# Vermont Transportation Carbon Reduction Strategy

PUBLIC MEETING

MARCH 23, 2023



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- All attendees are muted during the presentation and will not be on video
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# Agenda

- Project Team Introductions
- Project Overview
- Vermont's Transportation Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions
- Evaluation of VTrans' Capital Program
- Gap Analysis
- Carbon Reduction Strategies & Scenario Analysis
- Next Steps



## Project Team



Andrea Wright, Environmental Policy Manager AOT Project Manager



Chris Porter, Cambridge Systematics Consultant Project Manager



Ben Eskin, Cambridge Systematics Consultant Deputy Project Manager



Laura Parete, FHI Studio Community Engagement



Hannah Brockhaus, FHI Studio Community Engagement



# Project Objectives

#### Support Vermont's aggressive requirements for GHG emissions reduction

- Reduce emissions 40% below 1990 levels by 2030
- Reduce emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050
- Transportation sector contributes to 40% of reduction

#### Support U.S. DOT requirements for each State to develop a Carbon Reduction Strategy

 Describe how new Carbon Reduction Program funding will be used



# U.S. DOT Carbon Reduction Program

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

#### \$32 million

\$6.3 million annually over 5 years

- Public Transit
- Transportation Alternatives
- Congestion Mitigation
- Efficient Street and Traffic Lighting
- Travel Demand Management Strategies
- Deployment of Alternative Fuel
   Vehicles and related Infrastructure
- Carbon Reduction Strategy



# Strategy Steps

#### Phase 1

### Phase 2

Estimate GHG emissions and reductions associated with VTrans' Capital Program

- Baseline projection
- Construction & maintenance
- Transportation system user emissions

#### Develop Carbon Reduction Strategy

- Stakeholder and public engagement
- Gap analysis
- Strategy and scenario development and evaluation
- Carbon Reduction Strategy



# Public Engagement

- Two sets of virtual public meetings
- Two rounds of focus groups
  - Community-based organizations, including equity/environmental justice groups
  - Business community
  - Transportation and freight industry
  - Environmental groups
  - Regional planning and public transportation
  - Elected officials





# Project Timeline





# Phase 1 – VTrans Capital Program Evaluation

## Vermont's Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Intro Slide





## Vermont's Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions





## Vermont's Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions (Projected)



**Projected VT Transportation Emissions (MT CO2e)** 



# VTrans' Capital Program



\*Depicts the number of programmed projects, by project type, in the capital program



## GHG Effects of the Capital Program



**Construction and Maintenance** 



**Transit and Rail Operations** 



Changes in System User Emissions (Cars and Trucks)



## Emissions Summary – Impact of Capital Program







## Summary of VTrans Capital Program Findings

Construction & maintenance and transit operations each comprise ~1% of total statewide on-road emissions Higher electrification reduces impact of VMT measures and traffic operations (as measured in tons GHG)

Current programmed projects in the capital budget will have a small GHG impact (<0.10%) VTrans' Capital Program has limited ability to reduce emissions through VMT reduction and traffic operations



# Phase 2 – Gap Analysis, Strategies, and Scenarios

# Gap Analysis





# Strategies and Scenario Analysis



Health



# Possible Strategies to Close Gap

Bike, Pedestrian, & Transit Strategies	50
Land Use & Tele-Travel Strategies	B
Clean Car/Truck Incentives and Requirements	ť.
Carbon Management Strategies	
	•
Traffic and Roadway Strategies	



# Bike, Pedestrian & Transit Strategies



- Transit (scheduled, ondemand/microtransit)
- Micromobility services/incentives
- Travel demand management
- Freight rail





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# Land Use & Tele-Travel Strategies



- Land Use/Smart Growth
- Tele-travel Substitution





# Clean Car/ Truck Strategies



- Incentives
  - Electric vehicle incentives
  - EV charging infrastructure/incentives
  - Other low-carbon fuels (biofuels, hydrogen, etc.)
  - Feebates (reward high MPG)
- Requirements
  - Advanced Clean Fleets (electrify truck fleets, buses, Uber/Lyft, etc.)
  - No <u>new vehicle</u> light-duty (car/pickup/SUV) internal combustion engine sales





# Carbon Management Strategies



- Cap-and-invest
  - Cap emissions
  - Auction allowances
  - Reinvest proceeds in clean transportation
- Carbon pricing
- Clean Transportation Standard



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# Traffic and Roadway Strategies

- Traffic efficiency/smoother flow
- Advancedtechnology rideshare/highoccupancy vehicles/CAVs
- Low-carbon infrastructure (construction & maintenance)









# Let's hear from you!





## Strategies – How to Participate in Polling

- A pop-up window with polling questions will appear
- Click on your response and click submit for each question

Polls —		×
Polling		
1. Compared to where you live now, how interested would living in a location where more services are in walking or bi distance, even if yards/lots are smaller? (Single Choice) *	you be in king	
O My community is already very walk/bike accessible		
○ Very interested		
Somewhat interested		
Not at all interested		
2. Teletravel for work, appointments, etc. is (Single Choice O Something I already do as much as I can O Something I would do more of if I had better computer or interesources O Something I would do more of if my employer, school, docto allowed it O Something I would not do more of in the future	) * ernet r, etc.	
3. Which of the following would most help you reduce the amount you drive? (Single Choice) *		
<u> </u>		
0 of 6 answered	Submit	
2 Who can see your responses?		



# Questions & Comments

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# **Questions & Comments**





# Next Steps - Project Timeline







# Thank You!

#### PROJECT WEBSITE

https://vtrans.vermont.gov/form/carbon-reduction-strategy

**Contact:** 

Andrea Wright Vermont Agency of Transportation

