WE NEED CLIMATE ACTION NOW

Starting in 2020 gives 10 years for each 50% cut

Starting in 2026 gives mere months for each 50% cut

Starting in 2000 would have given 30 years for each 50% cut
TRANSPORTATION IS THE HIGHEST EMISSIONS SECTOR IN THE U.S. AND IN MINNESOTA.

United States (EPA):

Sources of Greenhouse Gas Emissions in 2016

- Transportation: 28%
- Industry: 22%
- Electricity: 17%
- Agriculture, forestry, and land use: 19%
- Commercial & residential: 12%

Minnesota:

2016 sector sources of GHG emissions and storage

- Transportation:
  - Light duty trucks: 30%
  - Heavy duty trucks: 25%

- Electricity generation: 20%
- Agriculture, forestry, and land use: 15%
- Industrial: 7%
- Residential: 6%
- Commercial: 5%
- Waste: 2%
REDUCING DRIVING IS CRUCIAL

AS FAST AS POSSIBLE

• **MN House Climate Action Plan**: “Build out bus-rapid transit and passenger rail systems in both the metro area and greater Minnesota to connect more people with mass transit options [and] Change transportation and land use planning to reduce the need to drive.”

• **MnDOT**: MnDOT will “set a preliminary statewide goal for a 20% VMT reduction statewide and per capita by 2050.”

• **Minneapolis**: analysis shows 38% VMT reduction needed to achieve 80% emissions reduction by 2050.

• **St. Paul**: 50% VMT reduction by 2050 needed.

**NOTE**: All analyses take aggressive vehicle electrification into account
Reducing Driving Improves Community and Individual Health

• Particulate Emissions
• Noise Pollution
• Physical Activity
  • Associated with mode choice
  • Associated with feeling of safer streets
• More space for healthy environmental features – basic geometry
“Urban transit systems in most American cities, for example, have become a genuine civil rights issue — and a valid one — because the layout of rapid-transit systems determines the accessibility of jobs to the black community.”

- MLK, 1969 (published posthumously)
WHAT CAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DO?

• Ask your congresspeople to ask DOT Secretary Buttigieg to rewrite the MUTCD.
  • The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices—the federal street design constitution—is being rewritten. The current draft is regressive:
    • it makes it harder to implement bus lanes
    • it requires a history of pedestrian deaths to install a crosswalk
    • it emphasizes maintenance of existing speed limits

• Ask your congresspeople to fund transit/bike/walk equal to car infrastructure, and to provide operations funding for transit.
  • Historically car infrastructure has received 80% of transportation funding. As Joe Biden stated in the 2008 presidential campaign: ““Don’t tell me what you value. Show me your budget, and I’ll tell you what you value.”
Voters want better transit

Among those who reported a car was their primary mode of transportation, about 80 percent reported agreeing with the statement they have “no choice” but to drive as much as they do.