

Hampton Roads Planning District Commission | Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization
Comments on Draft Memorandum of Understanding of the Transportation and Climate Initiative

February 26, 2020

To: TCI Leadership Team

Kathleen Theoharides, Secretary, Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
R. Earl Lewis, Jr., Deputy Secretary, Maryland Department of Transportation

Thank you for providing the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission and Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization with the opportunity to comment on the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) Draft Memorandum of Understanding, and thank you for your continued leadership towards the development of a robust and equitable regional clean transportation policy. Please see below for our comments on the MOU.

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- **Clarification on the term “jurisdictions” and “regional organization”**
 - When engaging COGs and MPOs with this program, many of which are regional organizations made up of local jurisdictions (MSAs, cities, counties, towns), the terms in this MOU can be confusing. It is our understanding that jurisdictions refer to individual states, while regional organization refers to the all-encompassing body of the jurisdictions that are members of TCI. It might be worthwhile to consider clarifying this.
 - **Investments**
 - Not only should each participating jurisdiction (state) be able to decide on how best to invest the revenue from this program, the regional planning organizations within the state (Planning District Commissions and Transportation Planning Organizations) should be included in the investment decisions.
 - Resiliency projects are not included as one of the potential beneficiaries of the revenue raised from the TCI program, however in regions where crucial roadways are becoming increasingly prone to coastal flooding, including transportation and infrastructure resiliency projects as potential beneficiaries of funding might be considered.