

Equity Plan for NEVI Applications

Guidance and Resources for Louisiana NEVI Applicants

The Louisiana Department of Transportation seeks to meet the federal [Justice40 Initiative's](#) goals through the implementation of the NEVI program in Louisiana. When developing your plan, please consider the following guidance. Note: These resources are provided to help applicants develop their J40 plans, and are not intended to be a complete or exhaustive resource.

- **Guidance on Conducting Meaningful Community Engagement:**
<https://driveelectric.gov/files/just-community-engagement.pdf>
Why is this a requirement? Community participation early and throughout all project stages is critical for a just and resilient clean energy transition. Community participants—individuals and advocacy organizations—should fully represent the social composition of the community, especially those who have been historically marginalized and burdened by pollution and underinvestment. Empowering communities with decision-making, long-term governance, and asset ownership increases equity in energy policies and implementation and narrows the divide between community and governance. **Examples of community engagement include, but are not limited to:** community meetings, focus groups, and/or surveys. Source: https://eta-publications.lbl.gov/sites/default/files/wei_campbell_equity_and_energy_new_final.pdf
 - **Economic Opportunity and Jobs:** A major policy goal of the J40 initiative is to improve economic outcomes in DACs by investing in these communities in support of the transition to a zero-net-GHG economy, thereby providing more economic opportunities to improve livelihoods and basic well-being. Improved economic outcomes can take the form of direct hiring, education, and training programs in specific areas such as electrical work and construction, apprenticeships, and STEM education programs. An example of how J40 goals can be met in a NEVI project is through contracting with businesses located within DACs. Tracking these contracts provides insight into how funding opportunities are flowing directly into businesses located within DACs, such as the number of contracts to Justice40-determined businesses (women-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned, and/or economically disadvantaged businesses).
 - **Selecting Equitable Payment Systems for the chargers you install - Best Practices:**
<https://driveelectric.gov/files/payment-system-best-practices.pdf>
 - **How to determine if your project is in, or near, a J40 community:** [Electric Vehicle \(EV\) Charging Justice40 Map](#)
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Louisiana NEVI Justice 40 Initiative Implementation

Questionnaire for Applicants

1. Is your project located in a disadvantaged community (according to the [Department of Energy NEVI Mapping Tool](#))? (Yes/No)
2. What kinds of [community engagement](#) have you completed in the project area and/or what are your future plans for ongoing engagement within the community? (Examples: community meetings, focus groups, and/or surveys) Provide any links to relevant materials.
3. Are you or any of your project partners registered [Disadvantaged Business Enterprises](#) (DBEs)? If so, please list them below. (Describe below.)
4. Does your project team include any members of an apprenticeship or other job training program? Specify any plans to have apprentices on site at any stage of this process. (Yes/No, describe below.)
5. Will the chargers be accessible to any non-English speakers? (Yes/No, describe below.)
6. How do you plan to ensure the price to customers will remain fair and affordable (Learn more [page 2](#))? (Describe below.)
7. Do you plan to provide payment options beyond exclusively using a card reader (learn more about equitable payment systems on [page 15](#) and here: <https://driveelectric.gov/files/payment-system-best-practices.pdf>)? (Yes/No, describe below.)
8. Share any other relevant information in regards to how your project will help Louisiana meet the goals of the [Justice40 Initiative for NEVI](#) that are not included in the above questions. (Describe below.)

Acronyms and Abbreviations

DAC	Disadvantaged Community
DBE	Disadvantaged Business Enterprise
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
WBE	Women Business Enterprise
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics