardware and new fuel formulation effects on automotive emissions (3-10 years out).
- Durability and operability of new fuel formulations in advanced hardware (3-10 years out).



Co- Chair:
Andrew Ickes,
Chevron

Advanced Vehicle/Fuel/Lubricants
Committee

Fuels for Advanced Combustion Engines
Working Group

Lubricants Advisory Panel



Co- Chair:
Ivan Tibavinsky,
Mercedes Benz



11 Active
Projects

11 Publications
in last 5 years

46 Researchers

Atmospheric Impacts Committee



Co- Chair:
Sandy Winkler,
Ford

- Focus resources to improve science and regulations related to air quality
- Improve the ability to predict effects of emissions on air quality by:
 - Improving inventories
 - Understanding air chemistry
 - Strengthening air quality models
- Predict the importance of emerging data



Co- Chair:
Chris
Rabideau,
Chevron

Atmospheric Impacts
Committee

Atmospheric Impacts
Working Group



Emissions Committee

15 Active
Projects

33 Publications
in last 5 years

100
Researchers

- Define effects that changes in automotive hardware, fuel compositions, and their interactions have on automotive emissions related to air quality and air-borne toxics
- Address current and future regulatory needs
- Determine the contribution of vehicle/fuel source emissions to the environment and how current computer models reflect these contributions (RWG)

Emissions
Committee



Co- Chair:
Michael Moore,
Stellantis

- Determine the contribution of vehicle/fuel source emissions to the environment and how current computer models reflect these contributions
- Open Working Group allowing interactions and collaborative projects with agencies & other industry partners

Real World Emissions & Emissions
Modeling Working Group



Co- Chair:
Steve McConnell,
Marathon



Performance Committee

8 Active
Projects

14 Publications
in last 5 years

133
Researchers

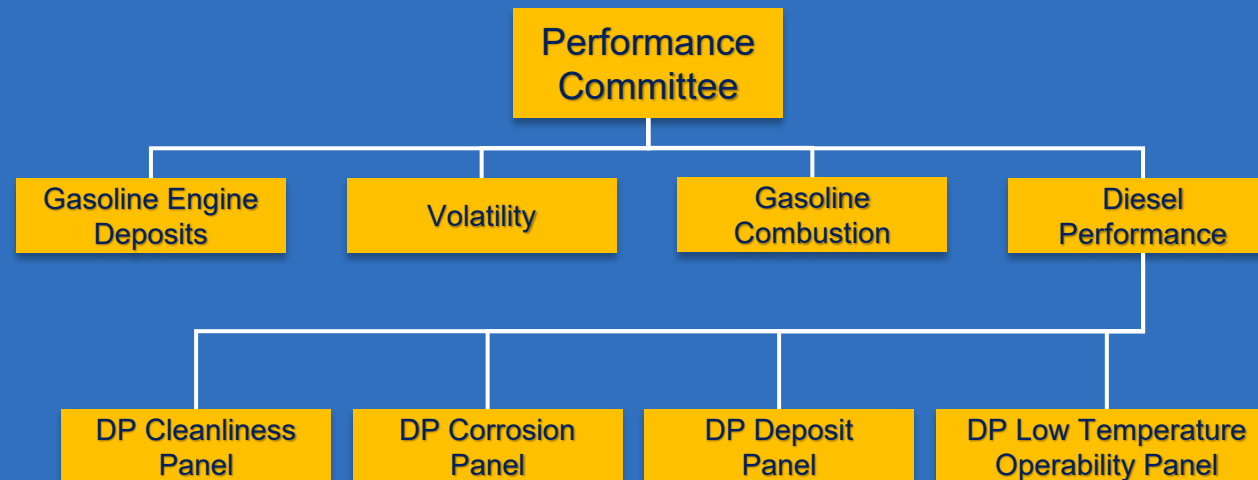
- Relate physical and chemical properties of fuels to vehicle performance
 - Driveability/ Volatility Relationship
 - Octane Response
- Develop engine and vehicle test procedures to use in commerce and regulations and use these procedures to monitor vehicle/ fuel performance.
 - Deposits
 - Stability / Operability



Co- Chair:
Beth Raney-Pablo,
Ford



Co- Chair:
Russ Lewis,
Marathon



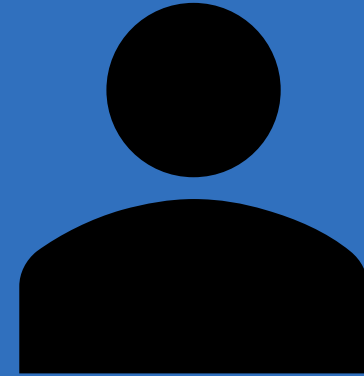
Sustainable Mobility Committee Leadership & Vision



Co- Chair:
Elana Chapman
Energy & Emissions Regulatory Technical
Specialist
General Motors



Co- Chair:
Brianne Kanach,
Senior Principal Engineer,
Advanced Vehicles and Fuels
ExxonMobil Technology &
Engineering



Co- Chair:
In Development
Funding / Charter Member

Vision

A multi-stakeholder forum for collaborative scientific research studies
focused on pathways towards a carbon neutral future
through significant greenhouse gas reductions from mobility
while seeking to understand tangential impacts

CRC's Sustainable Mobility Committee was founded in March 2021



Sustainable Mobility Committee Membership

Steering Committee



Open for New Members

Partner Member Group

Joint Office of Energy and Transportation

Department of Transportation

Federal Highway Administration

Environmental Protection Agency

Department of Energy

National Institute of Standards and Technology

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Argonne National Laboratory

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Sandia National Laboratory

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Idaho National Laboratory

Brookhaven National Laboratory

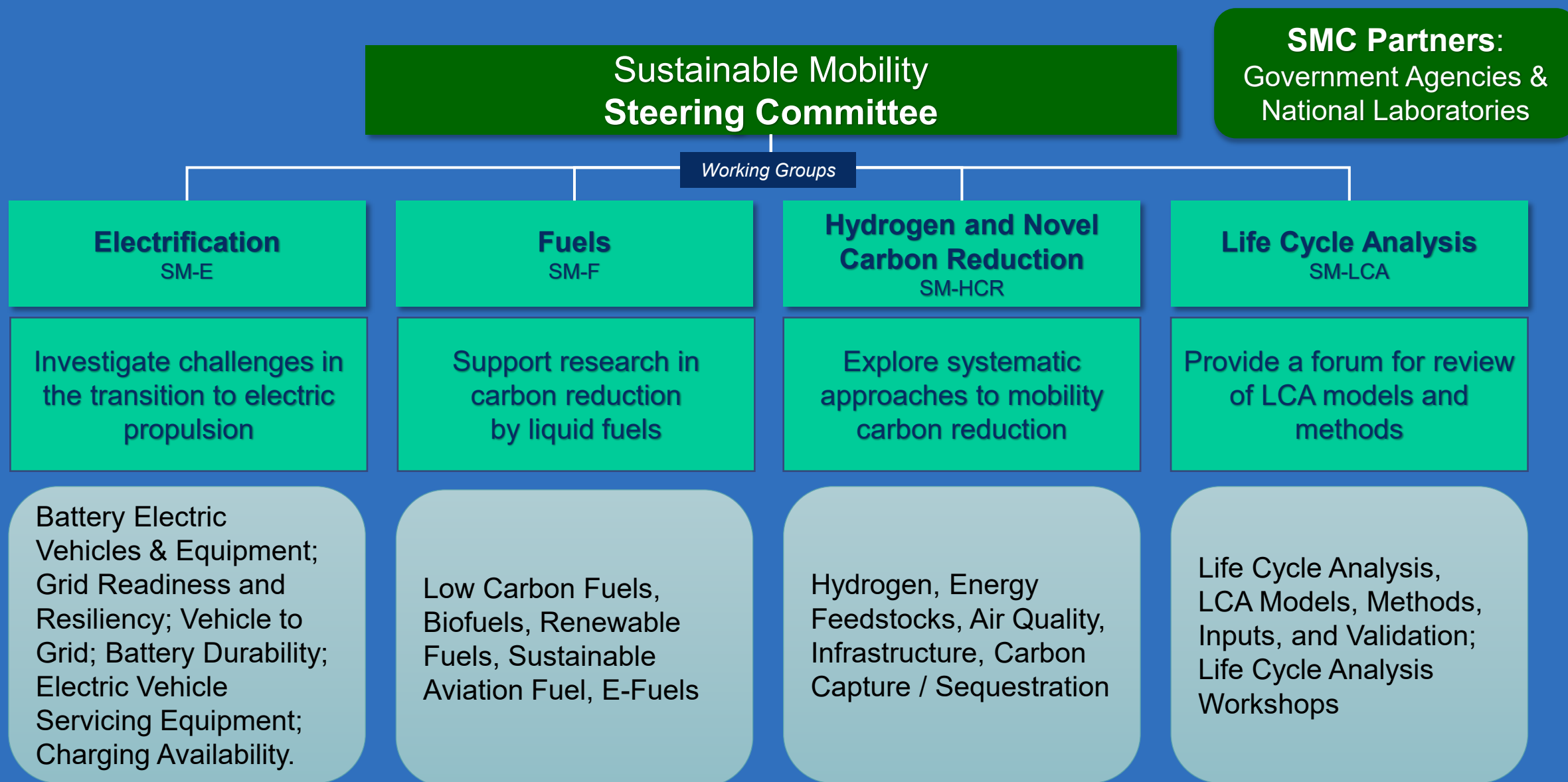
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

United States Council for Automotive Research

The Partner Member Group membership is open for government agencies and related organizations.

They meet frequently to share information on the latest research and to discuss opportunities for collaborative research programs.

Sustainable Mobility Committee Structure and Research Focus



Participation in the SMC Working Groups is open to representatives of Steering Committee Member companies, and individual researchers by invitation.

Leadership



Christopher Brooks
Honda



Melissa Przybylo
Toyota



Ivan Tibavinsky
Mercedes-Benz

SM-E Electrification Working Group

Mission & Focus: Investigate challenges
in the transition to electric propulsion

Current Research Topics

Battery
Durability

Electric Vehicle
Servicing
Equipment

Charging
Availability

Battery Electric
Vehicles &
Equipment

Grid Readiness

Vehicle to Grid

Recent Publications

SM-E-16	Exploring DC Fast Charging Load Profiles and Implications for Operators	Smart Electric Power Alliance (SEPA)	LINK
SM-E-18 / E-142	V2X Requirements to Support the SAE J1634 Short Multi-Cycle Test and Setting Initial SOC for Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles	Southwest Research Institute (SwRI)	LINK
SM-E-20	Carbon Return on Investment for Electrified Vehicles	National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)	LINK
SM-E-4/8	Predictive Lifetime Battery Simulations of Intra- and Inter-Cycle Degradation for V2G Use	University of Michigan	LINK

Active / Developing Projects

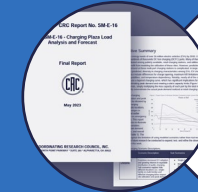
SM-E-20-2	Carbon Return on Investment for Electrified Vehicles Follow-On	National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) developing & scoping partners
SM-E-2023-2	Survey Of Public EV Charger Interoperability	
SM-E-2025-01	Understanding inefficiencies in an EV- EV charger ecosystem during charging	

Potential Future Projects

BEV Benchmarking, Cold Operation & Preconditioning	Prioritization and Development in Progress
Battery Swapping vs. H2: Comparative Total Cost of Ownership	
Global Study of Charging Interfaces and Standards	
Enabling DC Fast Charging (DCFC) Installations at Traditional Fueling Sites and on Inter-City Corridors	



There are about **70 individual researchers** in the SM-E Working Group and Project Panels, representing Committee Members and partner organizations, including CARB, EPA, and Argonne National Lab.



CRC final reports are internally **peer reviewed** by the Project Panel, Working Group, and Steering Committee.

They are **available to the public** to be used to inform regulations, support standards, and to help Members improve their products.



Active, Developing, and Potential projects are all **opportunities for partnerships** in the form of direct funding or in-kind support.

About 1/3 of all CRC research is funded by a partnership.



Contact CRC Executive Director
Chris Tennant to learn more about a
partnership or membership options:
ctennant@crcao.org



Leadership



Steve McConnell
Marathon



Michael Moore
Stellantis



Steven Panova
Electric Power
Research Institute

SM-F Fuels Working Group

Mission & Focus: Support research in
carbon reduction by liquid fuels

Current Research Topics

Low Carbon
Fuels

Biofuels

Renewable
Fuels

Sustainable
Aviation Fuel

E-Fuels

Recent Publications

SM-1	Evaluation of the Potential for Significant GHG Emission Reductions from ICEs Operated on Liquid Fuels	ERM	LINK
SM-F-2 / A-134	Sustainability and Local Air Quality Impacts of Future Electrification and New Vehicle Emission Regulation Scenarios in the U.S.	University of Houston	LINK

Active / Developing Projects

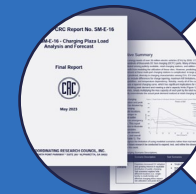
SM-F-5	Research in Support of Future Fuel Specifications	Southwest Research Institute (SwRI)
SM-F-2023-2	Sustainable Biomass Availability for Existing O&G Infrastructure	developing scope & partners

Potential Future Projects

Evaluation of Mid-level Ethanol Blends (E16 to E50) [an update to E-97]	Prioritization and Development in Progress
Fuel Survey Data Available from Public Sources	
Reactivity Characterization of Alternative Low and Zero-Carbon Fuels	
Fuel Composition Requirements to Maintain Original Equipment Design Performance	
Ducted Fuel Injection (DFI) Multi-Cylinder Engine (MCE) Demonstration	



There are about **50 individual researchers** in the SM-F Working Group and Project Panels, representing Committee Members and partner organizations.



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ctennant@crcao.org



Leadership



Steve McConnell
Marathon



Andrea Lubawy
Toyota



Sunil Chhaya
Electric Power
Research Institute

SM-HCR Hydrogen and Novel Carbon Reduction Working Group

Mission & Focus: Explore systematic approaches to mobility carbon reduction

Current Research Topics

Infrastructure

Carbon
Capture /
Sequestration

Renewable
Energy
Storage (Grid)

Energy
Feedstocks

Nuclear Power
Impacts on
Renewables

Hydrogen

Recent Publications

SM-CR-9	Assess the Battery-Recharging and Hydrogen-Refueling Infrastructure Needs, Costs and Timelines Required to Support Regulatory Requirements for Light-, Medium-, and Heavy-Duty ZEVs	ICF	Executive Summary MD/HD ZEV Fact Sheet Final Report New Analysis – Jan'25
SM-1	Evaluation of the Potential for Significant GHG Emission Reductions from ICEs Operated on Liquid Fuels	ERM	LINK

Projects in Final Reporting

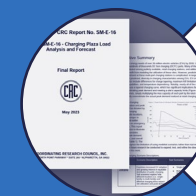
SM-CR-2023-1	Carbon Sources for E-Fuels (partnered with OGCI)	Ricardo
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Potential Future Projects

TCO for Fuel Cell Hydrogen Engines and BEV	Prioritization and Development in Progress
In-Use Emissions Performance of H2 ICE Vehicles	
System Cost Assessment for Electric Pathway vs E-fuel pathway	
H2 ICE Tolerance to Cross-Contamination of H2 Fuel Streams	
Decarbonization Pathways for Plastics	
Evaluation of Hydrogen Fuel Cells as a Power Source for Electric Vehicle Charging	



There are about **40 individual researchers** in the SM-CR Working Group and Project Panels, representing Committee Members and partner organizations.



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Active, Developing, and Potential projects are all **opportunities for partnerships** in the form of direct funding or in-kind support.

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partnership or membership options:
ctennant@crcao.org



Leadership



Robb De Kleine
Ford



Diep Vu
Marathon

SM-LCA Life Cycle Analysis Working Group

Mission & Focus: Provide a forum for review of LCA models and methods

Current Research Topics

Life Cycle
Analysis

LCA Models,
Methods,
Inputs, &
Validation

LCA Workshop

Recent Publications

SM-LCAW 2023	8th Life Cycle Analysis Workshop	Argonne National Lab (ANL)	LINK
SM-1	Evaluation of the Potential for Significant GHG Emission Reductions from ICEs Operated on Liquid Fuels	ERM	LINK
SM-LCA-17	Review of Selected Models Used for Biofuels GHG Determinations and Comparison of Results for Two Fuels	Trinity	LINK

Active / Developing Projects

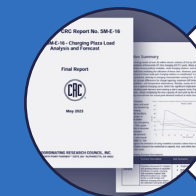
SM-LCA-17b	Literature Review of Models Used for Biofuels GHG Emissions Modeling and Comparison of Results on Some Commonly Available Fuels – Follow-on	Trinity
SM-LCA-2025-02	9 th Life Cycle Analysis Workshop	Hosted by Argonne National Laboratory: October 2025 LINK

Potential Future Projects

Evolution of lifecycle environmental impacts of future critical mineral extraction	Prioritization and Development in Progress
Comparative Wells-to-Wheel (WtW) NOx Emissions from ICEVs and BEVs and Impact on NAAQS	
Literature Review: Feedstock Cultivation Emission Factors	
Integrating Biofuels into Scope 3 Emissions Accounting for Enhanced Sustainability Scoring	
Lifecycle Analysis of Direct-Air Carbon Capture Pathways	



There are about **50 individual researchers** in the SM-LCA Working Group and Project Panels, representing Committee Members and partner organizations, including EPA.



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Sustainable Mobility **Steering Committee** Membership Options –2025

Charter Member **\$50,000+ / year**

4 Steering Committee Voting Seats

Funding Member **\$25,000+ / year**

2 Steering Committee Voting Seats

- Membership dues provide funding for the Committee's research program and support the organization.
- **Members and outside partners may also co-fund specific projects through in-kind or cost sharing.**
- Voting representation is scaled to dues, but Member researcher participation is not limited to voting seats*.

-
- All 14 current CRC Sustaining Members contribute \$200,000 / year. One voting seat is recognized for each company.
 - No single company will be accorded more than 25% of the voting seats.

**Membership by other associations is allowed, provided that the association staff are the primary technical participants.*



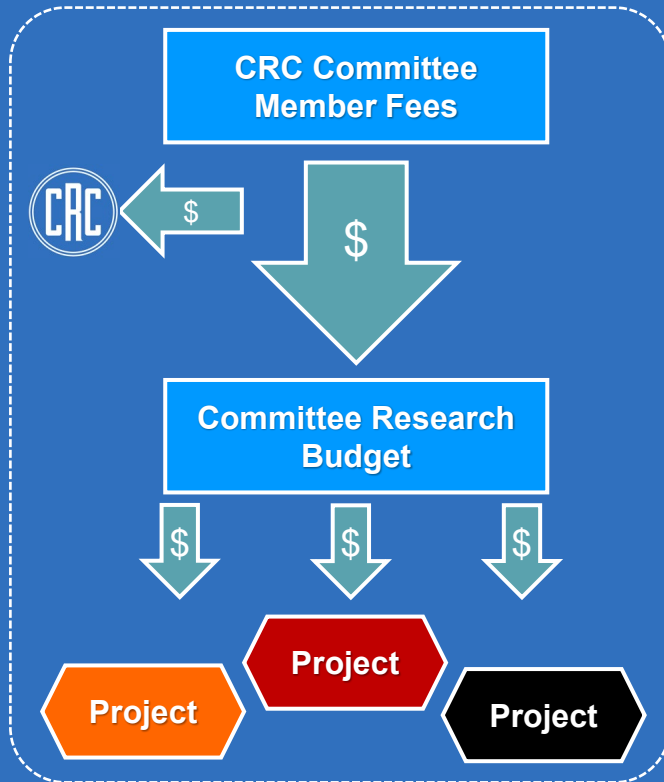
More Information

See also: www.crcao.org to find all CRC publications, workshop announcements, and requests for proposals.

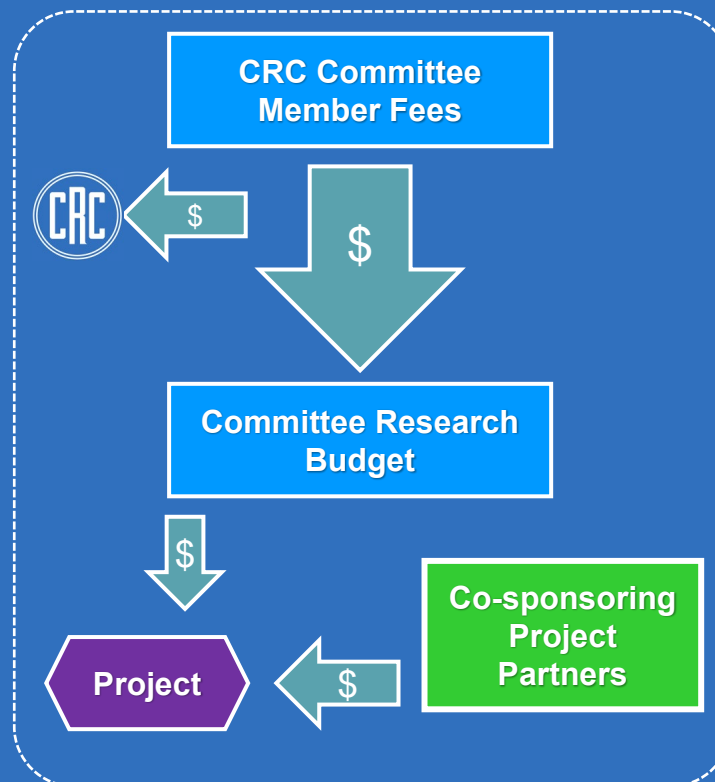


CRC Research Project Funding - Approaches

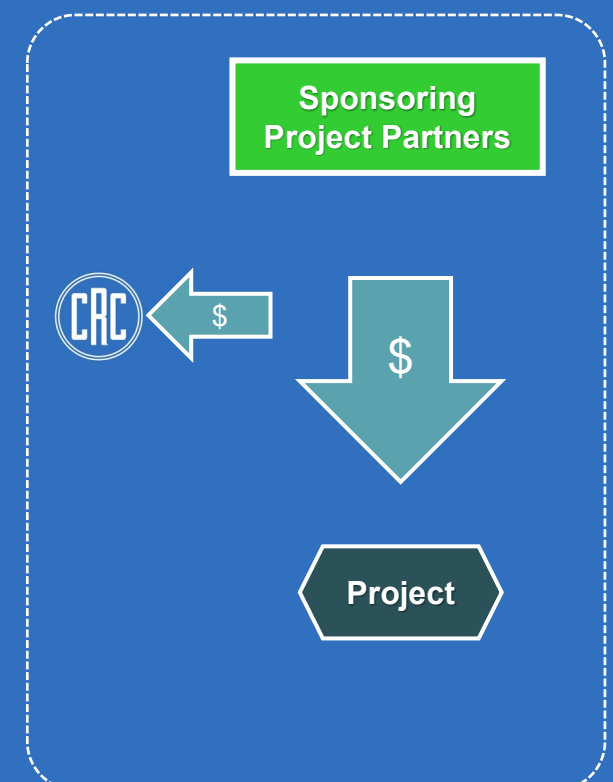
Committee-funded Research



Partnered Research



Funded Research



These are illustrations of different pathways for our flexible approach to supporting research through Committee action and teaming arrangements. Support can be in-kind as well as funding. Partners can be from within or outside of the Committee.

All CRC research projects, regardless of how they are supported, follow the same process for Committee approval and review of all aspects of the research and the reporting.



What type of research does CRC do?

Experiments

Auto/Oil Air Quality Improvement Research Program 1989-1997 \$40M (>\$82M today)

Mid-Level Ethanol Blends Program 2009-2013 \$17M (>\$23M today)

Advanced Collaborative Emissions Study (ACES) Phases 1 & 2, 2005-2013 \$2.6M (>\$4M today)

Driveability: Hot-Fuel-Handling Program 2014 \$1.4M, (>\$2M today); 'Trick Car' Development; Rater Training Workshop 2021; Automated Driveability Rating System 2022

Remote Sensing of In-Use Vehicle Emissions (1999-2022)

Portable Emissions Measurement (2018-present)

Deposits (Gasoline and Diesel)

Low Speed Pre-Ignition (LSPI)

Fuel Properties and PM

Fuel Effects on PM

Test Method Development (Various)

Analysis

Implications of Regulations: Assess Recharging / Refueling Infrastructure for ZEVs

Evaluate Potential of Future Products and Fuels: Potential for ICE, Carbon Return on Investment, Future Fuel Specifications

Review and Analysis of Regulatory Models & Inputs: MOVES, EMFAC

Life Cycle Analysis (LCA)

Fuel Quality & Property Surveys: Gasoline – ethanol fuel blends, Natural Gas, Jet Fuel

Literature Reviews (various)

EV Fluid & Low Carbon Fuel Properties Analysis

Electric Vehicle Transition Modeling: Charging Network, V2X / Battery Durability Modeling

Events

Sustainable Mobility Workshop - Annual

Real World Emissions Workshop - 35+years

Aviation - Annual

Life Cycle Analysis Workshops - 2009 – present

Mobile Source Air Toxics Workshops (11 so far)

Air Quality Research Needs (2 so far)

Southern California Ozone Research Symposium 2018

Fuels and Engines: The Road Ahead 2020

Reference

Special Topics on CRC Website: e.g.:

Detailed Hydrocarbon Analysis (DHA) Research and Resources

Fuels for Advanced Combustion Engines

Books:

Handbook of Aviation Fuel Properties

The Mechanisms of Reactions Influencing Atmospheric Ozone (2015)

The Mechanisms of Atmospheric Oxidation of the Aromatic Hydrocarbons (2002)

History of Emissions Reduction (pending)

Lists are just examples to illustrate the range of research that the CRC technical committees support. See the CRC website for and individual research project report and program descriptions in the annual reports: www.crcao.org

More Background on the Coordinating Research Council

Links to short presentations arranged by topic:



[Understanding CRC](#)



[Impact of CRC Research](#)



[CRC Organization](#)



[Membership in CRC](#)



[History of CRC](#)



[CRC Events](#)



Contact



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