Transportation & Climate Initiative Program

Ben Samuels
Office of Governor Charlie Baker
On December 21, 2020, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Washington, D.C. signed a bipartisan Transportation and Climate Initiative Program (TCI-P) MOU committing to a groundbreaking multi-state program that will cap and reduce emissions from transportation by 26% by 2032.
TCI-P: Benefits of Joining

• Invest in equitable, cleaner transportation options, and create significant new employment opportunities.

• Substantially improve public health across New England. Those benefits would come in the form of fewer deaths due to improved air quality, avoided deaths and injuries from improved safety, and fewer deaths and hospital visits for asthma and other respiratory diseases.
TCI-P: Regional Impact

$ Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island account for 73% of the transportation emissions, 76% of the vehicles, 75-80% of GDP in New England.

- Collectively, the TCI-P will raise over $3.2 billion for the four jurisdictions by 2032.

🌱 The program sets a cap that declines between 2023 to 2032, projecting a reduction of emissions by at least 26% from covered emissions.

🤝 By 2032, the TCI-P would result in health benefits of up to $500 million and safety benefits of $50 million—a combined total of $550 million in benefits based on an independent study by Harvard Chan School of Public Health and other leading researchers.
TCI-P: Investments

TCI is a cap-and-invest program, different than a traditional gas tax. The market sets a carbon price, and the program is designed to guarantee pollution reduction, ensure regional consistency in prices, offer flexibility in compliance, and drive innovation and investments in low-carbon transportation programs.
• The TCI-P jurisdictions have committed to invest a minimum of 35% of annual revenue in communities underserved by current transportation options, and disproportionately impacted by pollution.

• TCI-P would result in over $1.1 billion of cumulative minimum investments for overburdened and underserved communities in Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island between 2023 and 2032.

• Massachusetts will designate an advisory body with diverse representation to identify underserved and overburdened communities, provide guidance for investments, and define goals and metrics for measuring progress.
• Eight other Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeast states committed to continuing to work with Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia on the development of the details of the regional program while pursuing state specific initiatives to reduce emissions and provide clean transportation solutions.
  – With the issuance of the MOU, the remaining TCI jurisdictions can formally sign the MOU at any time.

• The TCI Draft Model Rule was recently issued for public comment.
  – The Model Rule can be found at www.transportationandclimate.org