

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: September 17, 2020

Contact: ANCA Communications Associate Audrey Schwartzberg (518) 891-6200,

aschwartzberg@adirondack.org

ON-RAMP Summit Will Advance Clean Transportation in the Region

ANCA convenes stakeholders for virtual event, rescheduled from April

SARANAC LAKE, N.Y. — As New York State residents and leaders observe Climate Week (September 21 to September 27, 2020) with the intention to reduce climate-altering greenhouse gas emissions statewide, the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) will be gearing up for a virtual summit that will advance clean transportation — a key ingredient to the state's low-carbon future.

"Clean Transportation: the Adirondack ON-RAMP," will focus on topics including EV infrastructure, public transportation and commercial vehicles, as well strategies and policies for making clean transportation more accessible for residents and communities in northern New York.

The virtual event will include seven one- to two-hour sessions over five days: Tuesday, September 29 to Friday, October 2 with a closing session on Monday, October 5. The summit was originally scheduled as a two-day in-person event for April 2020, but was rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants are invited to register at www.adirondack.org/onramp.

"We're thrilled with the growing momentum around clean transportation at State and local levels," said Jerrod Bley, ANCA Clean Energy Program Director. "ANCA is committed to bringing stakeholder interests to the table as we transition to a low-carbon future. ON-RAMP participants will help provide a holistic plan for our region's transportation system moving forward."

Bley cited the 2023 World University Games and the New York's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) as motivating factors for holding the summit this year.

The 11-day World University Games will be based in the Village of Lake Placid, which, along with the greater Olympic Region, was awarded a gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Design) certification by the U.S. Green Building Council in December 2019. The multi-sport event provides an opportunity for the region to demonstrate its commitment to environmentally sustainable development, including a low-carbon transit system to serve over 2,400 athletes and their spectators during the Games — as well as the transportation needs of residents, businesses and visitors into the future.

The CLCPA, which Governor Andrew Cuomo signed into law in June 2019, sets specific targets for reducing carbon emissions and adopting clean energy technologies statewide. The State has pledged to eliminate net GHG emissions by 2050 and to transition its electricity generation to renewable and carbon-free energy sources.

ON-RAMP will convene organizers of the 2023 Games, community stakeholders, New York State and Quebec Government policymakers, financial institutions, Canadian equipment manufacturers and energy producers and others with the goal of ensuring a low-carbon transportation system for the Games and beyond. Participants will work together to begin developing an EV implementation roadmap for the region, informed by the goals of the CLCPA and other State programs.

Two community needs sessions, led by a team from Clarkson University's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Institute for a Sustainable Environment, will focus on specific transportation challenges North Country communities face and the solutions they envision. These sessions are free, open to the public, and will take place virtually on Tuesday, September 29, 6:00-8:00 p.m. and Friday, October 2, 12:00-1:00 p.m. Individuals who would like to attend the public sessions and are not attending ON-RAMP may register separately with a link provided on the ON-RAMP registration page at www.adirondack.org/onramp.

The cost for ON-RAMP is \$95 for general registration and \$75 for ANCA members. Please contact ANCA Membership & Events Coordinator Alexis Subra at asubra@adirondack.org for information about student discounts.

<u>ANCA</u> is an independent, nonprofit corporation with a transformational approach to building prosperity across northern New York. ANCA's community-informed, results-driven strategies for local food producers, small business owners, would-be entrepreneurs and municipal innovators offer targeted interventions that are designed to keep wealth and value in local communities.

Attached: one (1) PDF document

###