



## Timeline of the Transportation and Climate Initiative

The Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) is a regional collaboration of 12 Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states and the District of Columbia that seeks to improve transportation, develop the clean energy economy and reduce carbon emissions from the transportation sector. The participating states are: Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Virginia.

### 2010: The Transportation and Climate Initiative was launched by Environment, Energy, and Transportation agencies of Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states

State agency leaders issued a [Declaration of Intent](#) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, minimize the transportation system's reliance on high-carbon fuels, promote sustainable growth and address the challenges of vehicle-miles traveled.

### 2012: TCI jurisdictions announced an initial work plan focused on cleaner vehicles and fuels, sustainable communities, transit information, and freight efficiency

TCI's initial work plan focused on four areas:

- The development of clean vehicles and fuels, including the creation of a regional electric vehicle network;
- Promoting the development of sustainable communities;
- Implementing communication and information technology throughout the region; and
- Improving the efficiency of freight transportation.

### 2012-2015: TCI states collaborated on policy development, convened meetings, and conducted analysis to support clean vehicles, sustainable communities, transit information, and freight efficiency

This included working collaboratively on:

- The launch of [Northeast Electric Vehicle Network](#) and [reports and analyses](#) on the status of electric vehicles in the Northeast, supported by a U.S. Department of Energy grant;
- [Analysis of freight flows](#) in the TCI region in collaboration with Rochester Institute of Technology;
- Report on state-level programs and policies supporting [sustainable communities](#); and
- Work to enable transit agencies to provide [real-time travel data](#) by addressing legal challenges.

### December 2015: Five Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states and DC announced they would work together to develop potential market-based policies

Connecticut, Delaware, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the District of Columbia [announced](#) they would work together to develop potential market-based policies targeted to achieve substantial reductions in transportation sector emissions.

### 2017: TCI jurisdictions engaged with environmental, energy, transportation, and equity organizations; businesses; and academic researchers to explore potential policy options

Georgetown Climate Center held two policy workshops in the [fall](#) and [spring](#) where state officials heard from energy, transportation, and equity organizations; businesses; and academic researchers about policy options to reduce transportation emissions while growing the regional economy and advancing equity.

### December 2017: Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states launched public engagement efforts to seek input as they move towards a cleaner transportation future

Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, and the District of Columbia [announced](#) they would engage “communities and businesses in conversations that explore the opportunities and benefits that could be achieved from coordinated state action,” including “the benefits we would all like to see in the transportation system of the future, and the policies that will enable us to realize this future together.”

### 2018: TCI States held six regional listening sessions, engaging over 500 people and 100 state leaders.

TCI held six public regional [listening sessions](#), inviting input on potential policy approaches to bring about a cleaner and more resilient transportation future across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region.

More than 500 stakeholders participated in facilitated conversations about their priorities, goals, and policy ideas for a low-carbon transportation future. The listening sessions also engaged over 100 government officials from Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Several individual states, including Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island, held state-specific listening sessions.

TCI released a [report](#) summarizing the input received during the listening sessions.

### December 2018: Nine States and D.C. announced their intent to design a regional approach to cap greenhouse gas pollution from transportation

Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and the District of Columbia [announced](#) their intent to design a new regional low-carbon transportation policy proposal that would cap and reduce carbon emissions from the combustion of transportation fuels and invest proceeds from the program into low-carbon and more resilient transportation infrastructure.

## TCI's Regional Low-Carbon Transportation Policy Design Process

In 2019, TCI jurisdictions announced a work plan with the goal of developing a policy that accelerates the transition to a low-carbon transportation future and delivers a better, cleaner, and more resilient transportation system that benefits all our communities, particularly those underserved by current transportation options and disproportionately burdened by pollution, while making significant reductions in greenhouse gases and other harmful air pollution across the region.

### 2019 Public Workshops and Webinars:

TCI hosted three regional workshops in 2019. These events were important opportunities for TCI jurisdictions to consult with experts, businesses, residents, and communities who might inform the policy. In-person workshops were supplemented by webinars and ongoing state outreach to constituents within their respective jurisdictions.

Over 1,000 people participated in these workshops, either in-person or through remote participation.

### **Webinar: Cap-and-Invest 101**

April 12, 2019

TCI hosted a [webinar](#) exploring how cap-and-invest policies work to reduce global warming pollution.

### **Technical Workshop: Regional Cap-and-Invest for Transportation, Key Design Elements**

[April 30, 2019, in Boston, Massachusetts](#)

Topics covered at this workshop included: cost containment and program ambition, modeling strategies, monitoring and reporting, fuel coverage, and compliance.

### **Workshop and Roundtable Discussion: Advancing Equity & Creating Opportunities for All Communities**

[May 15, 2019, in Newark, New Jersey](#)

Topics covered at this workshop included: transportation priorities in underserved and disproportionately affected communities; reducing transportation emissions; ways to foster transportation equity in rural, suburban, and urban communities; and ways a regional low-carbon transportation policy can complement other equity-related efforts.

### **Webinar: Reference Case Assumptions for Policy Program Design**

May 23, 2019

This [webinar](#) discussed modeling methods that TCI states are considering to inform the design of a proposed regional cap-and-invest program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.

### **Workshop and Roundtable Discussion: Low-Carbon Transportation Investments, Strategies, and Outcomes**

[July 30, 2019, in Baltimore, Maryland](#)

At this public workshop, officials from TCI jurisdictions provided updates regarding the TCI regional policy development process, responded to questions from the audience, and received input from the public on topics including the potential environmental, health, and economic benefits of a regional low-carbon transportation program and associated investments.

## Webinar: Reference Case Results

August 8, 2019

TCI state leaders [shared updates](#) and invited further input and questions from stakeholders to inform the design of a proposed regional cap-and-invest program to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from transportation.

## October 2019: TCI states released a framework for a draft regional policy

Jurisdictions participating in the Transportation & Climate Initiative made available [a framework for a draft regional policy proposal](#) to reduce greenhouse gas pollution from transportation, and encouraged interested individuals and organizations to provide feedback on the draft framework through the [TCI public input portal](#).

## December 2019: TCI states released a draft MOU and initial modeling results

TCI jurisdictions released a [draft “Memorandum of Understanding”](#) (MOU) and invited public input on the draft proposal for a regional program to establish a cap on global warming pollution from transportation fuels and invest millions annually to achieve additional benefits through reduced emissions, cleaner transportation, healthier communities, and more resilient infrastructure.

TCI jurisdictions also shared [initial projections](#) of the potential economic and public health benefits such a program would unlock region-wide.

TCI hosted a [public webinar](#) on December 17 to share updates on the Draft MOU and preliminary modeling on the potential economic, public health, and emissions reductions benefits of such a program.

## 2020 Public Webinars:

### TCI webinar on program design, modeling, and the implications of COVID-19

[September 16, 2020](#)

TCI leaders shared updates on the development of a regional low-carbon transportation policy, presented new modeling results, and led discussion of how a regional TCI program could effectively manage a wide range of uncertainties, including those related to COVID-19. The webinar also provided an opportunity for further public input regarding modeling and how the program could be designed to ensure participating jurisdictions achieve environmental, economic, and social equity goals.

### TCI webinar on ensuring environmental justice and equity in a regional low-carbon transportation program

[September 29, 2020](#)

This webinar focused on proposed measures intended to ensure the program fosters equity for overburdened and underserved communities, building on states’ longstanding commitment to designing a program that benefits all communities, including those on the frontlines of air pollution and climate change impacts. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the fact that racial disparities in exposure to air

pollution are reflected in disproportionate impacts of the coronavirus and other health threats. The TCI jurisdictions have received extensive input from a wide range of interested people and organizations on ways states could design and implement a regional low-carbon transportation program that advances equity and environmental justice. Informed by that input and ongoing outreach, TCI state officials provided updates on proposed strategies to ensure that overburdened and underserved communities benefit from investments and reduced air pollution and have opportunities for meaningful engagement in shaping TCI commitments and implementation.

### [TCI Public Input Portal](#)

- TCI jurisdictions have received thousands of submissions to the TCI public input portal since it was opened in April 2019. Roughly 4,300 submissions have been made.
- Approximately 10,000 individuals, businesses, and organizations have weighed in. (Many organizations have submitted joint comments with multiple entities signed on, and some grassroots advocacy groups have bundled many individual messages from their members into single submissions.)
- This regional input portal is in addition to the conversations, meetings, and other engagement that has taken place in each of the participating TCI jurisdictions.