

## AB 2766/MSRC NATURAL GAS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM - FINAL REPORT

### Contractor

City of Commerce

### Co-Sponsors

South Coast AQMD

Clean Energy

### Project Officer

Claude McFerguson, City of Commerce  
Director of Transportation

### Background

In 2010, the City of Commerce opened a public liquid-to-compressed natural gas (LCNG) and compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station to meet the growing demand for natural gas vehicles. The station has been a pillar for the city offering alternative fueling for their vehicles as well as for light-, medium-, and heavy-duty public vehicles. It has operated, especially during peak hours, at capacity since it opened over a decade ago.

Many medium- and heavy-duty fleet customers located in the area utilize the station exclusively, such as Ware Disposal, Bimbo Bakeries, LAUSD, Amazon and Better 4 You Meals.

### Project Objective

Anticipated increases in monthly fuel dispensed at the station and increases in CNG vehicle deployments in 2018, not only from the City of Commerce but three of the stations core fleets, were the determining factors that led the city to seek funding to expand the current station footprint. To keep up with the growing fueling demand and improve efficiencies, a second L/CNG pump and additional dispensers needed to be installed.

### Technology Description



*City of Commerce L/CNG fueling station on Sheila Street*

The City of Commerce L/CNG station fuels all classes of vehicles and dispenses 100% renewable natural gas (RNG). RNG provides natural gas vehicles a near-zero emissions solution that reduces smog forming NOx emissions by at least 70% versus diesel, and in some cases by up to 90% if the vehicle is equipped with the low NOx emissions standard of 0.02 g/bhp-hr.

In fact, when paired with RNG, the 0.02 emissions standard engine it tests as low as 0.01 g NOx/bhp-hr., achieving virtually zero tailpipe emissions and depending upon the RNG feedstock can have a negative carbon intensity.

### Status

The City of Commerce requested and was awarded funding from MSRC in the amount of \$275,000 to offset the costs of the facility expansion. In addition to the MSRC grant award, the project was also awarded a SCAQMD Carl Moyer Infrastructure grant of \$866,305.

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The Carl Moyer contract dictated that no work could begin until after that contract was executed, which was 16 months after the application was submitted on July 31, 2019.

Because of the delays in application review and contracting from the SCAQMD, the project start date was pushed towards the end of 2019 and as a result suffered delays due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The station expansion was completed on June 30, 2021.



One of two decals showcasing MSRC funding

## Results

The station expansion afforded an increased fueling throughput and efficiencies both for the city and public fleets, providing the ability to deploy more trucks equipped with cleaner fuel technologies.

The larger deployment of CNG vehicles coupled with the use of RNG has provided a substantial reduction in diesel emissions, which is vital to community health and progress towards meeting air quality attainment goals.

Volume of both CGE and LNG increased as projected to over 1,100,000 GGEs/year since the station opened in 2021.

YEAR	GGEs
2021	1,326,718
2022 (to date)	1,124,654

## Benefits

The communities that are near the City of Commerce station include some of the most impacted populations that suffer disproportionately due to pollution in the South Coast Basin. This pollution is caused in large part by heavy-duty vehicles traveling on and around the I-5 and I-710 corridors. The station serves as a crucial fueling point for trucks traveling in and around the Ports of Long Beach and LA, and these communities are benefitting directly from the increase in natural gas vs. diesel vehicles fueling at the station.

## Project Costs

The City of Commerce requested \$1,483,044 in public funding support to expand this station. The City of Commerce submitted and was awarded \$866,305 through the SQAQMD *Carl Moyer Infrastructure Program* and was also awarded \$275,000 from the MSRC *Natural Gas Infrastructure Program (AB 2766)*. The City of Commerce filled the funding gap to complete the proposed expansion.

## Commercialization and Applications

In conjunction with the submittal of this application, cleaner HD engine technology CNG engines were being certified and widely adopted within the port community. The City of Commerce expanded station serves as a catalyst to companies considering CNG trucks that rely on a public network of stations to connect the main goods movement corridors.