Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI)

A new initiative to reduce greenhouse gases in the transportation sector in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states.
Kickoff Goals

Eleven states and DC launched the TCI in June 2010 to

- Reduce greenhouse gases in the transportation sector and help build the clean energy economy.
- Create benefits and funding opportunities for states that are leading the way.
- Align with federal government actions, goals and emerging inter-agency approaches.
- Build on existing regional efforts, including RGGI and the LCFS.
TCI Declaration of Intent

THE TRANSPORTATION AND CLIMATE INITIATIVE
AN AGENDA FOR PROGRESS

Declaration of Intent

Transportation and Climate Initiative
Of Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States
Purpose of the TCI

The mission of the TCI is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize our transportation system’s reliance on high-carbon fuels, promote sustainable growth, address the challenges of vehicle-miles traveled, and help build the clean energy economy. TCI states will work collaboratively to explore and develop policies and programs that can result in greater energy efficiency of regional transportation systems and yield reductions of regional greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector.
Early Work

- Analysis of policy options in state climate plans, RGGI, and the climate provisions in state long-range transportation plans completed.
- Extensive outreach to federal partners (DOT, EPA, DOE and HUD) and stakeholders (AASHTO, APTA, NGOs and think tanks).
- States recently committed more than $2.7 million in matching funds as part of an EV grant application.
- Detailed project work plan developed.
Early Work: Deep Staff and Agency Engagement Drive the TCI Forward

- 35 agency heads provide direction and core decision-making
- More than 90 staffers from state agencies in the region are fully engaged, participating in:
  - Staff working group meetings
  - Steering committee meetings
  - Working groups in each of the TCI’s project areas (includes agency officials and subject area experts)
- The Georgetown Climate Center serves as the group’s convener and provides facilitation, staffing, analysis, and a team of expert consultants.
Georgetown Climate Center supports the TCI by providing research, facilitation and funding
TCI – TEE Steering Committee

State staff and the Georgetown Climate Center team meet regularly by conference call to move the initiative forward, including:

- Developing the TCI workplan
- Seeking funding
- Creating communication materials
- Linking with partners
- Coordinating the workgroups
- Identifying data gaps and information needs
Early Work: Clean Vehicles and Fuels

- Completed TIGER II grant with work plan to promote a regional EV network, which would connect EV hubs with metropolitan and local EV networks and public transportation systems, including transit, airports, and rail.
- Coordinating EV infrastructure policies at a regional level will hasten the spread of EV sales and use.
Early Work: Sustainable Communities

- Develop state-level policies that foster sustainable communities and smart growth to reduce travel demand and promote transit oriented development.
- Bridge support for sustainable communities policies at the federal level and action at the local level by leveraging state resources and authorities through:
  - Incorporating climate change as a factor in state infrastructure investment
  - Developing metrics to reflect climate impacts in state level policies
  - Partnering with regional and local entities to promote consistent practices to promote sustainable communities
  - Developing best practices and model state policies to promote sustainable communities
  - Building capacity to enhance and implement sustainable communities efforts within state climate action planning
Early Work: Information and Communication Technology

Tap into the potential of information and communication technologies to make transportation more energy efficient and sustainable in the region. Implement emerging technologies to:

- Promote transit use through information technologies
- Provide real-time information on traffic and alternative routes
- Improve bus scheduling and routing
- Reduce travel times and traffic congestion
- Reduce the amount of idling and unproductive run times for locomotives and other heavy-duty vehicles
- Reduce the cost of vehicle ownership
- Improve public safety and expand consumer travel choices
Early Work: Freight

• Seeking to identify and advance new regional initiatives to promote sustainable economic development through better goods movement systems and technology.

• Considering ways to reduce truck vehicle miles traveled (VMT) through
  – Mode shifting to rail and water
  – Using new technology for better routing and loading of trucks
  – Exploring Smart Growth strategies for goods movement (such as freight villages)
  – Looking into linking “reindustrialization” policies with freight management
Early Work: TCI Extranet Site

Private site developed to encourage internal collaboration and information sharing.
Moving forward together

- October Agency Head webinar re: work plan
- November TEE and workgroup meeting
- Conduct ongoing analysis building on state needs and data
  - Analyze state climate action and transportation plans
  - Gather relevant data
  - Identify and share best practices
- Identify additional opportunities for funding support, partnership, and outreach
- Check in during upcoming meetings of other relevant organizations (e.g., AASHTO, RGGI, etc.)
- March staff meeting
- June agency head meeting
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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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