



A New Way Forward

50 Steps Toward Carbon-Free Transportation

To move toward a carbon-free transportation system, America must adopt a bold new vision for transportation policy. Federal and state governments should set goals for reducing carbon pollution from transportation consistent with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and get us to zero-carbon transportation system by mid-century.

Specifically, state and federal governments should consider a series of 50 policy reforms that can help to pave the way for a zero-carbon transportation system.

Make Addressing Global Warming a Strategic Goal

- 1) Establish greenhouse gas performance measures for transportation and track progress.
- 2) Require greenhouse gas evaluations for transportation projects and plans and ensure that they are done appropriately.
- 3) Set and enforce greenhouse gas emissions limits consistent with climate science, applicable to the transportation sector.

Stop Doing Harm

- 4) Shift public subsidies from highway capacity expansion to low-carbon transportation strategies.
- 5) Remove barriers to low-carbon transportation investments.
- 6) End the nexus between motor vehicle “user” revenue and investment in roads.

Reform the Transportation Bureaucracy and Policy Infrastructure

- 7) Revisit transportation funding formulas.
- 8) Ensure that state laws and regulations treat users of low-carbon transportation equitably.

9) Eliminate highway level-of-service as a criterion in environmental and land-use reviews.

10) Break up modal silos in transportation agencies.

Get the Most Out of What We Have

- 11) Make demand management a central feature of transportation policy.
- 12) Remove limitations on use of federal funds for transit operations.
- 13) Remove the ban on tolling existing Interstates.
- 14) Encourage strategic development of intelligent transportation systems and connected vehicles.
- 15) Reallocate space to low-carbon modes.

Reward Low-Carbon Travel Decisions

- 16) Eliminate the income tax exclusion for employer-provided or employer-paid commuter parking.
- 17) Eliminate state sales tax exemptions for motor fuels.
- 18) Ensure that fees charged for motor vehicle use meet or exceed the full societal costs imposed by driving.
- 19) Consider monetary incentives to encourage low-carbon travel behavior.
- 20) Support market reforms and that shift vehicle pricing from up-front to per-mile.

Level the Playing Field for Shared Mobility

- 21) Eliminate excessive taxes on carsharing.
- 22) Expand access to commuter benefits to include shared mobility services that benefit the climate.
- 23) Encourage access to transit, active transportation and shared mobility as alternatives to parking.

Harness the Power of Markets

- 24) Use market-based tools to manage transportation demand.
- 25) Consider new models of transportation service delivery and governance.

Speed the Introduction of Low-Carbon Vehicles

- 26) Strengthen and enforce strong fuel economy/GHG standards.
- 27) Strengthen and enforce state zero-emission vehicle standards.
- 28) Continue financial incentives for clean vehicle adoption.
- 29) Encourage the large scale, rapid build-out of charging infrastructure across the nation.
- 30) Develop and support markets for reuse of EV batteries for energy storage.
- 31) Foster regional and public-private collaborations to encourage adoption of electric vehicles.
- 32) Encourage integration of EVs into shared mobility fleets.

Speed the Introduction of Low-Carbon Fuels

- 33) Replace the federal renewable fuel standard with a low-carbon fuel standard.
- 34) Expand renewable energy production.

Align Transportation and Land-Use Objectives to Support Climate-Friendly Communities

- 35) Reform policies related to housing, economic development and the location of public facilities to support low-carbon communities.
- 36) Remove barriers to new housing in compact areas.
- 37) Integrate land-use criteria into transportation project selection.
- 38) Allow for the use of transportation funds to support integrated smart growth/transportation solutions, and encourage transit-oriented development.

Support and Guide Innovation

- 39) Revisit existing policies, plans and models to reflect new technologies.
- 40) Reform procurement processes.
- 41) Remove roadblocks to local innovation.
- 42) Maximize the sustainability benefits of new technologies.
- 43) Provide research, development & deployment assistance for new low-carbon modes and services.

Serve Everyone

- 44) Encourage early adoption of electric vehicles among low-income users.
- 45) Employ shared mobility to address an array of transportation challenges.

Collect and Share Data

- 46) Devise and enforce common standards for data collection and sharing.
- 47) Maximize provision of open data.
- 48) Enhance federal and state data collection and analysis capabilities.
- 49) Draw clear lines around privacy.

Reform Outdated Institutional Structures

- 50) Create new, responsive transportation institutions for the 21st century.

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