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Letter: Purchasing electric ditching gas guz

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When the White House looks forward at the next four years, there n be a bit of déjà vu in the eyes of the president. In 2009, Joe Biden second in command of an economy teetering on economic collapse due to a recession. Today, he inherits an economy stuck in neutral due to the pande It looks likely that he will take a page out of the 2009 recovery program and bring it back to stimulate a major sector of our economy.

One thing that kept the Buffalo economy from tanking 12 years ago was the Allowance Rebate System. Commonly known as "Cash for Clunkers," it gav auto manufacturers a much-needed sales boost which kept the auto workfo in Woodlawn, Tonawanda and Lockport very busy. The premise of the prog was to take older, less fuel-efficient cars off the road and replace them with newer, more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Candidate Biden said on the campaign trail that he is in support of another "Cash for Clunkers" program. This time, it would be to encourage the purchase of new electric vehicles (EVs). This would fit in well with his commitment to combat climate change.

Currently, the transportation sector accounts for approximately 15% of all greenhouse gas emissions. Using tax and rebate incentives to rapidly move U.S. vehicle fleet to zero emission vehicles will help us meet the pledged greenhouse gas reductions we made for the Paris Climate Accord.

The timing couldn't be better for a program like this. Most automotive brands are coming out with a line of electric vehicles in the 2021 model year or already have models available. And, this program would be in conjunction with current federal tax credits for electric vehicle purchases. The bottom line here is that purchase of an EV will give you a vehicle that is far less costly to operate than one powered by gasoline and may soon be less expensive to purchase as well.

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