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**MAYOR EMANUEL ANNOUNCES NATION'S LEADING INCENTIVE PROGRAM
TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FLEETS
TO CONVERT TRUCKS TO ELECTRIC POWER**

New Program Will Be Most Generous Incentive Package in Nation To Incentivize Conversions to Electric Vehicles; Will Include Vouchers Given at Point of Sale

Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced today that the City of Chicago will launch an incentive program for electric trucks in Spring 2013, which will be the most innovative program of this kind in the nation, and will encourage private and public fleets to convert their diesel trucks to electric operations. The Chicago program will be the first program in the nation based on the size of the battery being placed in the vehicle.

"This first-of-its-kind incentive program will make Chicago the leader in building a robust public and private electric truck fleet and dramatically increase the number of these trucks on Chicago's streets, allowing companies to operate more efficiently and creating economic opportunity in the process," said Mayor Emanuel. "This program is a creative way to achieve sustainability goals and business goals at the same time, and I'm pleased to be leading the charge on this effort."

Eligible fleets for the program will be those that operate in the Chicago area, which for the purpose of this program will be the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will. The program will be applied in the form of a voucher applied to the purchase price at the point of sale – whether at a dealership or through a manufacturer. The value of the voucher will be about 60 percent of the incremental cost of the electric vehicle (over the cost that might be expected for a traditional diesel vehicle) and will be determined by the size of the truck's battery pack. The City will issue a call for applications in Spring 2013, and expects to issue approximately 250 vouchers.

"The City is encouraging companies to invest in electric vehicles in order to incrementally improve Chicago's air quality while helping to advance these emerging transportation technologies," said Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) Commissioner Gabe

Klein. “By offering a voucher at the point of sale, rather than as a post-sale rebate, we hope that more companies will be encouraged to participate in the program.”

The program is funded by resources from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and their Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program selection committee, which awarded the City \$15 million in CMAQ funds. Those funds, which come from U.S. Department of Transportation funding, will make the E-Truck incentive program possible.

“Electric trucks can improve quality of life for residents of the Chicago region by making our streets cleaner and quieter,” said CMAP Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn. “By supporting worthy projects such as this, CMAP encourages the use of cleaner transportation technologies and fuels to help achieve regional goals for air quality and sustainability.”

This is not the first such program that the City has undertaken under Mayor Emanuel’s leadership. Through similar federally funded incentive programs, the City has helped deploy 404 cleaner vehicles, including 159 compressed natural gas (CNG) livery/taxi vehicles and 223 alternative fuel stations, including 17 CNG and 202 electric vehicle charging stations. These vehicles and stations have displaced 200,000 barrels of oil and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 2,850 tons. The Mayor has committed that the City will continue to be a leader in promoting transportation options and sustainability efforts that nurture further job and economic development.

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