

# Climate Change

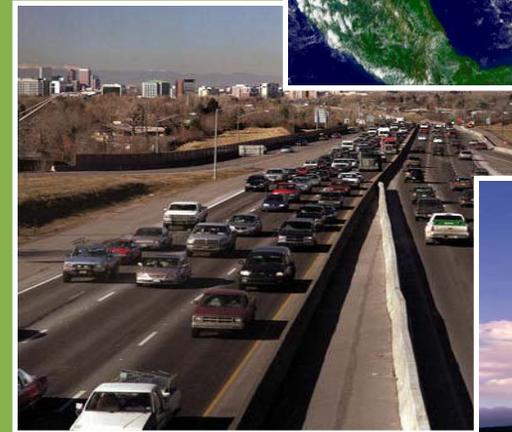
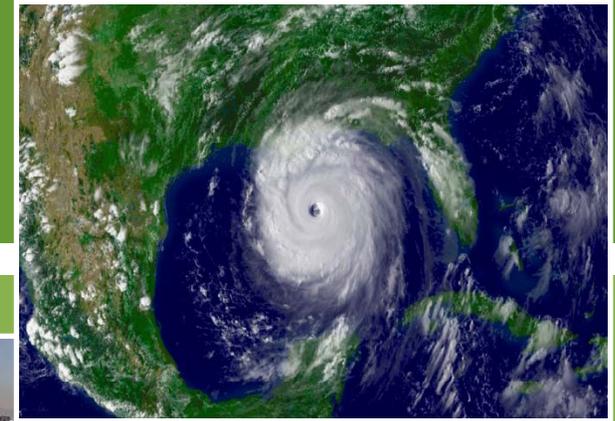
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## Information, Challenges, and Strategies for Pennsylvania DOT

April 28, 2010

# Workshop Purpose

- What is climate change?
- How will it affect state DOTs?
- How can state DOTs adapt to climate change?
- What is the current state of federal legislation?
- How can state DOTs influence national and state policy on climate change?
- How can state DOTs reduce transportation GHG?



# Workshop Overview

- I. Climate Change Science, Sources, and Trends
- II. The Importance of Climate Change to State DOTs
- III. Strategies to Reduce GHG Emissions from Transportation Sources
- IV. Climate Adaptation
- V. Planning and NEPA Issues
- VI. Participant Workshop: Developing an Action Plan Framework

# I. Climate Change – Science, Sources and Trends



# What is climate change?

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) defines Climate Change as:

*“A change of climate which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.”*



# What is the Difference between Weather and Climate Change?

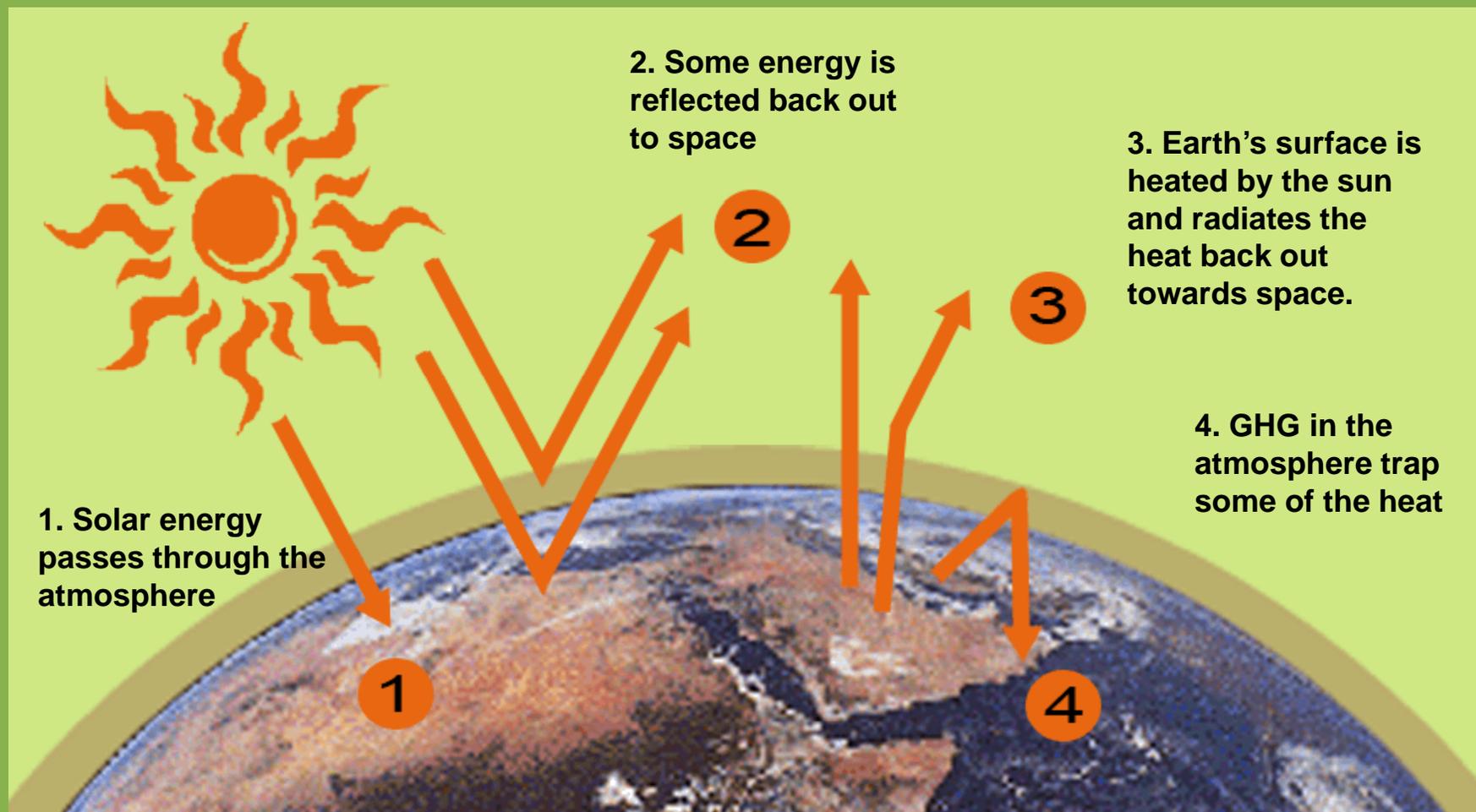
## Weather

- Short-term changes in the atmosphere
- Changes in minutes to months
- Day-to-day variations

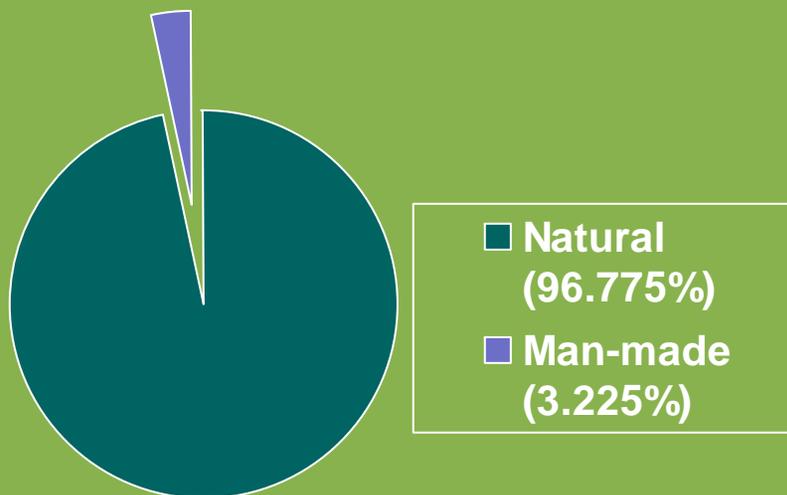
## Climate Change

- Long-term changes in atmosphere
- Changes over decades or centuries
- Century-to-century variations
- Average of weather over time and space

# What is the “Greenhouse Effect”?



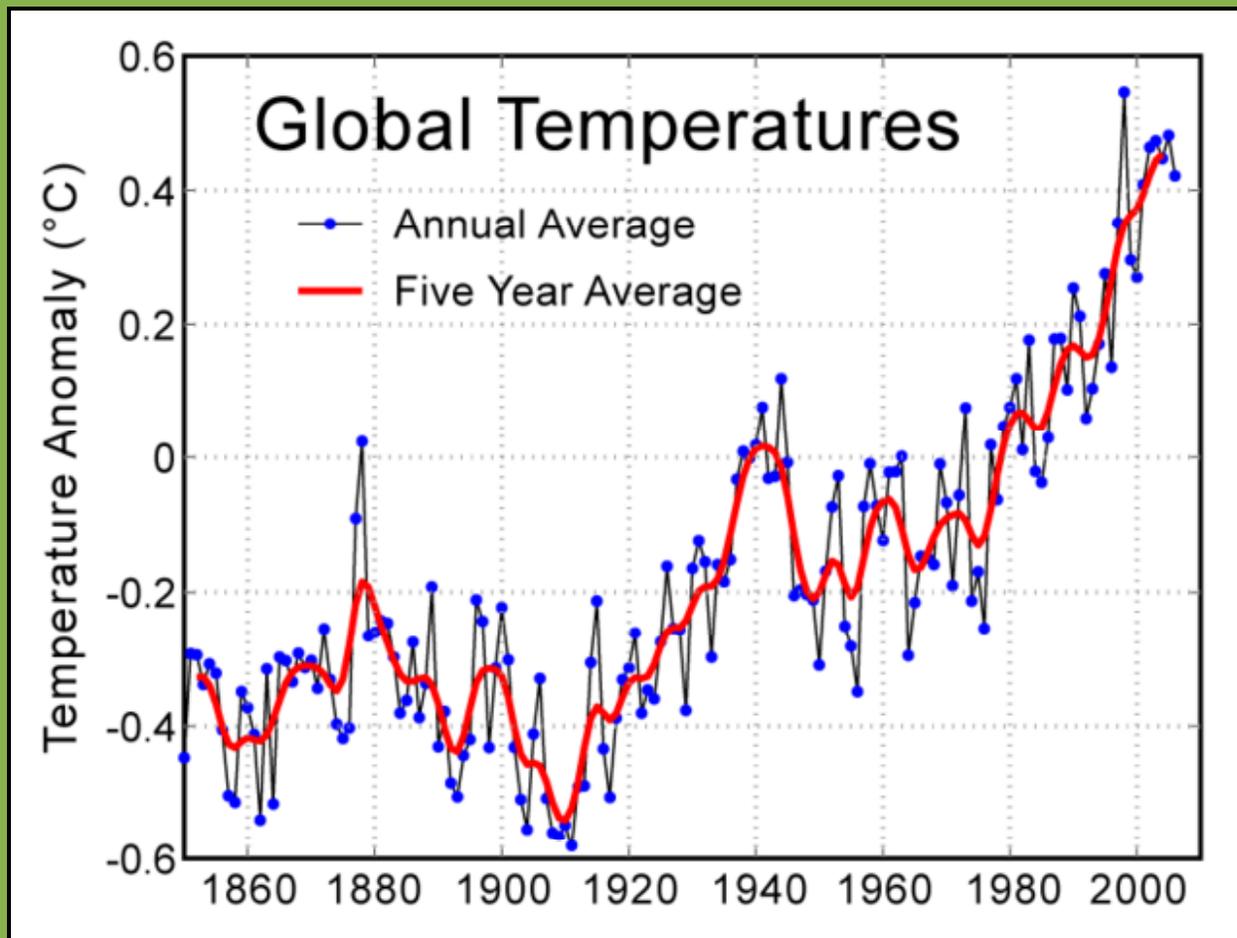
# How significant is man-made CO<sub>2</sub>?



- *...but it only takes small amounts to throw our ecosystem out of balance.*



# What is the evidence on temperatures?

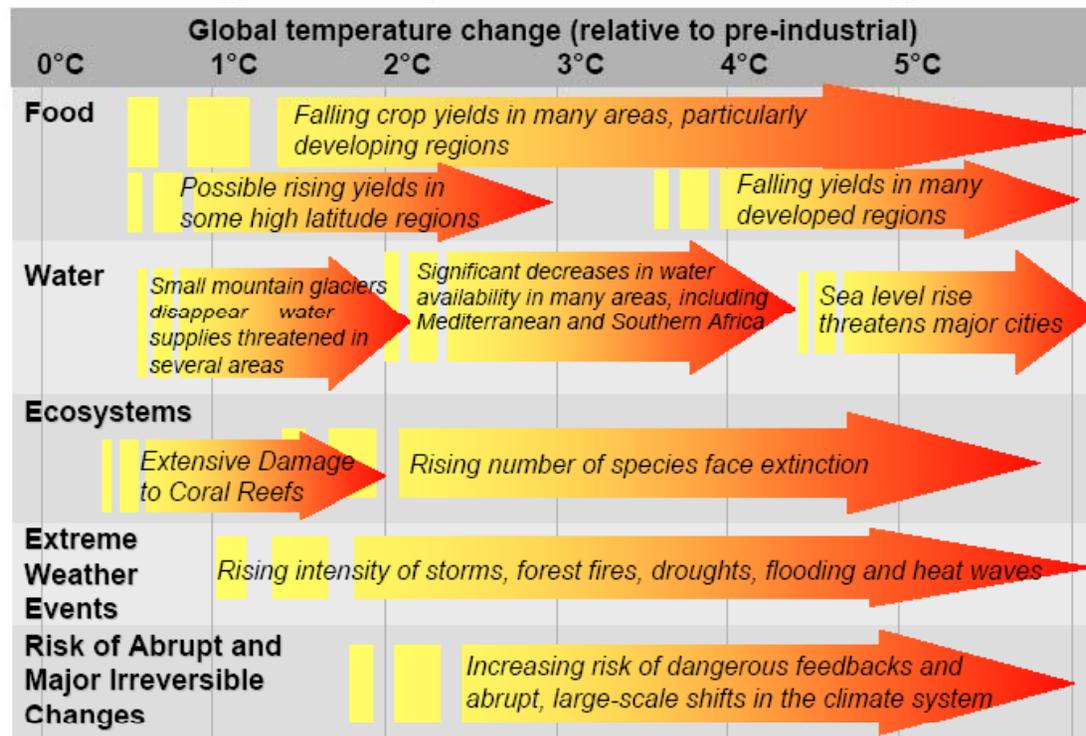


**Source:**

[http://www.globalwarmingart.com/wiki/Image:Instrumental\\_Temperature\\_Record.png](http://www.globalwarmingart.com/wiki/Image:Instrumental_Temperature_Record.png)

# What are the impacts at different temperature increases?

## Projected impacts of climate change



**Source:**  
Stern Review,  
2008

# What are the scientific findings?

## *Climate Change 2007: The Physical Science Basis*

- Developed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)
- Contributions from 2,000 scientists assessing the Earth's environment and the effects of global warming

...a summary for policy makers...

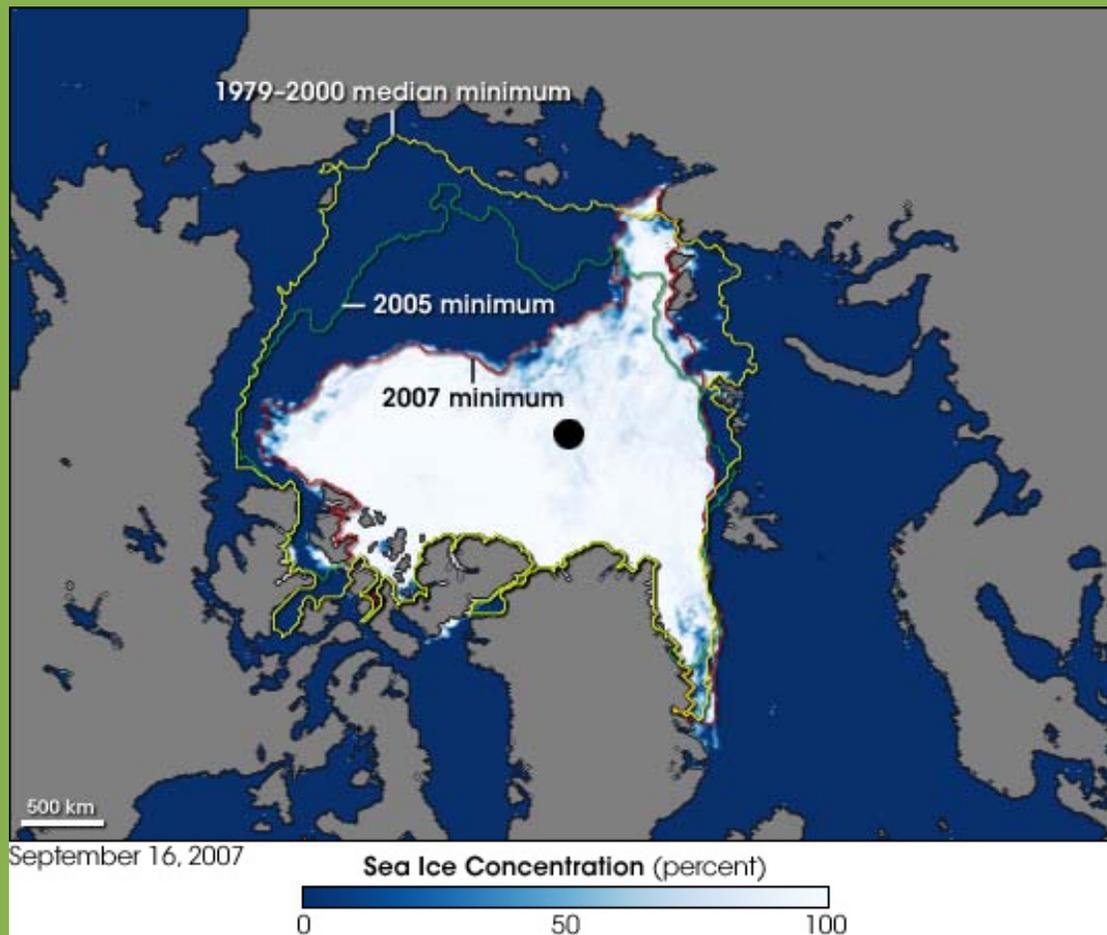
There is 90% certainty that humans are the cause of global warming.



### Notable findings in the report:

- Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> levels are at their highest levels in 650,000 years.
- Avg global temperatures have risen ~1.3°F since the industrial age began.
- Sea level rose ~4.8 – 8.8" worldwide during the 20th century, at a rate more than double that of the past decade

# What is the physical evidence?



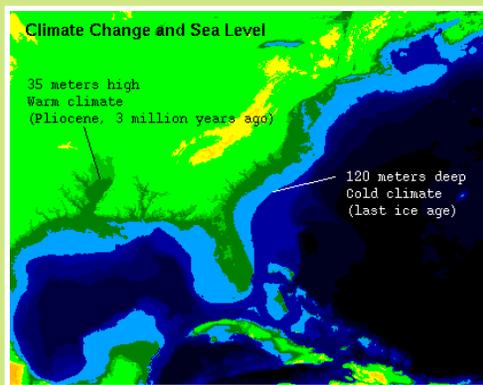
Arctic sea ice is retreating –

a measurable change in climate that can be seen

**Source:**  
NASA

# How will climate change affect the planet?

- Rising sea levels
- Extreme weather
- Higher temperatures
- Threats to human health
- Changes in crop yields
- Precarious ecosystems



# How certain are the scientists?

- “Warming of the climate system is unequivocal...”

-- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

- “An overwhelming body of scientific evidence paints a clear picture: climate change is happening, it is caused in large part by human activity, and it will have many serious and potentially damaging effects in the decades ahead.”

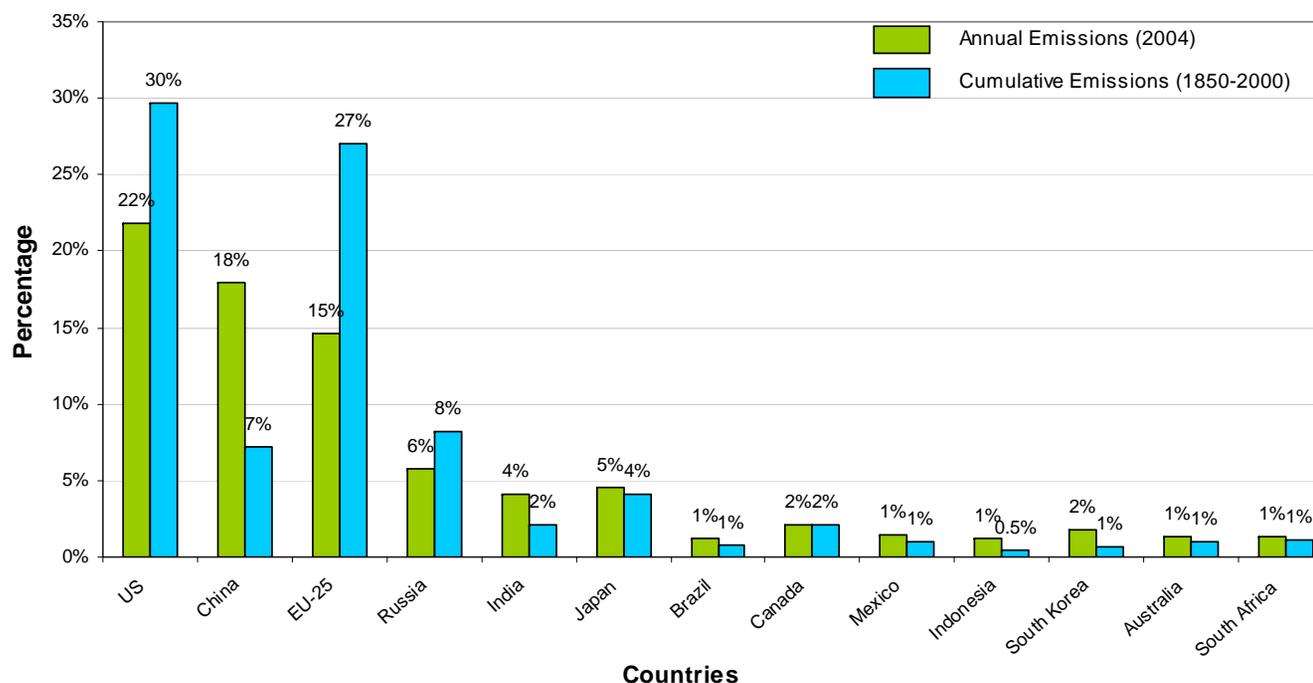
-- Pew Center on Climate Change

# What are the latest news stories?

- “Climate Change Accelerating, Top Scientists Warn”
- “Globe Warming Faster than Forecast”
- “Urgent Action Needed”
- “ARCTIC: A feedback loop threatens the Earth’s air conditioner”
- “Climate Models Understate the Reality”
- “OCEANS: Pollock fishery, nation’s largest, faces a crisis”
- “SCIENCE: Prior Warnings of Sea Level Rise May be Understated”
- “Over 2 Trillion Tons of Ice Melted in Arctic Since ’03”
- “Climate Change Seen As Threat to U.S. Security”

# Where do all those GHG come from?

## Comparison: Annual\* & Cumulative\*\* CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



Source: \* Annual Emissions for the year 2004 from IEA (2006) CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil Fuel Combustion  
\*\* Cumulative Emissions from 1850-2000, CAIT WRI

# How much GHG reduction is needed?

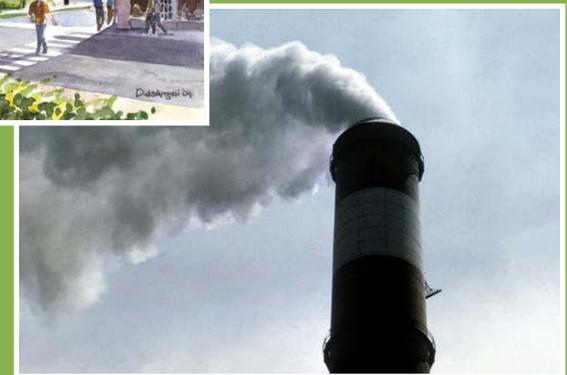
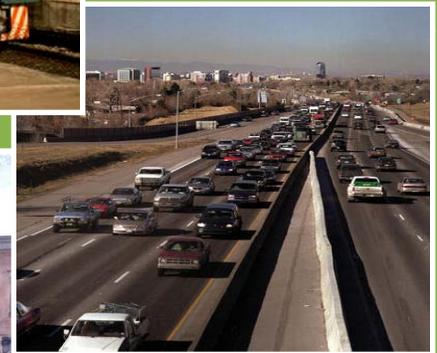
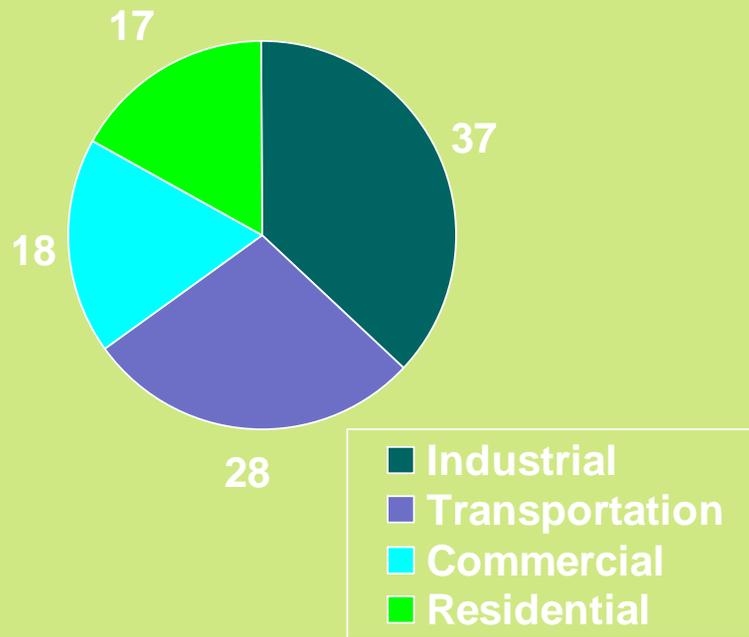
- To avoid the most severe impacts of climate change, we need substantial reductions (60-80% below 1990 GHG by 2050).
- GHGs are cumulative, with a long half life (100 years).
- The longer we wait to make reductions, the deeper future cuts will have to be.
- *We are past the point of halting climate change* – the climate is already changing and temperatures will continue to rise, even if we make drastic GHG reductions.

# What targets have been set?

- Scientists recommend **60-80% GHG reduction below 1990 level by 2050**
- Many states and countries have adopted targets in this range
- President Obama's budget: **80%** GHG reduction below 2005 by 2050
- Waxman-Markey bill: **17%** below 2005 by 2020 and **83%** below 2005 by 2050

# What are the sources of GHG emissions?

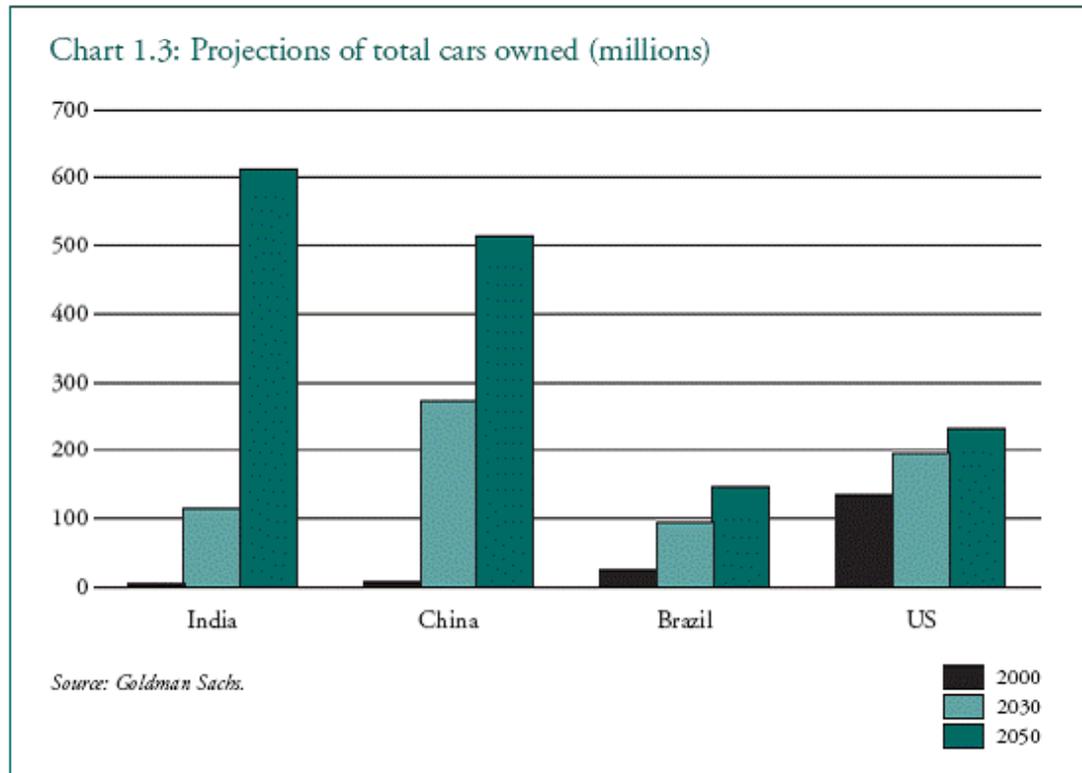
Transportation = 28%  
of U.S. GHG



# How much will transportation GHG increase?

- **United States**: GHG from all transportation modes are projected to remain almost constant through 2030 – but light duty vehicle GHGs will actually decline slightly.
- **World**: GHG emissions from transportation are expected to rise sharply; soon GHG emissions from transportation in the developing world will greatly exceed those of the U.S.

# What are the global trends in vehicle ownership and use?



- Today, car ownership in the U.S. is greater than in India, China, and Brazil combined.
- By 2050, car ownership in those countries will be 5x greater than in the U.S.

Source: The King Review, Table 1.1 and Goldman Sachs, "The BRICs and Global Markets: Crude, Cars and Capital: Goldman Sachs Global Economics Paper No 118, 2004.

# Why is vehicle “decarbonization” necessary?

***“In the long term, carbon free road transport fuel is the only way to achieve an 80-90% reduction in emissions, essentially “decarbonization.”***

Aston  
Advanced  
Royce plc, March 2008

--The King Review for the U.K. Government, by  
Professor Julia King, Vice-Chancellor of  
University and former Director of  
Engineering at Rolls-

***“[I]n the period beyond 2100, total GHG emissions will have to be just 20% of current levels. It is impossible to imagine this without decarbonization of the transport sector.”***

-- Sir Nicholas Stern, Stern Review to the  
U.K. Government, 2007

# Summary

- Climate change is real
- Substantial efforts are needed to stabilize and reduce GHG emissions
- It is a global and cumulative problem
- As underdeveloped countries develop, levels of GHG emissions increase
- Delay will magnify the challenges of GHG emission reduction

## II. The Importance of Climate Change to State DOTs



# A Five-Part Challenge to State DOTs

1. Reduce transportation GHG, especially highway GHG, 60-80% by 2050
2. Prepare for Federal climate change legislation
3. Help shape sound state climate policies
4. Find a new revenue stream suitable for low-carbon fuels
5. Adapt transportation infrastructure to rising sea levels, more severe storms, higher temperatures, and flooding

## Transportation's Role in Climate Change Mitigation: TRB Executive Committee: June 2008

- Moving away from our dependence on oil and reducing GHG emissions will be the greatest challenge to decision-making for transportation policies, programs, and investments in the coming decades.
- Other sectors are moving on climate change policies faster than transportation
- States are adopting sweeping policies with little or no input from transportation agencies or experts

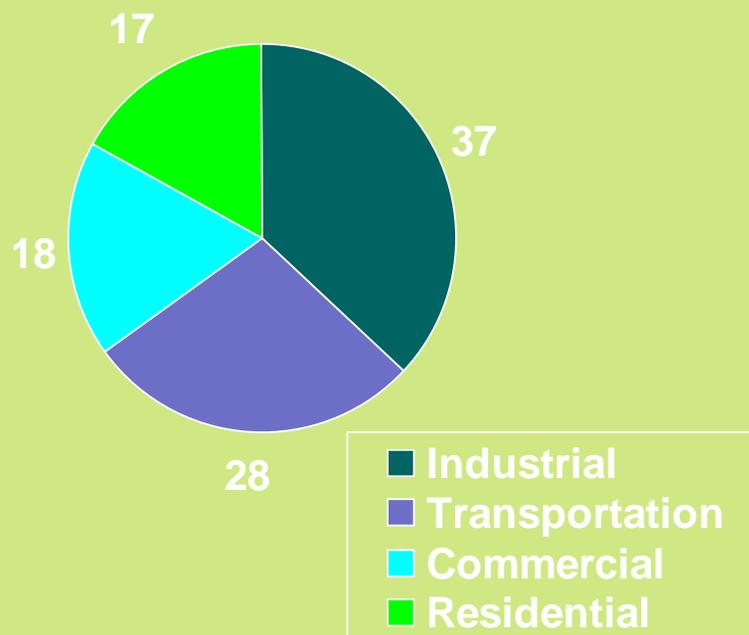
# Wal-Mart Perspective

***“We know we need to get ready for a world in which energy will only be more expensive.”***

- Wal-Mart will cut 20 MMT of GHG from its supply chain by the end of 2015 — equivalent to removing >3.8 million cars from the road for a year.
- Wal-Mart is already requiring suppliers to cut packaging, selling private-label CFL bulbs in Mexico, and labelling clothes as cold-water wash.

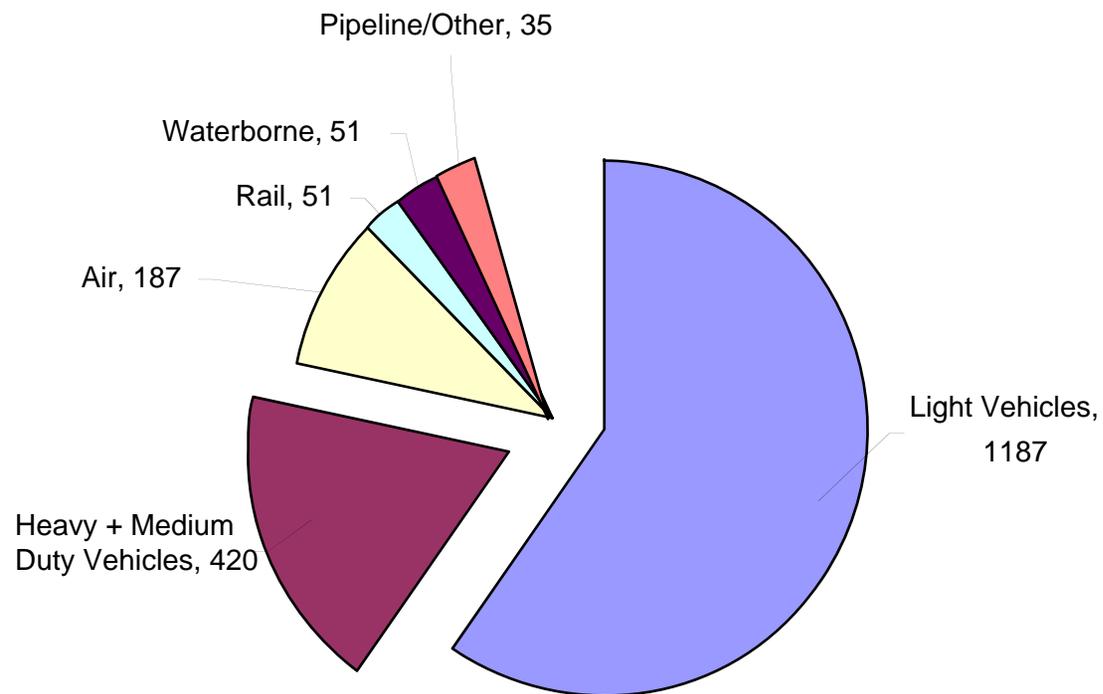
# Transportation is a major source of GHG

Transportation = 28%  
of U.S. GHG



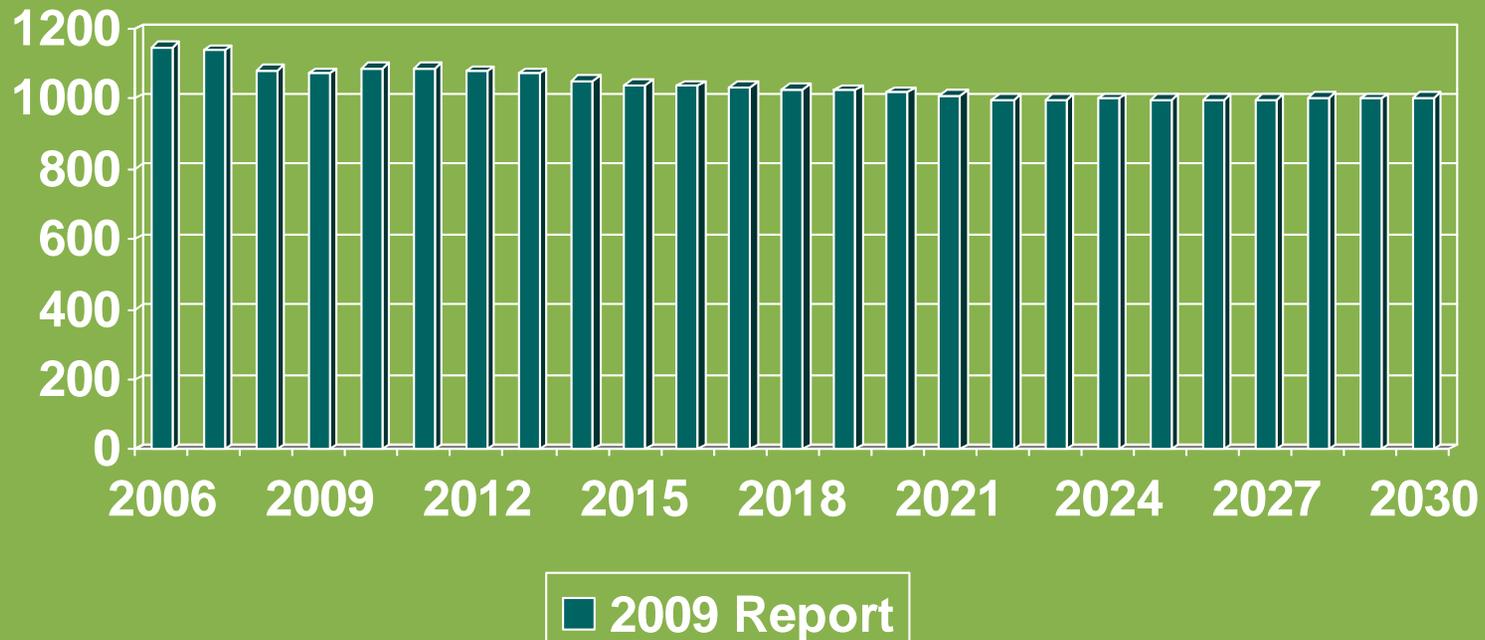
# Highway Vehicles Account for 85% of Transportation CO2 Emissions – and 24% of all U.S. CO2 Emissions

**U. S. Transportation CO2 Emissions by Mode, 2007  
(Million metric tons CO2)**



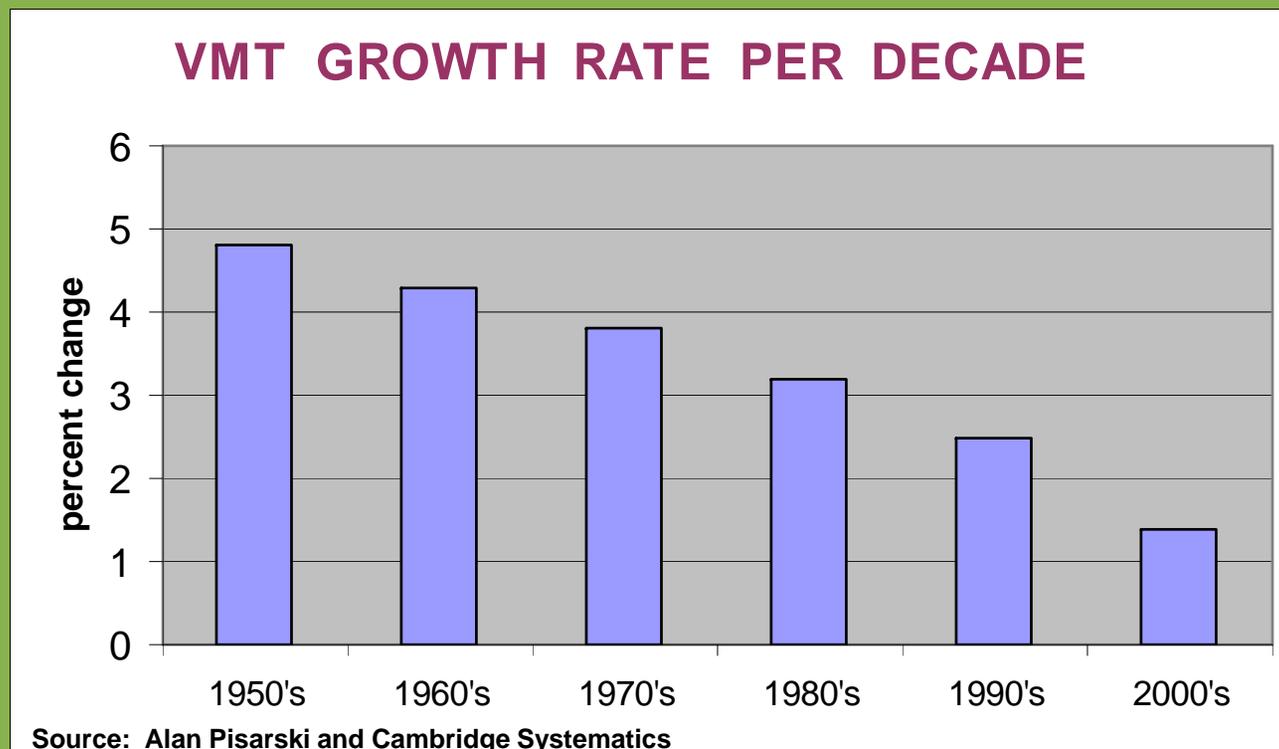
# DOE Projects Slight Decline in LDV GHG Emissions

GHG Emissions from Light-Duty Vehicles  
(USDOE, Annual Energy Outlook 2009)



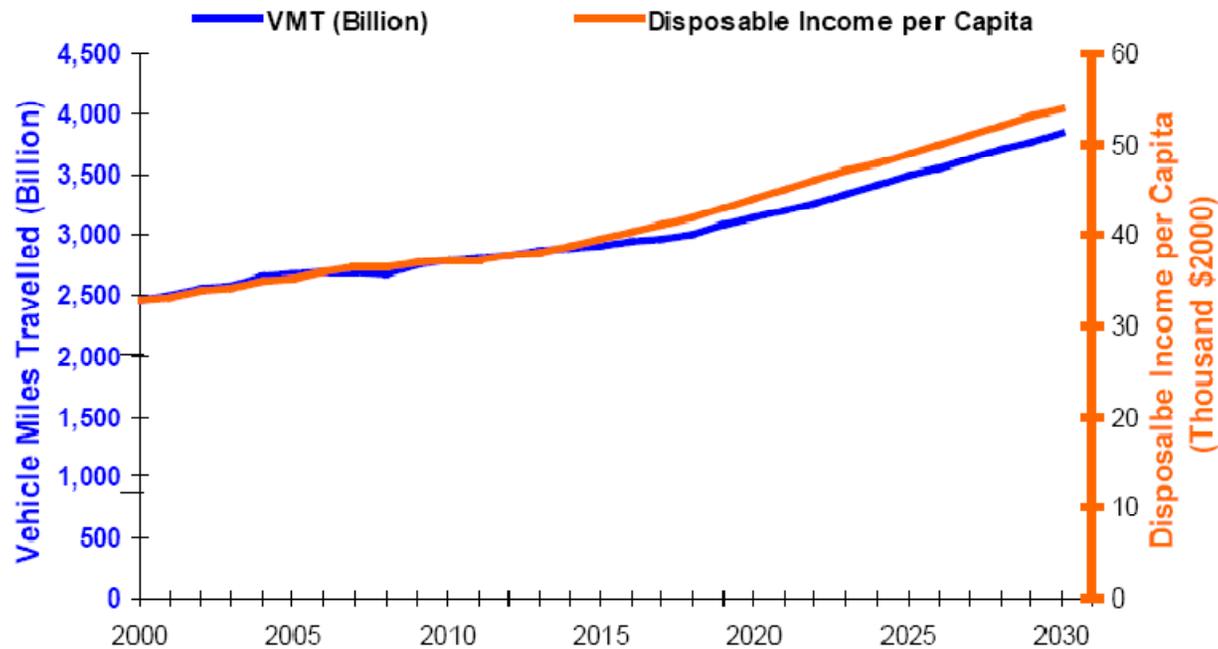
# U.S. VMT growth rates are declining– but will zero or negative VMT growth be expected?

- VMT growth has been steadily declining since the 1950s
- VMT growth slowed to about 1.5% in early 2000s
- VMT growth was actually negative in 2008
- VMT is affected by population, economy, transportation prices, demographics, land use
- AASHTO supports reducing VMT growth rate to 1% per year



# VMT closely linked to disposable income

## Light Duty Vehicle Miles Travelled (1 of 3)

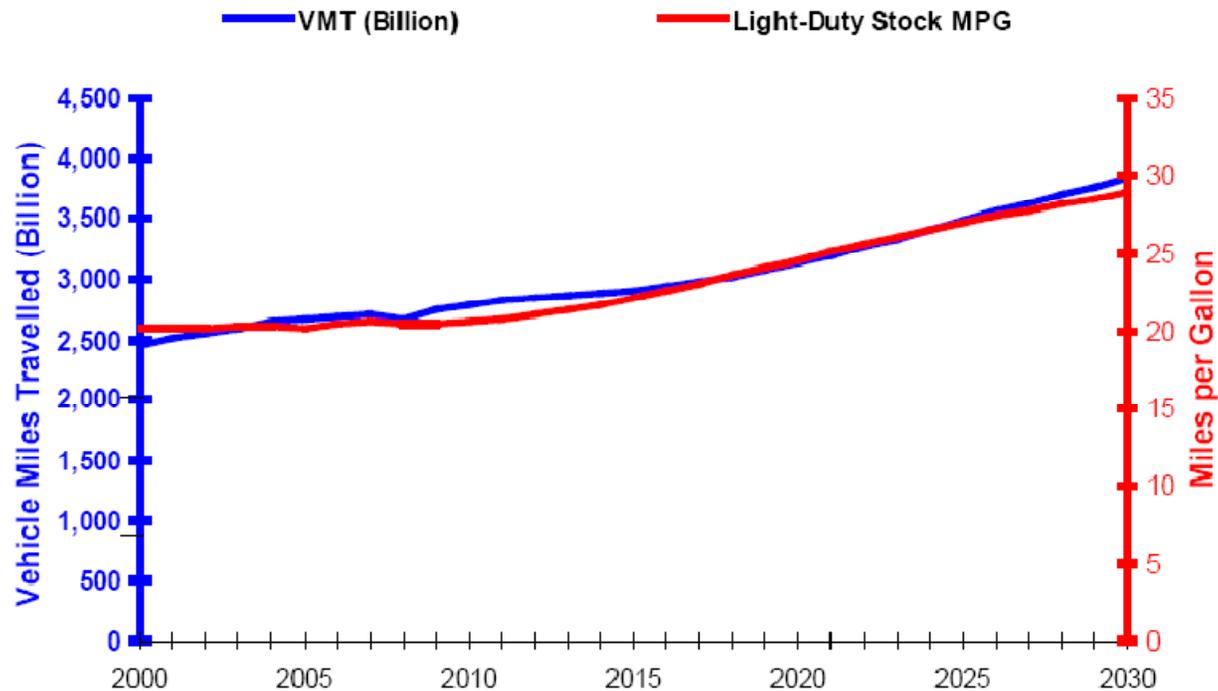


Source: Annual Energy Outlook 2009 Reference Case d041409a

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# DOE expects VMT and MPG both to rise

## Light Duty Vehicle Miles Travelled (2 of 3)

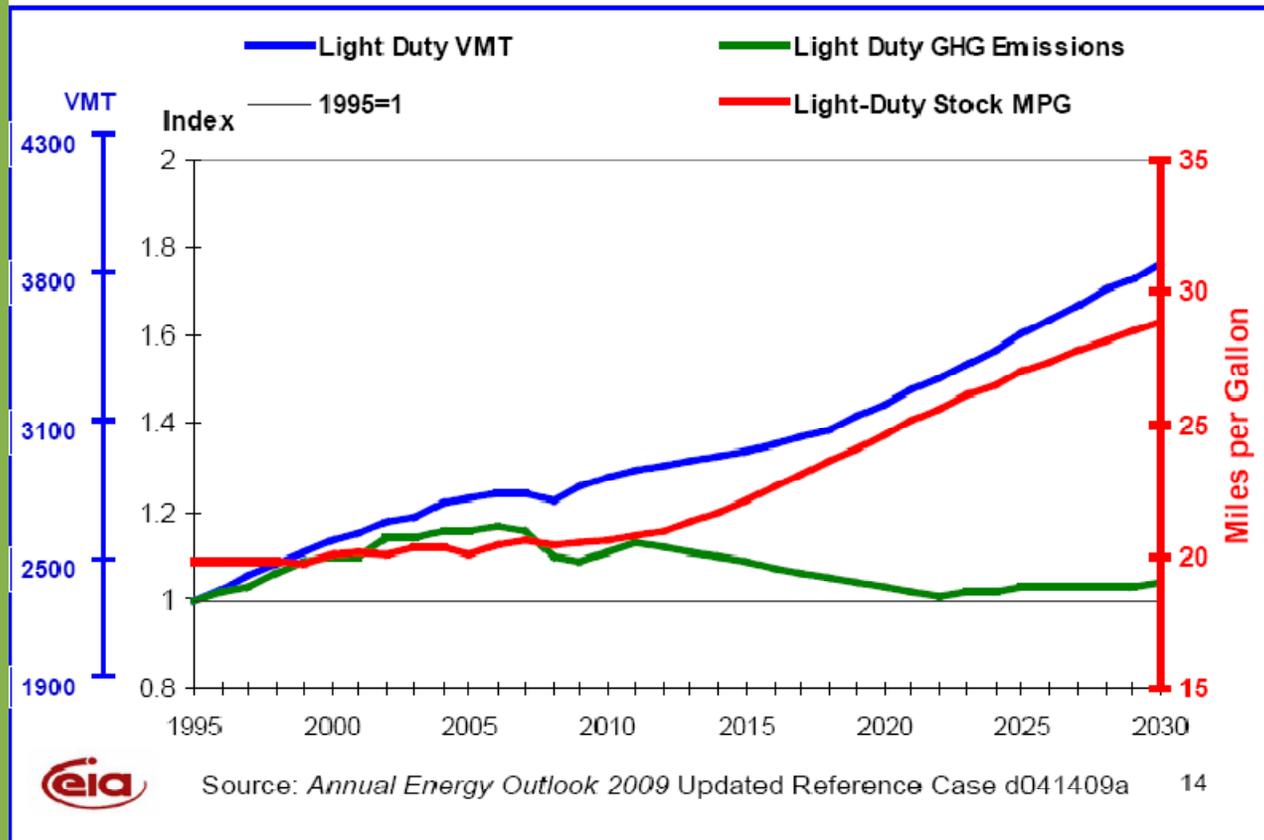


Source: Annual Energy Outlook 2009 Reference Case d041409a

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# As VMT and MPG rise, GHG is nearly flat

## Light Duty VMT, MPG, and GHG Emissions (3 of 3)



# What should the GHG reduction target be for the transportation sector?

- **Economists:**

- Reduce GHG emissions as cost-effectively as possible, even if that means much larger reductions in some sectors than others
- Evidence is accumulating that reducing transportation GHG 80% would be more costly than same % reduction in other sectors
- Ergo: Transportation GHG reduction targets probably should be lower

- **Political reality:**

- Transportation will be expected to contribute its "fair share"
- Room for debate about what "fair share" means.
- Often-cited goal is **60 to 80%** from current levels.

# Policy debate can be intense

- Climate skeptics: Climate change isn't happening, or isn't human-induced
- Environmental view: Transform land use, increase transit, and reduce VMT
- Techno-optimist view: Transform vehicle/fuel technology and improve highway/driver operations
- Pragmatic view: Combination -- mostly vehicles/fuels, some operational efficiency, plus modest role for land use, transit, and VMT moderation

# Federal Climate Legislation and Policy are Taking Shape

1. AASHTO position
2. EPA proposed “endangerment” finding (section 202(a) of CAA)
3. Federal legislation – cap and trade
4. Federal legislation – transportation

# AASHTO Position on Climate Change

- Major R&D to decarbonize vehicles/fuels (comparable to “man on the moon”)
- Reduce VMT growth to 1%/year
- Double transit ridership
- Increase intercity passenger rail
- \$100 M/year Federal funding for coordinated land use/transportation planning
- Oppose GHG conformity requirement
- See AASHTO “Real Transportation Solutions” at <http://www.transportation1.org/RealSolutions/summary.html>.

# Clean Air Act – EPA Finding of “Endangerment”

- EPA may act to regulate GHG under existing Clean Air Act (CAA)
- December 2009 EPA finding:
  - Atmospheric concentrations of GHG “**endanger**” public health and welfare (per CAA section 202(a))
  - Emissions of GHG from new motor vehicles “**contribute to**” air pollution which is endangering public health and welfare
- Based on this finding EPA is obligated to regulate GHG (e.g., GHG standards for autos)
- GHG conformity possible, but not likely

# Federal Climate Legislation - Status

- **House: Passed Waxman-Markey bill on the floor in 2009**
- **Senate: Boxer-Kerry bill reached floor in 2009, then stalled**
- **Senate: Now working on new bipartisan compromise bill**
  - Led by Kerry, Graham, Lieberman
  - Potentially a much different approach:
    - "Sector-specific"
    - Transportation fuels may be outside the cap, but subject to a "carbon fee" that is linked to cost of allowances
    - Increased role for nuclear power, oil & gas production.
  - Concepts being floated now
  - Bill could be introduced in next few weeks

Source: Bill Malley, Perkins Coie

# Federal Legislation – Major Elements of Climate Bills

- **Cap-and-Trade**
  - Mandates reductions in total GHG emissions
- **Energy Production**
  - Provides incentives and other support for production of renewable energy (and maybe nuclear, oil & gas)
- **Energy Efficiency**
  - Provides incentives and tighter regulations to promote greater efficiency.
- **Transition Assistance**
  - Provides assistance to ease impact of higher energy prices on consumers and U.S. industries

Source: Bill Malley, Perkins Coie

# Federal Climate Legislation – Basics of Cap and Trade

## How a cap-and-trade program works:

- Set a cap on total GHG emissions, and reduce it over time, e.g.:
  - 17 to 20% reduction by 2020
  - 83% reduction by 2050
- Issue "allowances" to emit GHGs within the cap
  - Some allowances are auctioned; others distributed free
- Allowances are an economic asset that can be traded
  - Receiving a free allowance is like receiving dollars.
- Offsets can be purchased in lieu of allowances
  - An offset is obtained by paying for a reduction made by sources outside the cap, including sources in other countries.
  - Example: pay to avoid deforestation in a developing country.

Source: Bill Malley, Perkins Coie

# Federal Climate Legislation – Transportation Provisions

- **How would the 2009 House and Senate bills reduce GHG emissions from transportation?**
  - **Include transportation fuels in the cap**
    - Provides a "price signal" to promote technological innovation and changes in vehicle choices, land use, and behavior
  - **Promote cleaner vehicles and fuels with funding, regulation:**
    - Vehicle and fuels R&D
    - Vehicle recharging infrastructure
    - GHG emission regulations
  - **Create new transportation planning requirements**
    - Development of models and methods
    - State and MPOs set targets for GHG emission reductions
    - States and MPOs develop strategies for achieving targets

Source: Bill Malley, Perkins Coie

# Federal Climate Legislation – Impact on Transportation Fuel Prices

## How would the 2009 House bill affect the price of transportation fuels?

- EPA analysis of House Bill (6/23/09) estimated House bill would raise gas prices by 14 cents/gallon by 2015.
- EPA makes two key assumptions:
  - Relatively low cost to adopt new technologies that reduce GHG emissions, such as carbon capture and sequestration (CCS).
  - Relatively widespread use of "offsets"
- Without these assumptions, prices could be much higher.

Source: Bill Malley, Perkins-Coie

# 2009 House Climate Bill – Impact on Transportation Fuel Prices

	2015	2030	2050
EPA Projection	\$0.14	\$0.24	\$0.69
CRA: Base Case	\$0.19	\$0.38	\$0.95
CRA: "Low-Cost"	\$0.17	\$0.34	\$0.84
CRA: "High-Cost"	\$0.36	\$0.71	\$1.82
CRA: "No International Offsets"	\$0.52	\$1.08	\$2.79

Source for CRA Estimates: CRA International, "Impact on the Economy of the American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 (H.R.2454), pp. 4 and 64-66.

# House Climate Bill - Impact on Transportation GHG

- **Would the House bill be effective in reducing transportation GHG emissions?**

EPA projects that the price signal from cap-and-trade would have little effect on transportation emissions

"The increase in gasoline prices that results from the increase in the carbon price ... is not sufficient to substantially change consumer behavior in their vehicle miles traveled or vehicle purchases ...."

"The relatively modest indirect price signal on vehicle manufacturers from this particular cap-and-trade policy creates little incentive for the introduction of low-GHG automotive technology."

Source: <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/economics/economicanalyses.html>

# Federal Climate Legislation – Transportation Planning Provisions

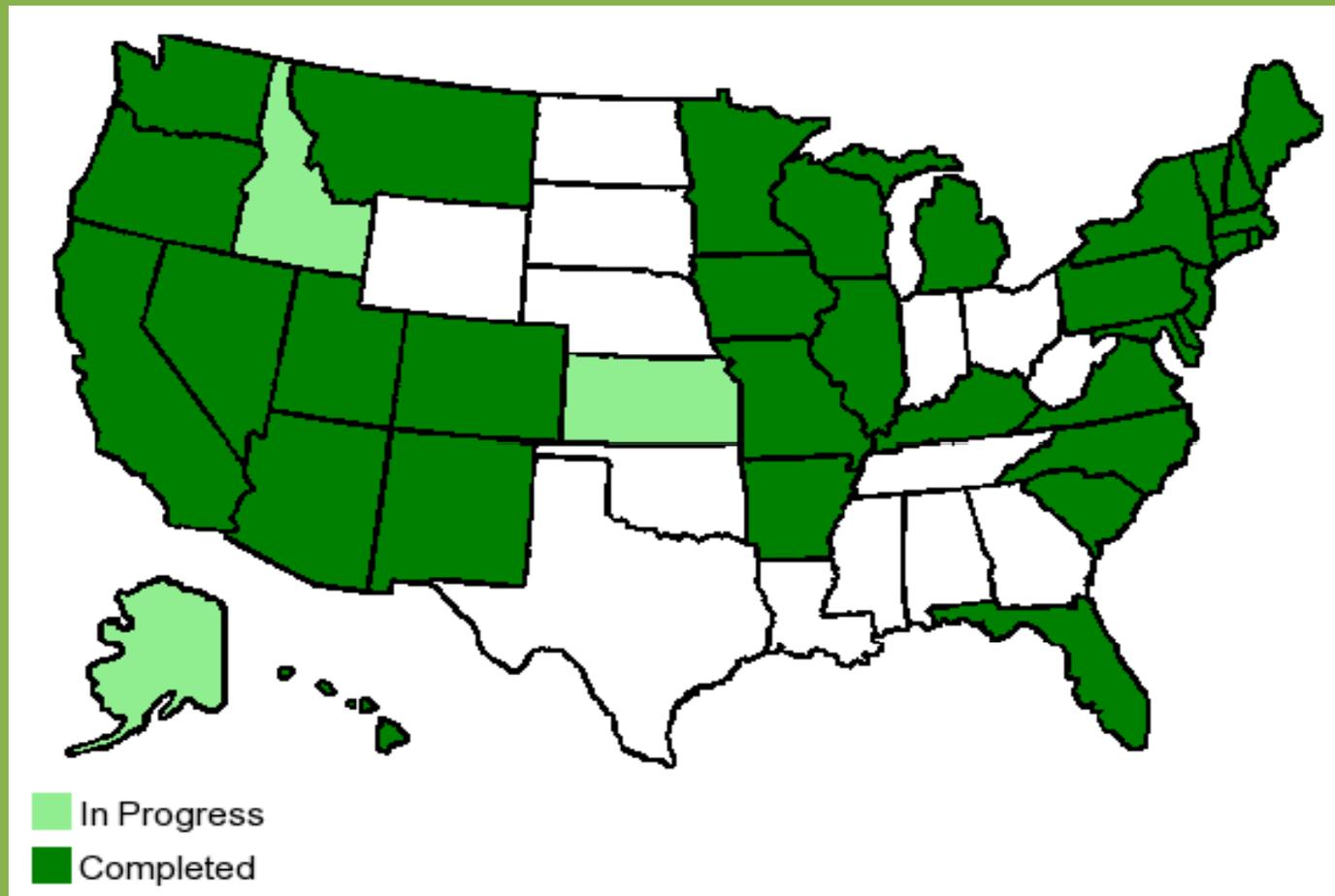
- States and TMA MPOs must develop GHG reduction targets and strategies, as part of transportation plans
- States and TMA MPOs must “demonstrate progress in stabilizing and reducing” GHG emissions
- EPA must issue regulations on transportation GHG goals, standardized models, methodologies, and data collection
- US DOT shall not certify state or MPO plans that fail to “develop, submit or publish emission reduction targets and strategies”
- US DOT must establish requirements, including performance measures, “to ensure that transportation plans... sufficiently meet the requirements.., including achieving progress towards national transportation-related GHG emissions reduction goals.”

# Federal Transportation Planning Provisions – Similar to CA SB375 Law

- Proposed Federal planning provisions are similar to California's SB375 Law
- SB 375 would require GHG targets for metro areas to reduce LDV GHG, planning process, prescribed methodologies, strategies, etc.
- SB 375 effect on GHG is likely to be small - 5 MMT in CA (**3% of CA's LDV GHG**) in 2020 – preliminary estimate from CARB

# State Climate Action Plans

Source: Pew Center on Climate Change



# State Climate Action Plans

- Highly “aspirational”
- Managed by state environmental agencies
- Steering Committees included multiple environmental advocates and rarely had transportation agency reps
- State DOT involvement was at a technical advisory level, whose input was often rebuffed
- Example: VT strategies would reduce 2030 VMT from 10.5 billion (base case) to 3.9 billion VMT

# State Climate Plans – Transportation Share Of GHG Reductions Varies Widely

State	Year	% Reduction in Transportation GHG	% of all GHG Reductions from Transportation
Rhode Island	2020	N/A	20%
New York	2020	18%	7%
Connecticut	2020	N/A	7%
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	<b>2020</b>		
Maine	2020	23%	27%
Minnesota	2025	27%	5%
Oregon	2025	25%	8%
New Mexico	2020	30%	8%
Colorado	2020	22%	6%
North Carolina	2020	31%	11%

# State Climate Plans – Transportation Elements Vary All Across the Map

State	Year	Vehicle	Low Carbon Fuels	Smart Growth and Transit	Other
RI **	2020	46%	10%	31%	14%
NC	2020	35%	12%	38%	15%
SC	2020	14%	55%	29%	1%
CT	2020	51%	38%	8%	2%
ME	2020	53%	25%	21%	1%
MD	2025	24%	12%	45%	20%
NY	2020	59%	11%	27%	4%
<b>PA</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>&lt;1%</b>	<b>28%</b>
MN	2025	15%	35%	25%	25%
VT	2028	21%	14%	49%	17%

# Pennsylvania's Climate Action Plan

- Final Action Plan: December 2009
- Prepared by PA DEP, working with PA Climate Change Advisory Committee
- Recommended goal: Reduce PA GHG 30% below 2000 by 2020
- 52 specific recommendations
- Would achieve 30-36% GHG reduction by 2020
- Does not address climate adaptation

# Pennsylvania's Climate Action Plan – Transportation

## Transportation share of PA GHG reductions:

11% of cumulative reductions, 2009-2020  
(vs. 24% share of PA GHG in 2000)

## Cost-effectiveness of transportation strategies:

\$47/ton of GHG reduced, 2009-2020  
(most costly of all sectors – more than electric, agriculture, waste, residential/commercial, forestry, and industry sectors)

# Pennsylvania GHG

- 25 metric tons/capita = US average
- 23 metric tons/capita = PA
- <5 metric tons/capita = world average
  
- Transportation = 24% of PA GHG (vs. 28% of US GHG)

# What are other state DOTs doing on climate change – in Planning?

- Preparing GHG inventories/footprints
- Developing GHG estimation tools, models (OR)
- Documenting their ongoing GHG reducing activities
- Planning to expand on these activities
- Planning for transportation elements of state climate plans
- Estimating GHG for new projects (NY)
- Developing climate adaptation plans – esp. for coastal areas (MA, AK)
- Developing adaptation plans – also inland areas (MA, AK)
- Developing state DOT climate action plans (VT)
- Evaluating heat-adaptive pavements (KS)

# What are other state DOTs doing on climate change – implementation?

- Reducing roadside mowing (GA)
- Using low-carbon pavements (CA)
- Reducing energy consumption in state buildings/facilities (NY)
- Installing solar panels in highway ROW (OR)
- Converting to LED traffic lights (RI)
- DOT fleet conversions (many)
- Installing alt fueling facilities for public (TN)

# What are other state DOTs doing on climate change?

- California: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/docs/ClimateReport.pdf>
- Maryland: [http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/Air/ClimateChange/Appendix\\_C\\_%20MDOT\\_CClimate\\_Action\\_Process.pdf](http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/document/Air/ClimateChange/Appendix_C_%20MDOT_CClimate_Action_Process.pdf)
- Oregon: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/SUS/docs/EffortsOnClimateChange2008.pdf>
- Vermont: <http://www.aot.state.vt.us/planning/Documents/Planning/VTransClimateActionPlanfinal1.pdf>
- Washington: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/environment/climatechange/>
- New York: [http://www.nysdot.gov/nasto/repository/WS4d\\_Zamurs%20\\_AASHTO\\_0.ppt](http://www.nysdot.gov/nasto/repository/WS4d_Zamurs%20_AASHTO_0.ppt)

## GHG reduction debates overshadow 2 more challenges bearing down on state DOTs

- New revenue sources: New revenue sources are needed that are appropriate in a climate change-dominated world, with electric vehicles and new fuels
- Climate adaptation: Funding increases, risk-based planning and programming, and tough policy decisions will be needed to adapt to a changing climate

# Summary

- Reduce transportation GHG, especially highway GHG, 60-80% by 2050
- Prepare for Federal climate legislation
- Help shape state climate action policies
- Find a new revenue stream suitable for a world of new low-carbon fuels
- Adapt transportation infrastructure to rising sea levels, more severe storms, higher temperatures, and flooding

# III. Strategies to Reduce GHG from Transportation



# Five GHG Reduction “Legs”

## Transportation GHG reduction has 5 legs:

1. Vehicle efficiency
2. Low-carbon fuels
3. VMT Reductions (including land use)
4. Vehicle/System Operations
5. Construction, Maintenance, and Agency Operations

## Examples:

- Higher CAFE standards 380 gm/mile to 250 gm/mile 2016
- CA’s low carbon fuel standard
- Less travel, could be in part due to land use changes
- Signalization, ITS, Eco-driving
- Materials, maintenance practices

# Vehicle/Fuel Improvements Will be the Dominant Source of GHG Reductions for LDVs

By 2020-2030:

- 50% cut in GHG/mile is feasible from conventional technologies and biofuels
- Compare these GHG rates in U.S. and Europe:

380 grams/mile	2009 in the U.S.
250 grams/mile	2016 under new Obama standard
256 grams/mile	2007 actual in the E.U.
209 grams/mile	2012 under E.U. regulation
153 grams/mile	2020 under E.U. regulation
- LDV purchase cost will rise, but fuel savings will be greater than vehicle cost increase
- Win-win-win: reduces energy use, reduces GHG, saves money

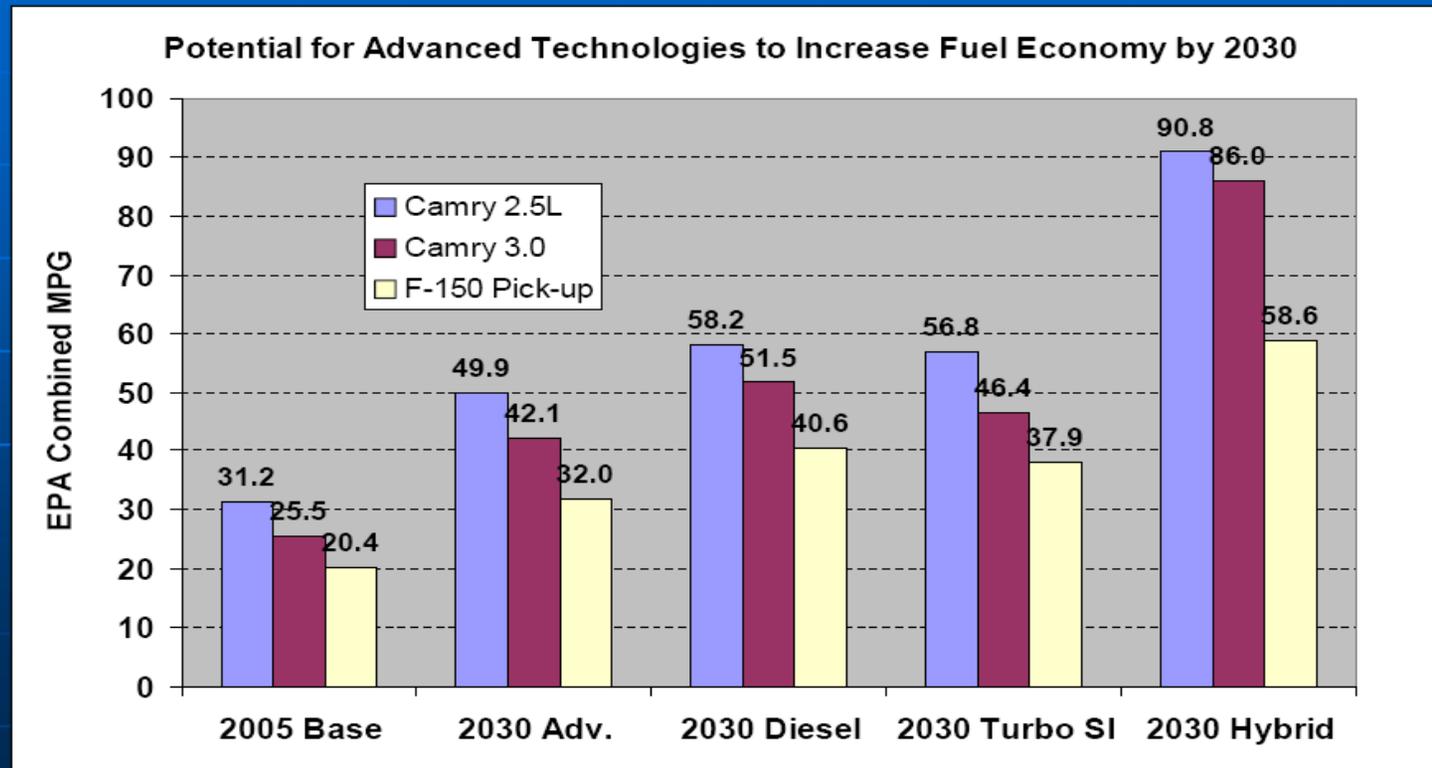
# New NHTSA/EPA Rules

## EPA MY2012-2016 GHG Standards Projections Based on Public Target

	Fuel Economy	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
2011 CAFE standard	27.3 mpg	325 gpm
2016 target GHG standard	(34-35.5 mpg)	250 gpm
% GHG reduction	--	23%

# Potential Fuel Economy Increase by 2030

A 2007 MIT study predicts MPG gains of 80-85% for model year 2030 vehicles via continuous improvement of conventional technology at a rate of 2-2.5%/year.



Source: Kasseris & Heywood, SAE Technical Paper 2007-01-1605, April, 2007.

# Even Greater Vehicle “Decarbonization” is Necessary

***“In the long term, carbon free road transport fuel is the only way to achieve an 80-90% reduction in emissions, essentially “decarbonization.”***

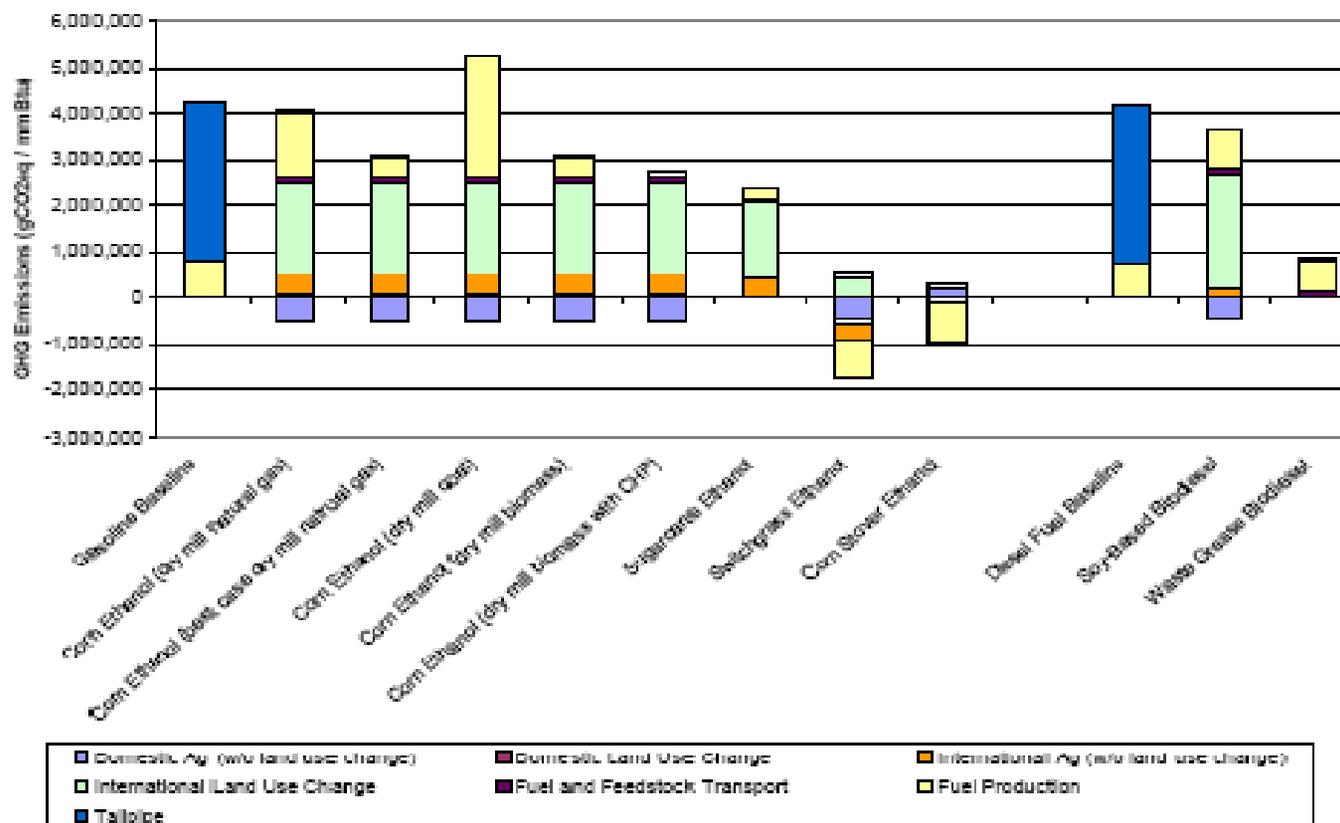
--The King Review for the U.K. Government, by Professor Julia King, Vice-Chancellor of Aston University and former Director of Advanced Engineering at Rolls-Royce plc, March 2008

***“[I]n the period beyond 2100, total GHG emissions will have to be just 20% of current levels. It is impossible to imagine this without decarbonization of the transport sector.”***

-- Sir Nicholas Stern, Stern Review to the U.K. Government, 2007

# GHG Intensity of Different Fuels

**Figure 1. Net Lifecycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions By Lifecycle Component With 100 Year Time Horizon And 2% Discount Rate.**



# Low-Carbon Fuels

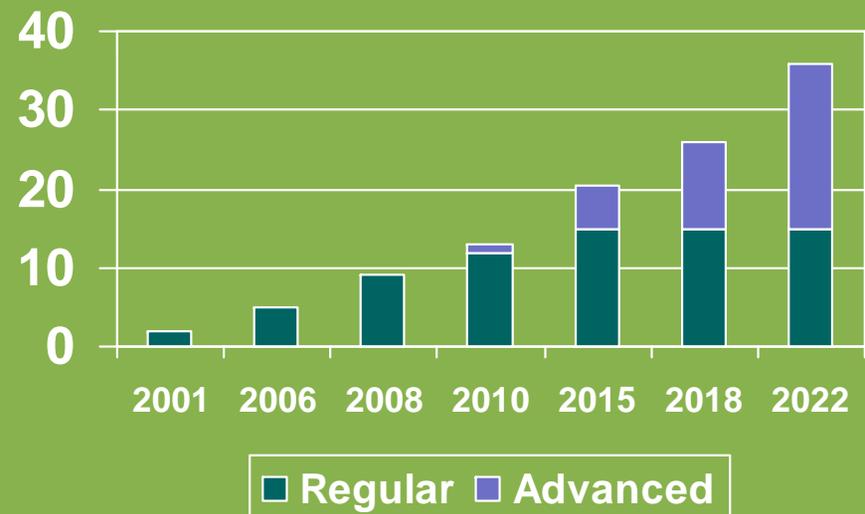
- Many different low-carbon fuel possibilities:
  - Corn ethanol
  - Sugar cane ethanol
  - Diesel
  - Cellulosic biofuel
  - Algae biofuels
  - Electricity from renewable energy or nuclear power
  - Electricity from utilities with carbon capture & storage
  - Hydrogen
- Carbon intensity measured as GHG/unit of energy – must account for “life-cycle” emissions
- California LCFS:
  - Adopted in 2008
  - Aims to reduce carbon intensity of passenger vehicle fuels by 10% by 2020
  - Measures carbon-intensity on a life-cycle basis – “from field to wheel.”

# Renewable Fuel Standard

- EISA of 2007 requires use of 36 billion gallons of biofuels by 2022.
  - Includes 21 billion gallons of advanced biofuels
  - Up from 5 billion in 2006.
- To achieve that goal, EPA mandates % of biofuels to be blended into all gasoline.

## Biofuel Usage Mandates under EISA (billions of gallons)

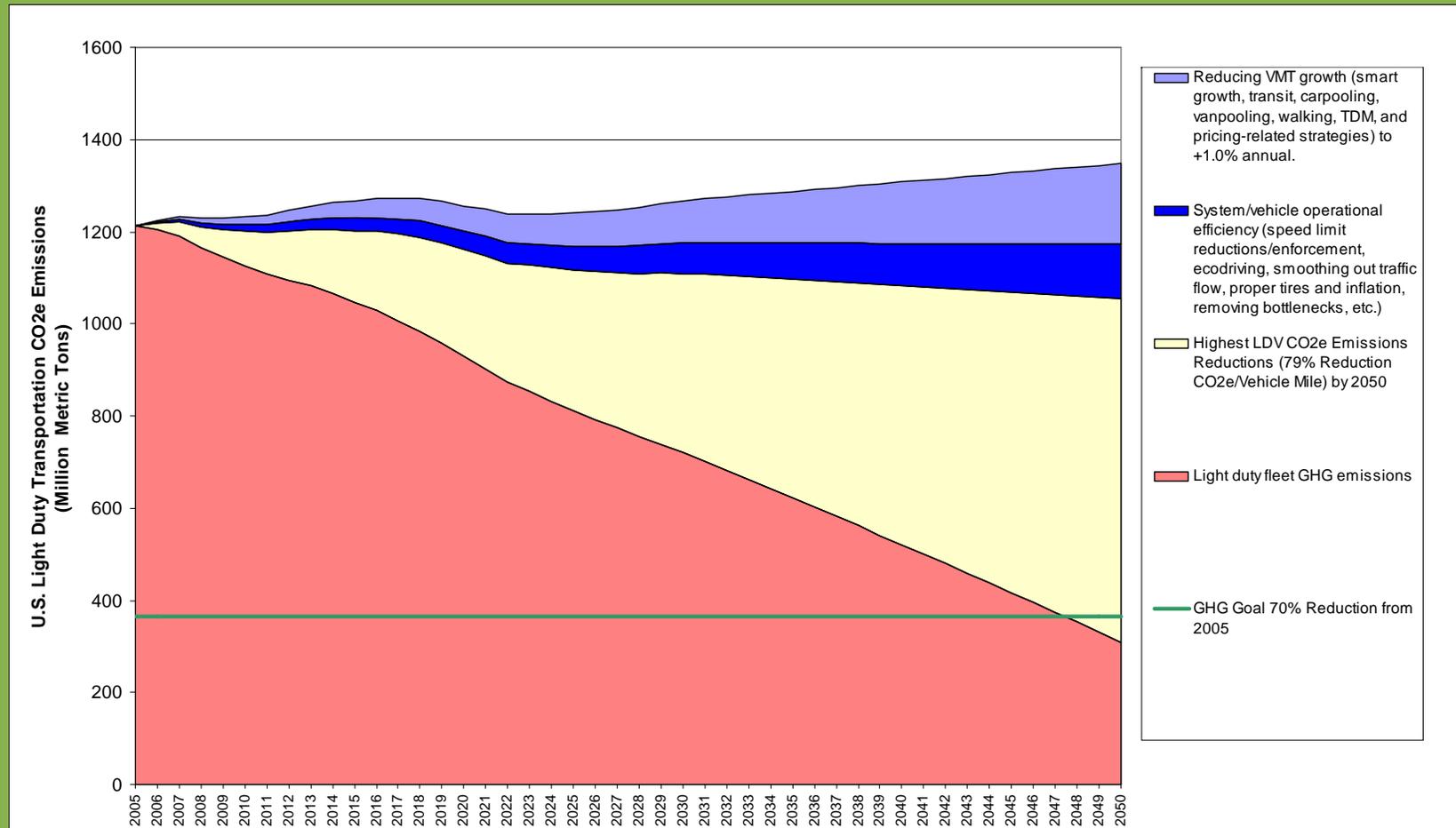
Source: Bill Malley, Perkins-Cole



# Possible State DOT Roles in Decarbonization

1. **Influence state policies** on low-carbon fuels/vehicles
2. **Use planning scenarios** to emphasize need for decarbonization
3. **Plan/provide plug-in infrastructure** for electric and PHEV vehicles (coordinate with utilities)
4. **Support federal transportation funding** for technology/fuel R&D
5. **Educate** the public and elected officials
6. **Provide incentives** for consumers to use lower carbon fuels/vehicles (lower fees for low-carbon vehicles/fuels)
7. **Support** low -carbon fleet conversion for state vehicle fleets
8. **Adjust** facilities and operations to accommodate decarbonized vehicles and fuels

# What Would it Take to Achieve 74% LDV GHG Reduction by 2050? 1% Annual VMT Growth + 100 mpgge LDV Fleet + 10% Operational Efficiency



# Many Strategies to Reduce LDV VMT

- Economy-wide **carbon cap and trade** (raises fuel prices)
- **Transportation pricing** (PAYD insurance, parking pricing, tolls, higher user fees, cordon pricing, congestion pricing, etc.)
- **Carpooling and vanpooling** (currently carry 7 times as much work trip PMT as transit)
- **Bike/ped and transit** (but some transit is higher GHG than LDV)
- **Trip chaining**
- **Tele-working, tele-shopping, tele-education, tele-medicine**
- **Compact land use**

---

In 2008, when fuel prices spiked and VMT dropped, where did it go? We know <2% of the lost VMT went to transit, but don't know where the rest of the drop went.

# Pricing – A Necessary and Powerful Tool

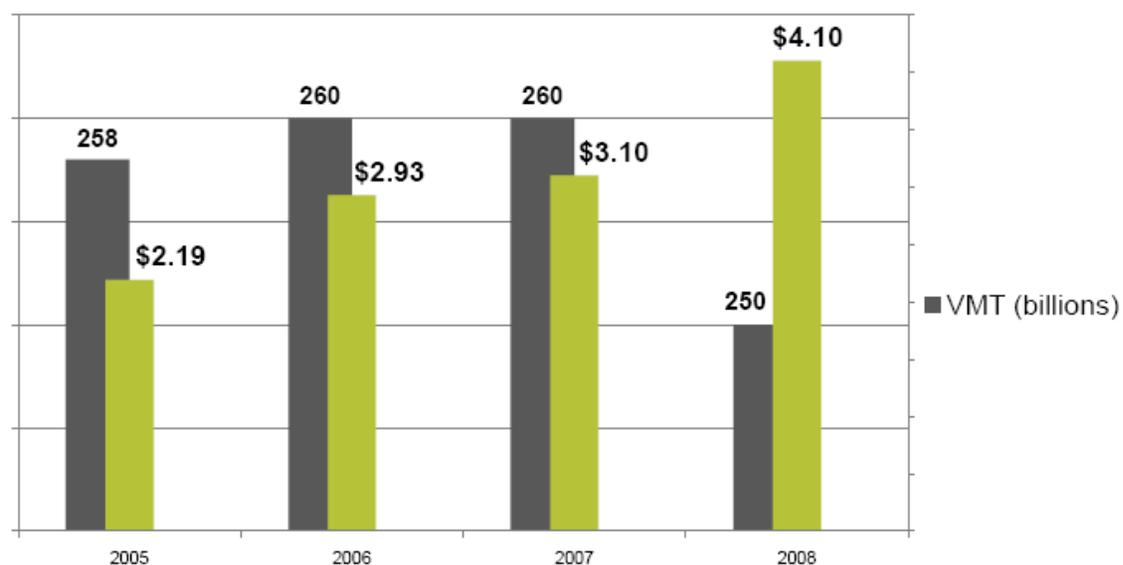
- Without price signals, trying to reduce GHG is swimming upstream
- Pricing incentivizes 3 legs of the GHG stool
  - Purchase of lower-carbon vehicles and fuels; and
  - Lower VMT
  - Eco-driving behavior
- Many different pricing tools available: auto “feebates,” carbon/fuel prices, PAYD insurance, mileage fees, parking pricing, congestion pricing, etc.
- Pricing produces revenue to invest in alternatives

***“We know we need to get ready for a world in which energy will only be more expensive.”***  
***-- Wal-Mart***

# Consumers Respond to Prices

**Gasoline Prices Surged in Summer '08,**  
and Consumers Responded, revealing fuel price elasticity

**National Vehicle Miles Traveled vs. Gasoline Prices**



*Monthly total VMT for June of each year.*

# Carpooling and Vanpooling

- **Important but underappreciated** (more PMT for work trips nationally in carpools and vanpools than transit)
- **Low cost** for government, wide availability, saves users money
- **Effective in all kinds of areas** – rural, small urban areas, suburban, urban
- **Nearer-term payoff** than most transportation strategies
- Atlanta MPO and WASHCOG **pay for commuters to carpool** (\$3/day Atlanta, \$2/day WASHCOG)

# Transit Helps Reduce GHG – but has Small Impact Nationally

- Transit serves many goals and has broad support.
- But transit serves just 1% of PMT and 0% of freight
- DOE: *Bus transit has higher GHG/passenger mile traveled than average auto use in the U.S.*
- *APTA studies: (a) Transit reduced GHG by 6.9 MMT in 2005; or (b) by 35 MMT in 2005. This is 0.3% to 1.7% of U.S. transportation GHG*
- Transit GHG benefits are realized with highly patronized services in high volume corridors -- a market limited to high volume, generally densely developed corridors.

# CO<sub>2</sub>e Emissions Per Passenger Mile for Various Modes

NATIONAL AVERAGE	Energy Intensities		Load Factor	Co2e
	(Btu or kWhrper vehicle mile)	(Btu or kWhrper per passenger mile)	Persons Per Vehicle	(Estimated Pounds Co2e Per Passenger Mile)
Single Occupancy Vehicle (SOV) LDV's	5,987	5,987	1.00	0.99
Personal Trucks at Average Occupancy	6,785	4,329	1.72	0.71
Transit Bus	37,310	4,318	8.80	0.71
Cars at Average Occupancy	5,514	3,496	1.57	0.58
Electric Trolley Bus	5.2	0.39	13.36	0.52
High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) LDVs at 2+ Occupancy	5,987	2,851	2.10	0.47
Intercity Rail (Amtrak)	54,167	2,760	20.50	0.39
Light and Heavy Rail Transit	62,797	2,750	22.50	0.39
Motorcycles	2,226	2,272	1.20	0.37
Commuter Rail	92,739	2,569	31.30	0.36
Vanpool	8,048	1,294	6.10	0.21
Walking or Biking	-	-	1.00	0.00

# Land Use Effect on GHG is Modest – and Depends on Assumptions

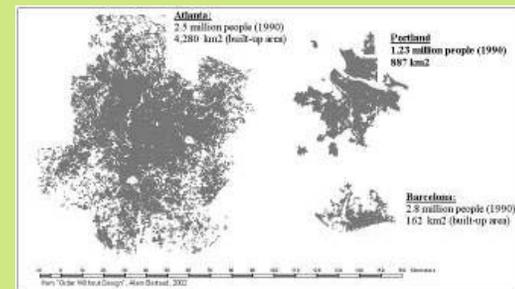
- “Growing Cooler” finds compact development can achieve **3.5-5% reduction in transportation GHG, 2007-2050**
- GC’s assumptions of land use change are **very aggressive**:
  - 67% of all development in place in 2050 will be constructed or rehabbed after 2005
  - 60-90% of that development is compact (comparable to 13.3 housing-units per acre)
  - Compact development **has 30% less VMT than very sprawling development**
- “Moving Cooler” finds **smaller GHG effect**, even with 90% compact land use for future urban development

# TRB Study: “Driving and the Built Environment”

- 2009 TRB Study finds <1% to 11% GHG reduction by 2050, depending on aggressiveness of assumptions
  - Study looks at effects of compact development on travel, energy use, and CO2 emissions
  - Disagreement among committee members about feasibility of changes in development patterns and public policies necessary to achieve high-end of estimated reductions
- Recommendations
  - Policies that support compact, mixed use development should be encouraged
  - More carefully designed studies of the effects of land use patterns on VMT, energy use, CO2 emissions are needed to implement compact development more effectively
- Source: National Academies, Transportation Research Board, *Driving and the Built Environment*, August 2009

# Less VMT via Land Use: The 8 “D”s

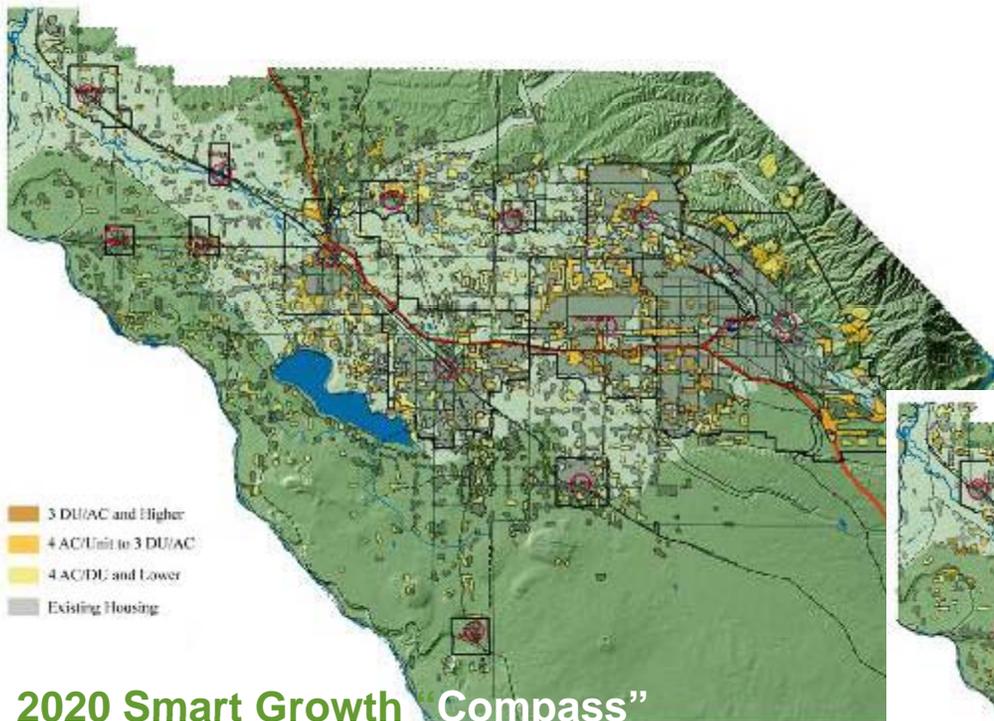
1. **Diversity** (mix) of land uses
2. **Density** of urban form – e.g. UGB
3. **Design** - quality of the (ped/bike) environment
4. **Destination accessibility** – O/D links
5. **Distance** to transit
6. **Development scale** (site, sector, municipality, region)
7. **Demographics**
8. **Demand Management**



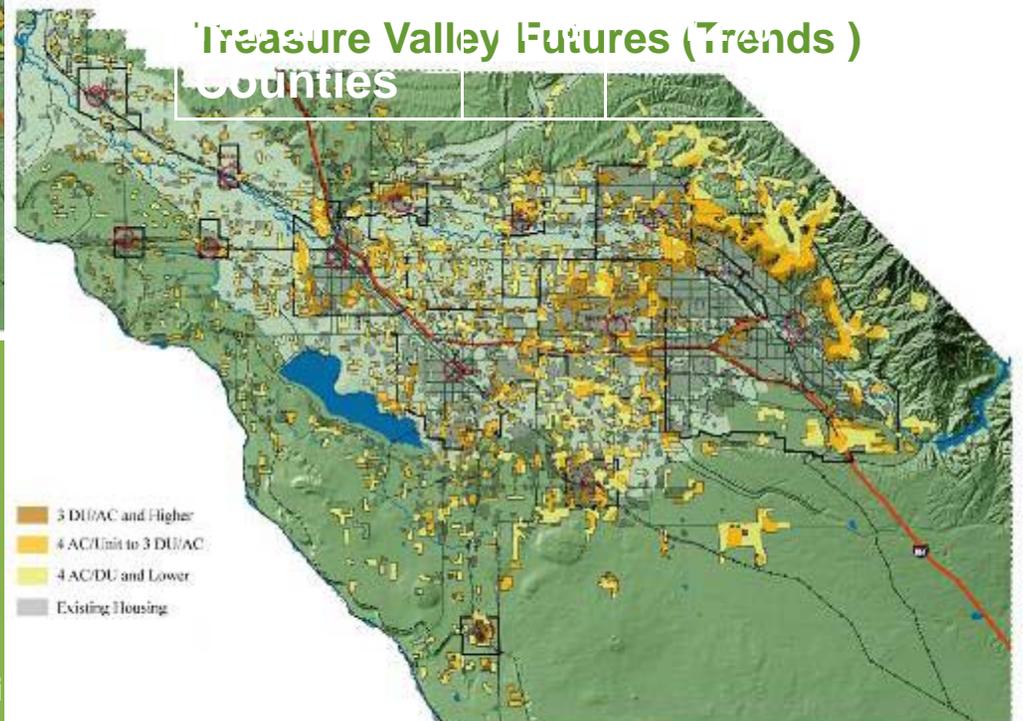
# Less VMT via Land Use: Planning Process

- Create a trends/base case
- Create a set of land use alternatives with greater 8-D features and matching transportation features (more transit, less highways usually)
- Include parking/pricing policies
- Test outcomes (sketch tools or models)
- Compare outcomes via expanded indicators
- Adopt regional plans (or State plans) that set targets and incorporate mix of sticks and carrots

# Shifting Housing and Jobs : Urban Form Study – Boise



	2000	2020 Compass	2020 TVF
Metro	84%	83%	60%
Small Cities	5%	4%	7%



# Maine Gateway Rte 1

## Development Patterns compared to Low Density

Development Pattern	Economic Vitality				Quality of Life							Mobility							
	Downtown Viability	New Jobs by Town	Job Agglomeration	Fiscal Benefit Index	Compact Area/Access	Distribution of DU's	Commercial Strip	Viewshed Impact	Safety	Accessibility	EMS Response	Acres Consumed	Habitat Impacts	VMT/VHT	Rte 1 Level of Service	O&D Travel Times	Transit Ridership	Walkability	Bikeability
<b>Micropolitan</b>	●	●	●●		●	NC	●	●	●	NC	NC	●	●	●	●	NC	●	NC	●
<b>Transit Oriented Corridor</b>	●	●●	●		●	●●	●	●	●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●	●	●●	●	●●

● Improves
●● Improves Significantly
● Worsens
● Varies
●● Varies Widely

# Tysons Corner, VA Sector Plan

## Unprecedented transformation

- Suburban to urban
- Doubling jobs
- Adding 10X housing
- New land use plan
- Adding street connectivity with redevelopment
- New implementing authority



Tysons Today



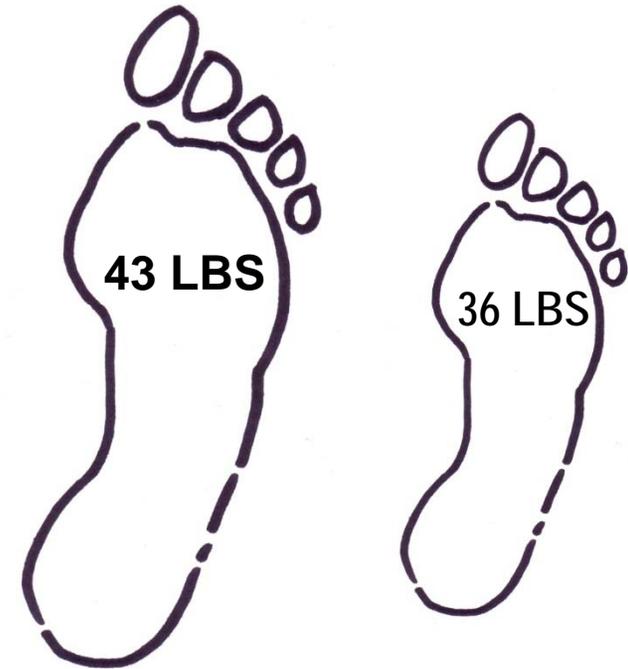
Tysons Transformed

# Tyson's Corner - Lower Carbon Footprint

## Preliminary assessment:

- Greenhouse Gas emissions 16% less per capita
- 2.5 billion lb. annual reduction
- Results from
  - Compact development
  - Fewer auto trips
  - Greater transit use

## Daily CO2 Per Capita



Base Case

Prototype B

# “Moving Cooler” (MC)

- Evaluated non-technology transportation strategies for (a) GHG reductions and (b) cost-effectiveness in reducing GHG
- Analyzed 46 individual transportation strategies and 6 “bundles” of strategies
- The 46 individual strategies: pricing strategies, transit strategies, land use strategy, operational strategies, freight strategies, nonmotorized strategies, regulatory strategies, bottleneck/capacity strategies, etc.

# MC Findings – Individual Strategies

Individual strategies achieve GHG reductions ranging from <0.5% to 4.0% cumulatively 2010-2050, compared to on-road baseline GHG

- 15,186 mmt - carbon pricing equiv to \$2.71/gallon
- 3,361 mmt – VMT fees equiv to \$2.53/gallon
- 2,428 mmt – speed limit reductions
- 2,233 mmt – PAYD auto insurance (100%)
- 1,815 mmt – eco-driving by 20% of drivers
- 1,445 mmt – at least 90% of new urban development is compact, with high quality transit
- 1,241 mmt – congestion pricing fully implemented in 120 metro areas at 65 cents/mile
- 575 mmt - \$1.2 trillion transit expansion
- 352 mmt – combination of 10 freight strategies

# MC Findings – Maximum Bundle

**“Maximum” strategy bundle can reduce cumulative on-road GHG by 16% compared to on-road baseline, over 40 years**

- Intercity tolls imposed in 2010 at 5 cents/mile
- Congestion pricing fully implemented at 65 cents/mile in 120 metro areas
- \$400 permit fee to park on neighborhood streets
- \$1.2 trillion transit expansion
- Bike lanes every 1/4 mile
- New and increased parking fees
- 90% of new urban development is compact, in dense Census tracts, with high quality transit
- Heavier and longer trucks allowed (up to 139,000 lbs)
- Eight more freight strategies
- Eco-driving by 20% of drivers
- Speed limit reductions
- Top 200 bottlenecks improved to LOS D
- And more...

# Vehicle/System Operations to Reduce GHG

Potential for 10-20% LDV GHG reduction by:

- Managing speed (35-55 MPH is optimal)
- Speed limits/enforcement (could reduce fuel use 2-4%)
- Eliminating bottlenecks
- “Active” traffic management to smooth traffic flow
- Improving signal timing (could reduce 1.315 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>/yr)
- Roundabouts (multiple benefits)
- Reducing car and truck idling
- Work zone management to smooth flow
- Encouraging eco-driving

# Eco-Driving – 15% GHG Reduction Potential

- EcoDrivers can reduce fuel and CO2 by an average of 15% through smart driving and vehicle maintenance.
- Pilot by City of Denver with 300 drivers achieved 10% fuel reduction and similar GHG reduction
- Useful for HDV, MDV, and LDV drivers
- Major push in Europe as GHG strategy
- Aided by dashboard displays of real-time MPG

# www.EcoDrivingUSA.com

- EcoDrivingUSA™ -- nationwide effort to increase overall vehicle fuel economy and preserve the environment
- Partnership of Governors, auto industry, environmental groups
- Website:
  - [Be an EcoDriver](#)
  - [EcoCalculator](#)
  - [EcoDriving Quiz](#)
  - [Virtual Road Test](#)
  - [Is Your Community EcoDriving?](#)
  - [Educational Tools](#)
  - [News and Events](#)
  - [Join the EcoDriving Movement](#)
  - [Link this website on your blog or site](#)
- For more information and to join the EcoDriving movement contact: Seena Faqiri at 202.326.5518 or [sfaqiri@autoalliance.org](mailto:sfaqiri@autoalliance.org).

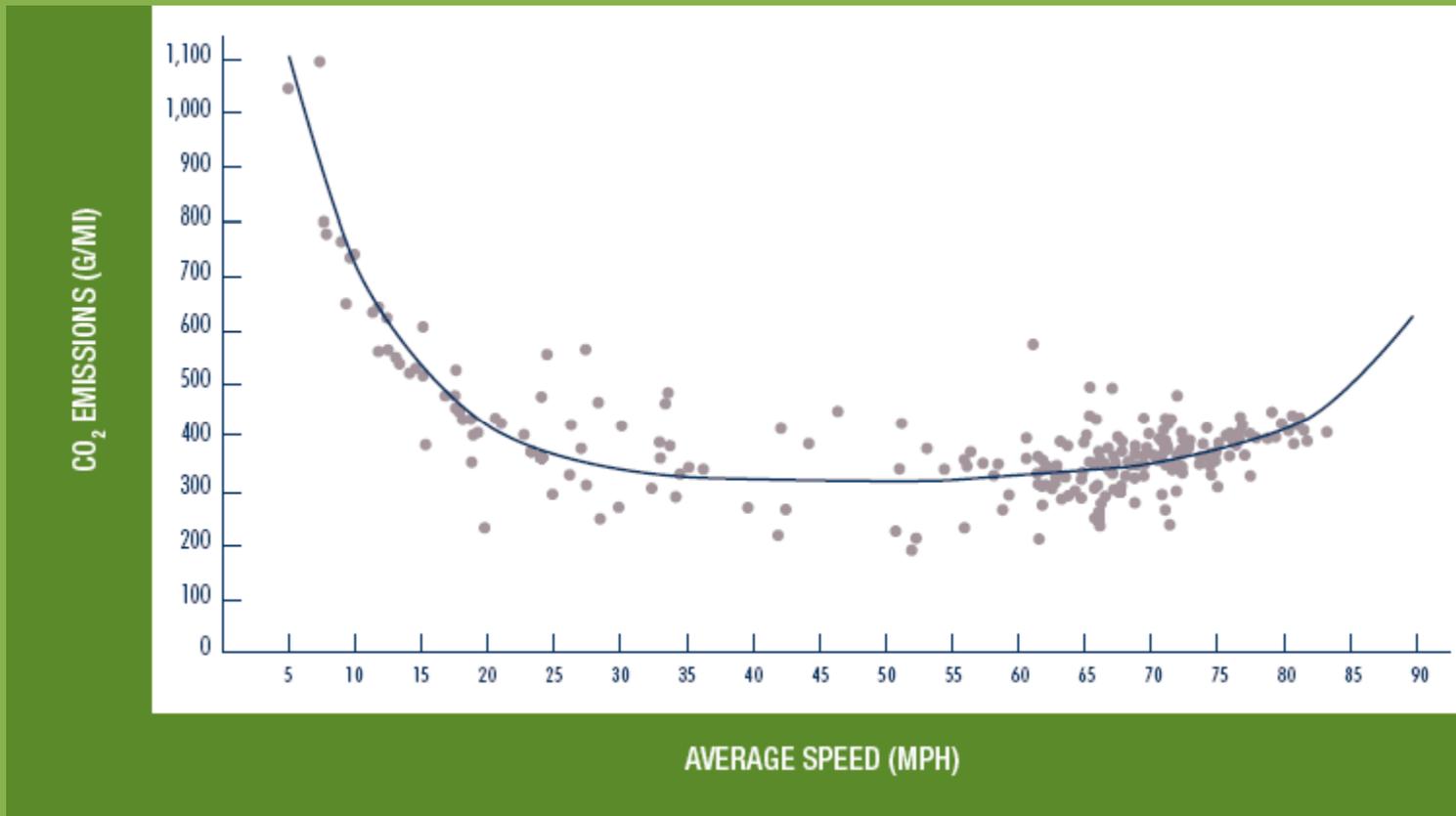
# Eco-Driving – Possible State DOT Role

- **Public education**
  - PSAs
  - Highlight cost savings, petroleum savings, etc.
- **Planning process, scenarios, etc.**
  - Include eco-driving in scenario planning
  - Compare to other strategies
- **Training programs**
  - Driver education programs
  - Programs for public employees
  - Partnership with major employers
- **Pilot programs**

# U.C. Riverside - Traffic Congestion and Its Impact of GHG Emissions: Can ITS Help?

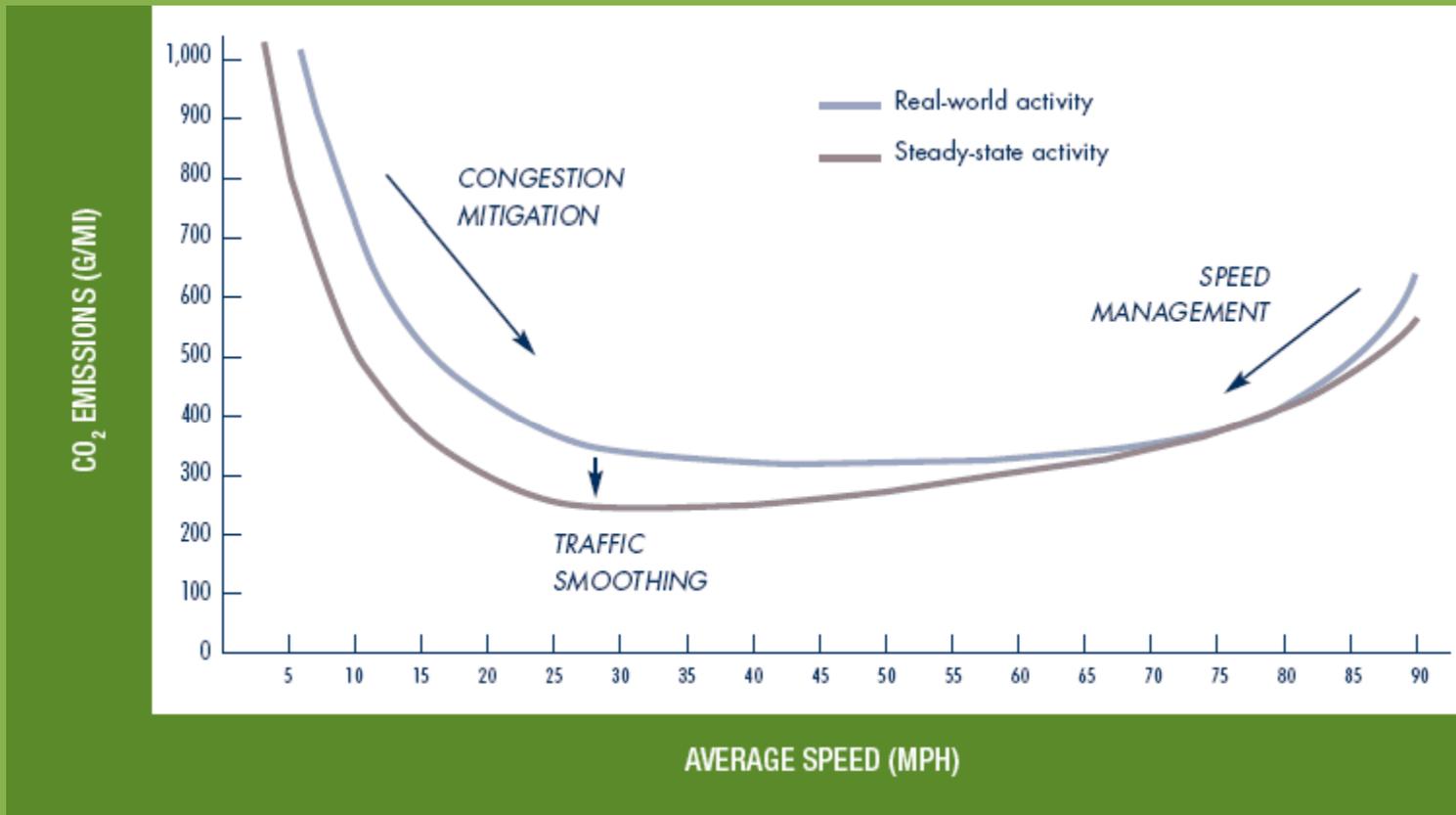
- Studied congestion and impact on CO<sub>2</sub>, used detailed energy and emissions models linked to real-world conditions
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be reduced with three strategies
  - Reduce severe congestion, allow traffic to flow at higher speeds
  - Reduce excessively high free-flow speeds to more moderate conditions
  - Eliminate accel/decel events associated with stop and go traffic in highly congested conditions
- Author: Dr. Matthew Barth, et al., May 2008
- <http://www.its.uci.edu/its/whatsnew/barth2.pdf>.

# Effect of Speed on GHG



Source: Matthew Barth and Kanok Boriboonsomsin, "Traffic Congestion and Greenhouse Gases," *Access* magazine, Fall 2009.

# Traffic Operation Strategies To Reduce CO<sub>2</sub>



Source: Matthew Barth and Kanok Boriboonsomsin, "Traffic Congestion and Greenhouse Gases," *Access* magazine, Fall 2009.

# Roundabouts Reduce GHG



# Roundabouts Reduce GHG

- One study for Kansas estimated 55-61% GHG reduction at controlled intersections replaced with roundabouts
- Study for Vermont estimated 8% reduction in state motor fuel use from replacing signals with roundabouts at 100 busy intersections
- Burlington VT could meet 20% of its GHG reduction goal with 25 roundabouts replacing traffic signals
- Study for Hamilton Ontario found average GHG reduction of 60% for roundabouts replacing traffic signals

# Portland, OR Traffic Signal Timing Project

- Began 2002, 10-year project
- Climate Trust funded project and pays for CO2 offsets from project
- Improve signal timing on 17 major arterials
  - Optimize traffic flow
  - Reduce idling, acceleration, CO2 emissions and emissions from criteria pollutants
- Model for traffic signal offset projects
- [http://www.climatetrust.org/traffic\\_signals.html](http://www.climatetrust.org/traffic_signals.html).

# Will “Induced” Demand Cancel out GHG Reductions from Efficient Traffic Flow?

*“Freeing capacity through traffic management will induce additional traffic in many circumstances but even when overall travel increases emissions may still be less than before if operating speeds are more efficient.”* -- International Transport Forum, 2010

Where congestion is deterring travel, smoother flowing traffic may enable pent-up demand for auto travel to increase

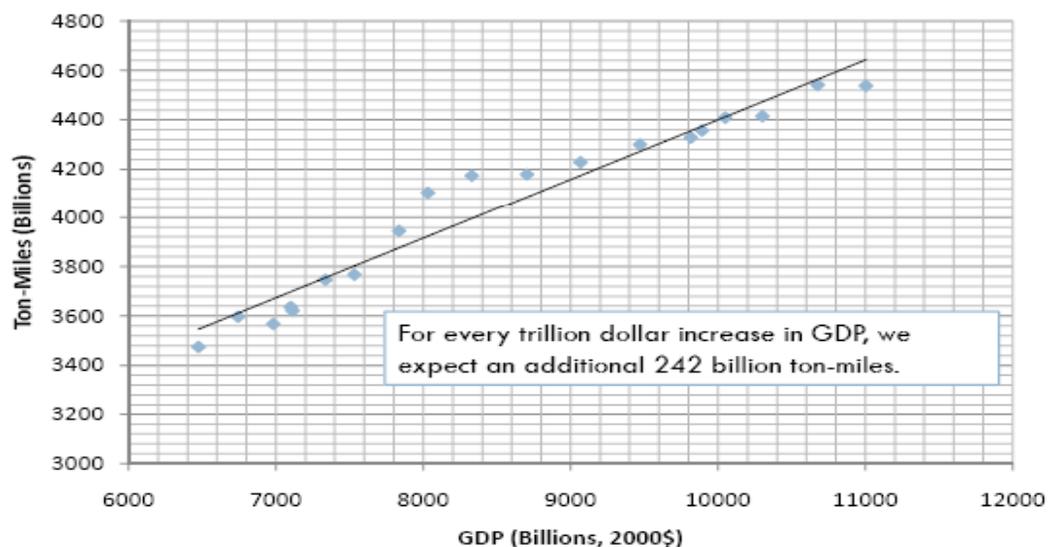
- Need to estimate this effect and adjust GHG effects accordingly
- But only deduct for new VMT (not VMT that shifts in time or facility location)
- Can be controlled with pricing
- Analysis and results must be case specific
- Example: DEIS for Columbia River Crossing finds lowest GHG for options with more new bridge capacity, less transit, and lower tolls

Where congestion is not an issue, smoother flowing traffic is win-win-win-win for travel time benefits, fuel economy, GHG reductions, less wear on vehicles.

# Freight – Ton-Mile/GDP Trends

## Goods Movement and GDP

Ton-Miles v. GDP for the U.S. (1987-2005)

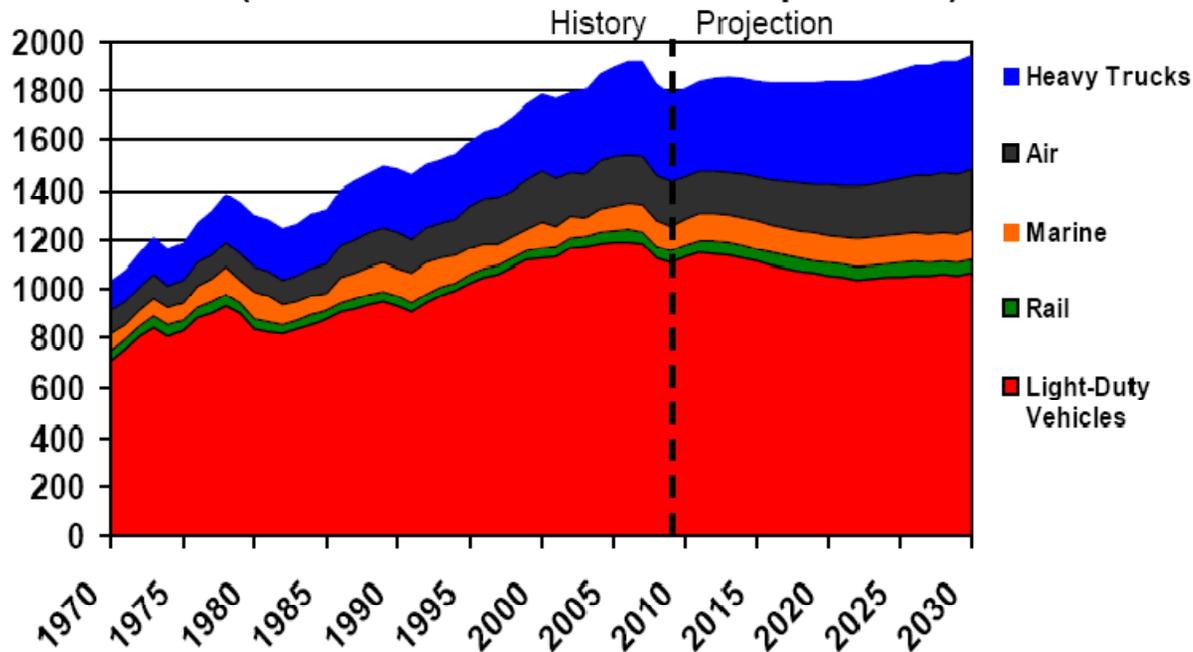


Source: Corbett and Winebrake, 2009.

J. Winebrake, Asilomar, 2009.

# Truck GHG is 20% of U.S. Transportation GHG – And Growing Fast

## GHG Emissions by Transportation Mode (Million Metric Tons CO<sub>2</sub> Equivalent)

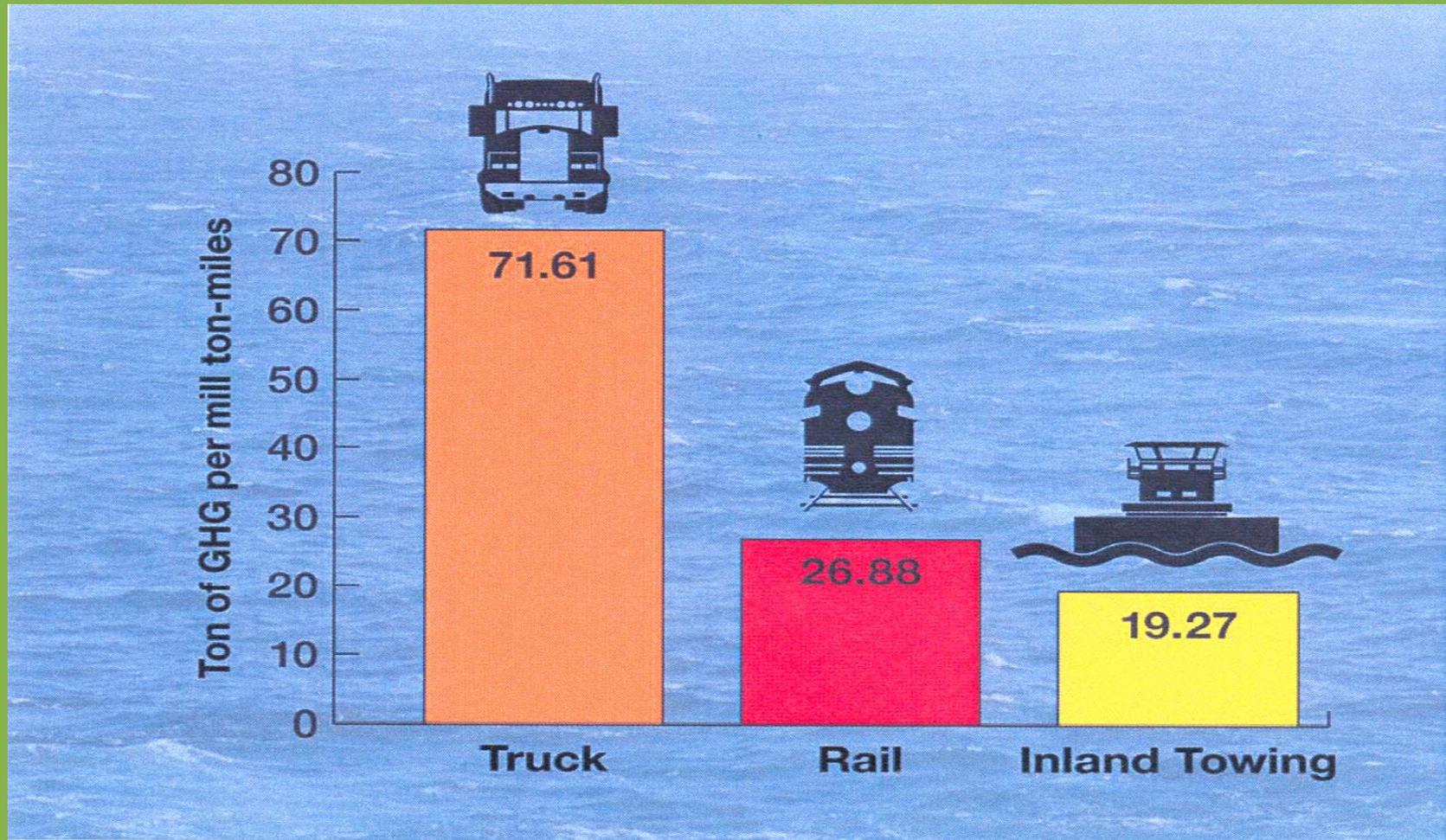


Source: History: *Transportation Energy Databook 28th Edition*  
Projection: *Annual Energy Outlook 2009 Updated Reference Case d041409a*

7

# Freight GHG – Barges and Rail

Source: Texas Transportation Institute and Center for Ports and Waterways



# Freight GHG Strategies in State Climate Action Plans

- Anti-idling programs
- Truck stop electrification
- Speed limit enforcement
- Freight villages/consolidation centers
- Feeder barge container service
- Traffic flow improvements
- Pre-clearances at scale houses
- Truck driver training
- EPA SmartWay up-grade kits & loans & diesel retrofits

- Incentives to retire older trucks
- Freight logistics improvements
- Shifting freight from truck to rail
- Hybrid power trucks
- Low-viscosity lubricants
- Single wide-base tires
- Automatic tire inflation systems
- “Black carbon” control technologies 85% retrofits

Detailed info available in NCHRP 20-24(59), Appendix C – on AASHTO website

# “Best Practices Guidebook for GHG Reductions in Freight Transportation”

- NC State University report to US DOT, 2007
- Covers trucks, freight rail, marine, air freight, pipeline
- Identifies 33 “best practices” for reducing truck GHG (plus 26 for other freight modes)
- All 33 could reduce truck GHG in 2025 by 12% below 2003 (compared to 67% increase in truck GHG if best practices are not implemented)

# 33 Truck GHG “Best Practices” from NC State Report

- Off-board truck stop electrification
- Auxiliary power units for trucks
- Alternative refrigerants for trucks
- Truck aerodynamic improvements
- Wide-base truck tires
- Low-rolling resistance tires
- Hybrid trucks
- Lightweight materials
- B20 biodiesel fuel
- And more.....

# Idling Reduction – Significant GHG Reduction

## Michigan Climate Action Plan – GHG Reductions, 2009-2025:

- 7.0 MMT = Truck/bus idling policies
- 3.2 MMT = Land use planning and incentives
- 2.0 MMT = Increase rail capacity and address rail system bottlenecks

## Michigan anti-idling strategies:

- Increase availability of electrification at private truck stops
- Provide financial assistance for equipment purchase
- Educate truck, bus, and truck-stop owners/operators
- Adopt Michigan law based on EPA Model State Idling Law
- Encourage adoption of local ordinances to reduce idling by buses/trucks

Cost effectiveness = savings of \$85/ton of GHG reduced

# Diesel Retrofits Reduce PM and Black Carbon

- Black carbon is emitted during burning of fossil fuels
- EPA conducting study on impact on GHG – due early 2011
- Diesel emissions considerable, smoke and soot
- A “forcing” agent in heating up climate, blocking sunlight
- Today’s particulate filters for on road and off road engines reduce PM up to 99%, including reductions in black carbon

# Diesel Retrofits Reduce PM and Black Carbon

- On-road diesel truck retrofits reduce PM 99% = 2007 EPA standards and also reduce black carbon
- Locomotive retrofits reduce PM and black carbon
  - Achieve over 76% PM and 25% fuel efficiency
- Cost-effective way to reduce emissions and save energy immediately.
- Retrofits of construction equipment and locomotives could be promising as state DOTs work to reduce emissions to meet potential planning requirements

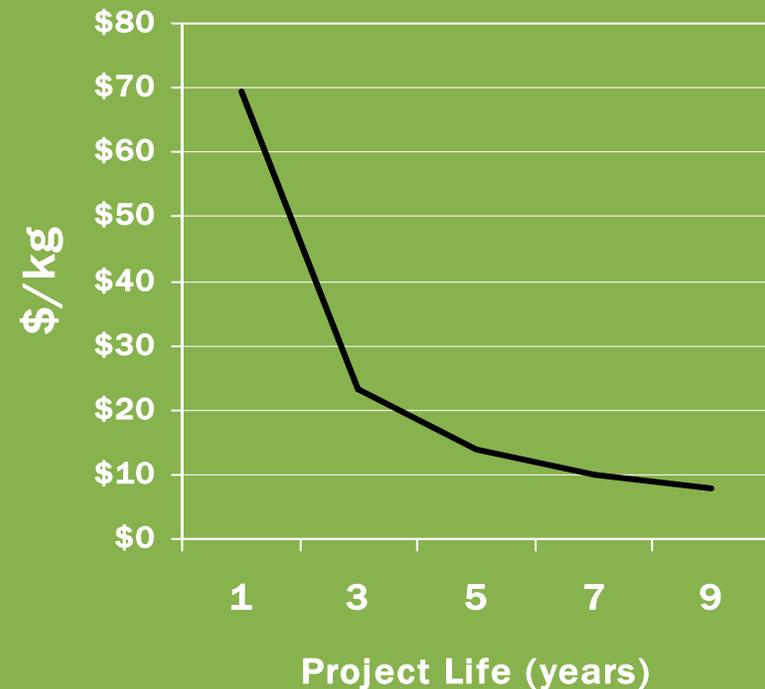
# The Diesel Locomotive Retrofit Process

- Each existing locomotive is stripped from the deck up, removing the large, single diesel engine
- Three smaller, ultra-clean diesel generators are fitted onto the platform, along with control and operating equipment
- An immediate emissions reduction of 86% ozone precursors, 76% Particulate Matter, and a 25% fuel savings, with a corresponding 25% reduction in greenhouse gas CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, is realized following this diesel retrofit

# Diesel Locomotive Retrofit Project Cost-Effectiveness

- Each locomotive diesel retrofit provides annual reductions equal to 16,100 kg/yr ozone precursors and 417 kg/yr particulate matter
- The project cost-effectiveness varies with the life of the project. Over five years, the cost-effectiveness of ozone precursor reductions is \$13.91/kg of ozone precursor reduction

Cost Effectiveness of Ozone  
Precursor Reductions



# A Retrofit Locomotive

- 86% reduction in ozone precursors
- 76% reduction in PM
- 25% reduction in fuel consumption



# Construction, Maintenance, & Agency Operations Strategies

- Significant sources of GHG and energy use
- Many opportunities to reduce GHG and energy cost from current system:
  - LED traffic lights
  - LED “smart” street lights (emerging technology)
  - Low carbon pavement
  - Energy-efficient buildings
  - Reduced roadside mowing
  - Solar panels on ROW
  - Alt fuels and hybrid vehicles in DOT fleets
  - Alt fuel buses

# Solar Panels for Highway Lighting

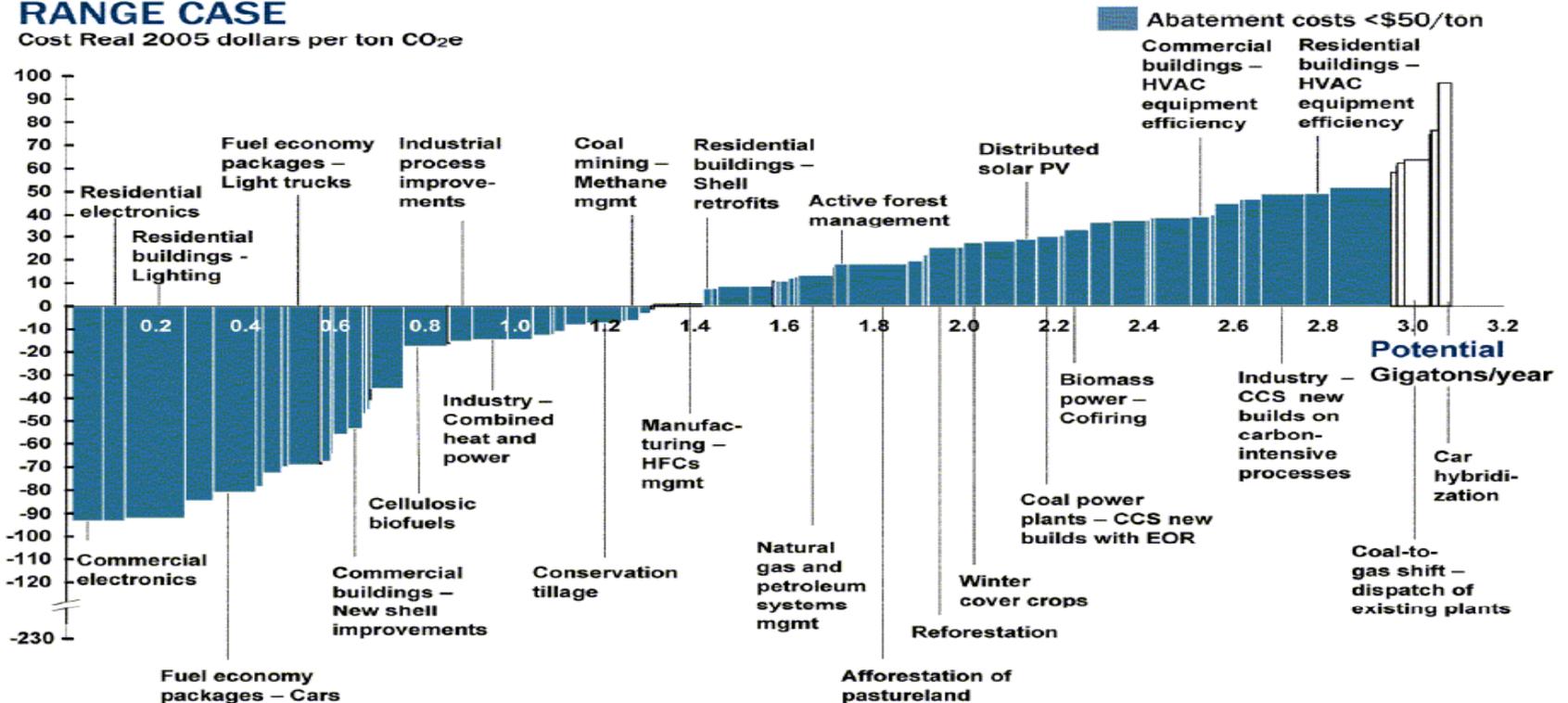
- 594 solar panels produce 122,000 KWH/year to light interchange
- Avoids nearly 43 metric tons of GHG/year from normal electricity
- \$1.28 M project in operation for over a year
- PPP of OR DOT, PGE, and US Bank, using state and federal tax credits
- Could be a model for other DOTs
- ORDOT planning 2 additional projects
- [www.oregonsolarhighway.com](http://www.oregonsolarhighway.com)

# McKinsey: Available Technologies can Reduce 3 Billion Tons GHG/Year at < \$50/ton

(compare to projected 9.7 billion tons economy-wide in 2030)

## GHG REDUCTION OPPORTUNITIES WIDELY DISTRIBUTED - 2030 MID-RANGE CASE

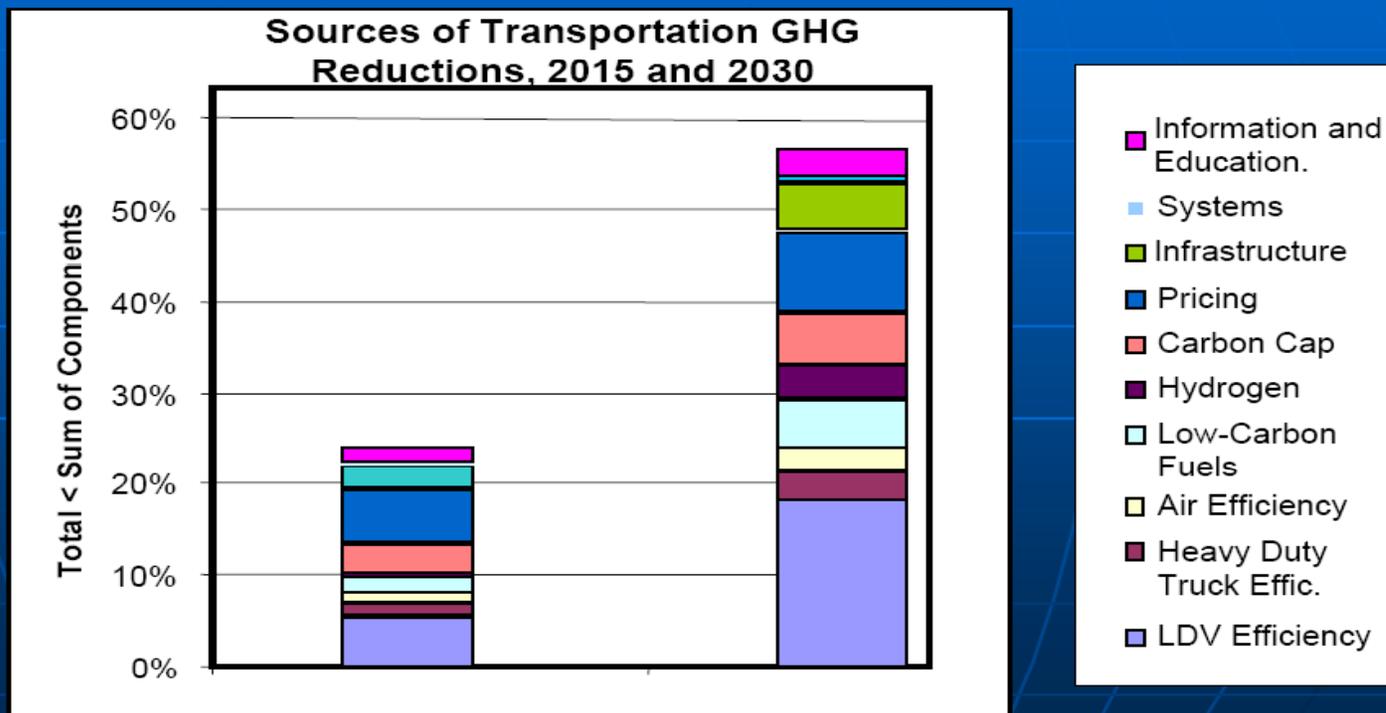
Cost Real 2005 dollars per ton CO<sub>2e</sub>



The analysis found that abatement options are highly fragmented and widely spread across the economy. Almost 40 percent of abatement could be achieved at “negative” marginal costs, i.e., the savings over the lifecycle of these options would more than pay for the incremental investment, operating, and maintenance costs. Realizing the potential of many negative-cost options would require overcoming persistent barriers to market efficiency.

# One Scenario to Achieve 50% Transport GHG Reduction by 2030

Greene & Schafer (Pew Center, 2003) concluded that a comprehensive, tailored set of strategies could cut U.S. transportation emissions in half by 2030.



Source: Greene and Schafer, Pew Center on Global Climate Change, May 2003.

# European View of Transport GHG Strategies

(European Council of Ministers of Transport, 2006)

- “The most effective measures available include *fuel taxes, vehicle and component standards, differentiated vehicle taxation, support for eco-driving and incentives for more efficient logistic organization, including point of use pricing for roads.*”
- “More integrated transport and spatial planning policies might contain demand for motorized transport.”
- Mode shifts ... cannot ... form the corner-stone of effective CO2 abatement policy and the prominence given to modal shift policies is at odds with indications that most modal shift policies achieve much lower abatement levels than measures focusing on fuel efficiency.”
- “Ultimately higher cost energy sources .... will be required if there are to be further cuts in transport sector CO2 emissions.”

# Summary

Many strategies are needed to reduce transport GHG. No silver bullet. Will need full mix of strategies including:

- Maximize energy efficiency of current vehicle technology
- Decarbonize vehicles and fuels world-wide
- Adopt pricing measures to reward conservation and tech innovation
- Push “eco driving” and system/speed management
- Adopt more efficient land use
- Support carpools & vanpools, biking, walking, transit use, trip chaining, telecommuting
- Adopt low carbon, energy-conserving strategies in construction, maintenance, and agency operations
- Implement wide-ranging freight technology and logistics improvements

# IV. Climate Adaptation for Transportation



# Why Transportation Agencies Should Plan for Adaptation

- Sea level rise & storm surges
  - Destruction of bridges
  - Erosion & permanent inundation of roads
  - Disruption of evacuation routes & road network
  - Bridge clearance limitations
- Other types of impacts
  - Increased flooding
  - Pavement and rail buckling
  - Increased flooding
  - More severe inland storms
  - Increased maintenance



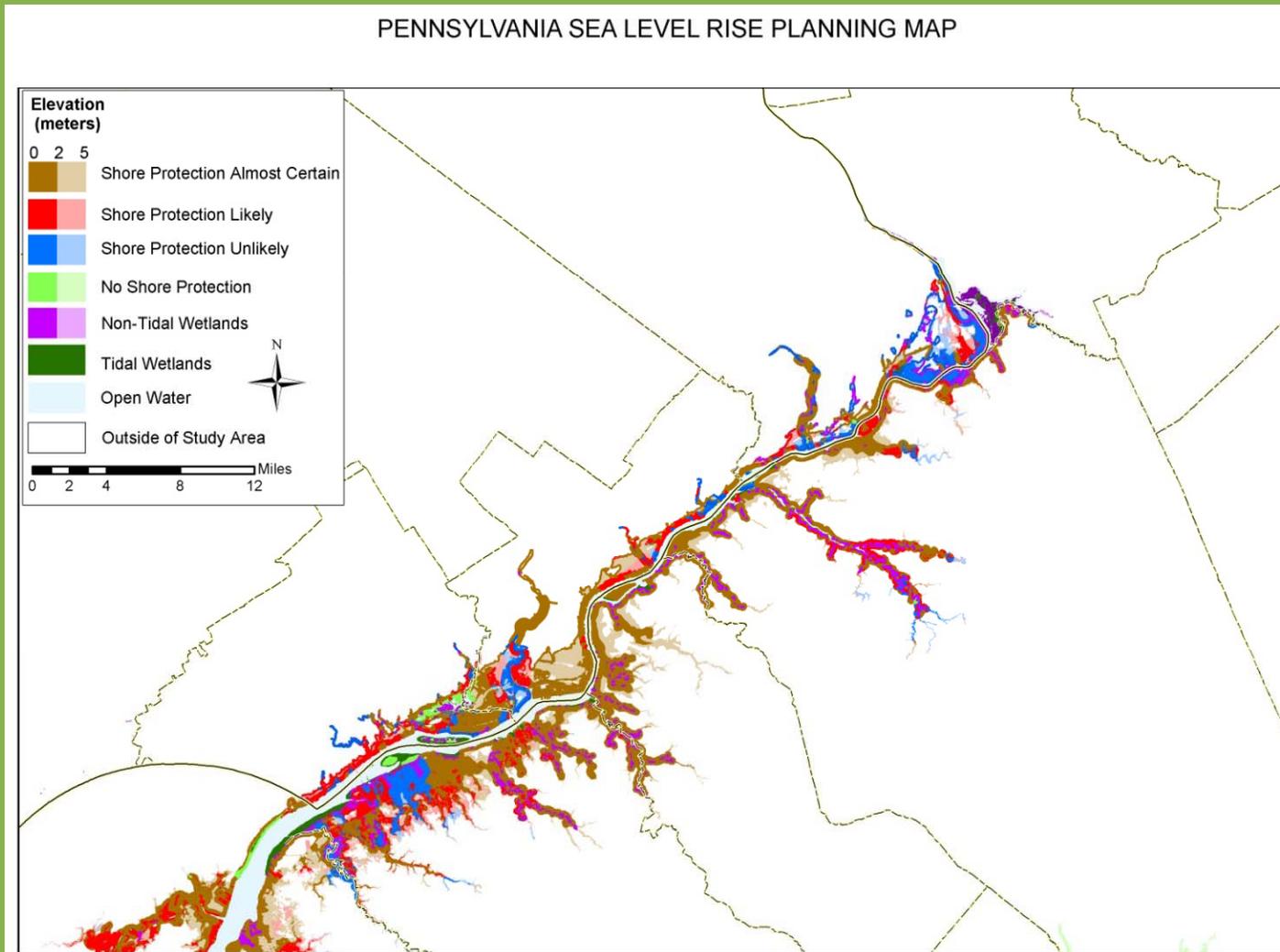
Source: <http://mceer.buffalo.edu/research/Reconnaissance/Katrina8-28-05/05BiloxiBay1/09lg.jpg>

# Definition of Climate Adaptation

*“Actions by individuals or systems to **avoid, withstand, or take advantage of** current and projected climate changes and impacts. Adaptation **decreases a system’s vulnerability, or increases its resilience to impacts.**”*

*--Pew Center on Climate Change*

# PA Sea Level Rise Planning Map

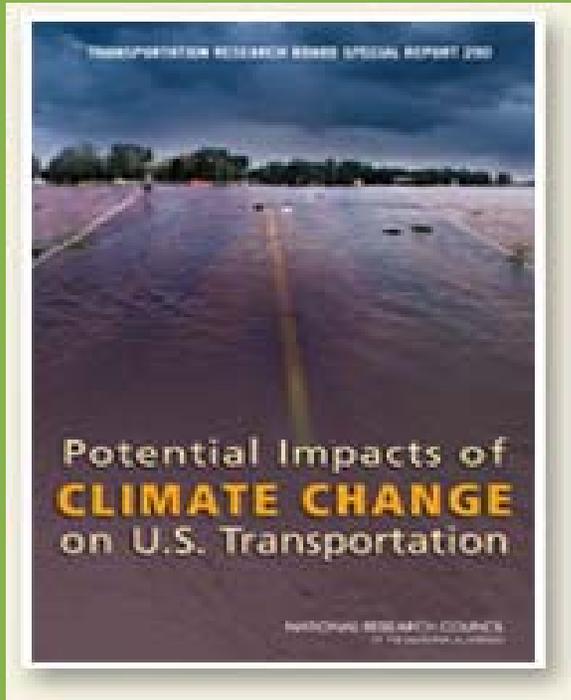


# Climate Changes in Pennsylvania

- Limited scientific info on PA now
- Have to infer impacts, using broader science
- Very likely:
  - PA will get warmer
  - Winter precipitation will increase (8-15%)
- Likely:
  - More extreme/intense precipitation
  - More summer floods
  - 5-10% increase in runoff (esp. winter)
  - Longer dry periods
  - Longer growing season (+3-5 weeks)
  - Susceptible species under stress

-PA Climate Impact Assessment, for PA DEP, 6/29/10

# Transportation Research Board Special Report 290



## Potential Impact of Climate Change on U.S. Transportation (TRB Special Report 290)

Transportation Research Board  
Division on Earth & Life Studies  
National Research Council

# TRB Special Report 290

- Climate change will affect every mode of transportation and every region in the United States, and the challenges to infrastructure providers will be new and often unfamiliar.
- State and local governments and private infrastructure providers will need to incorporate adjustments for climate change into long-term capital improvement plans, facility designs, maintenance practices, operations, and emergency response plans.

# TRB Special Report 290

- Design standards will need to be re-evaluated and new standards developed as progress is made in understanding future climate conditions and the options for addressing them.
- Transportation planners will need to consider climate change and its effects on infrastructure investments. Planning timeframes may need to extend beyond the next 20 or 30 years.
- Institutional arrangements for transportation planning and operations will need to be changed to incorporate cross jurisdictional and regional cooperation.

# States Focusing on Climate Adaptation

- California
- Pennsylvania
- Maryland
- Washington
- Hawaii
- Alaska
- Florida
- Massachusetts
- North Carolina

- Coastal states are most concerned
- Still early on the learning curve
- Multi-sector reviews of vulnerability
- Often led by resource agencies
- State DOT role -- significant to minor

# Implications for Design

- Changes in bridge height
- Changes in bridge foundation and superstructure
- Changes in materials specifications
- Changes in suspended and cable-stay bridges to withstand more severe wind and turbulence
- Changes in culvert design, capacity, and location
- Changes in slope design
- Changes in pavement drainage systems

# Implications for Maintenance/Operations

- Pavement rutting and rail buckling
- Longer construction season
- Closures and detours due to rock slides, soil erosion, flooding
- Speed reductions
- Flooding of culverts
- Change in weight restrictions
- More grass cutting/less snow plowing
- Work crew limitations during severe heat periods

# Implications for Environmental Reviews

- In NEPA process, sponsor must consider project vulnerability to future climate change
- US ACE may raise new issues in wetland permitting due to climate impacts
- USCG may raise climate impacts in bridge permitting
- DOI may raise issues & require more analysis for ESA, due to uncertainty of climate impacts on species

# MASSDOT: Ongoing Adaptation Activities

- Monitor bridges through the Bridge Inspection program and Scour program to ensure safety and develop measures (armoring) to protect the structure until proposed replacement.
- Projects addressed on a case-by-case basis where flooding issues have been identified.
- Bridge projects with low-chord below 10-year flood are subject to more intense review. Two foot clearance preferred but ROW, Environmental, Cultural impacts must be considered.

# MASSDOT: Mid-Term Recommendations Being Considered for Coastal Areas

- Mapping – Using Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) survey to map coastal assets
- Develop GIS based asset inventory
- Perform Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment
- Identify & Prioritize Critical Transportation Assets
- Develop design requirements on a project-by-project and priority basis

# MASSDOT: Mid-Term Recommendations Being Considered for Inland Areas

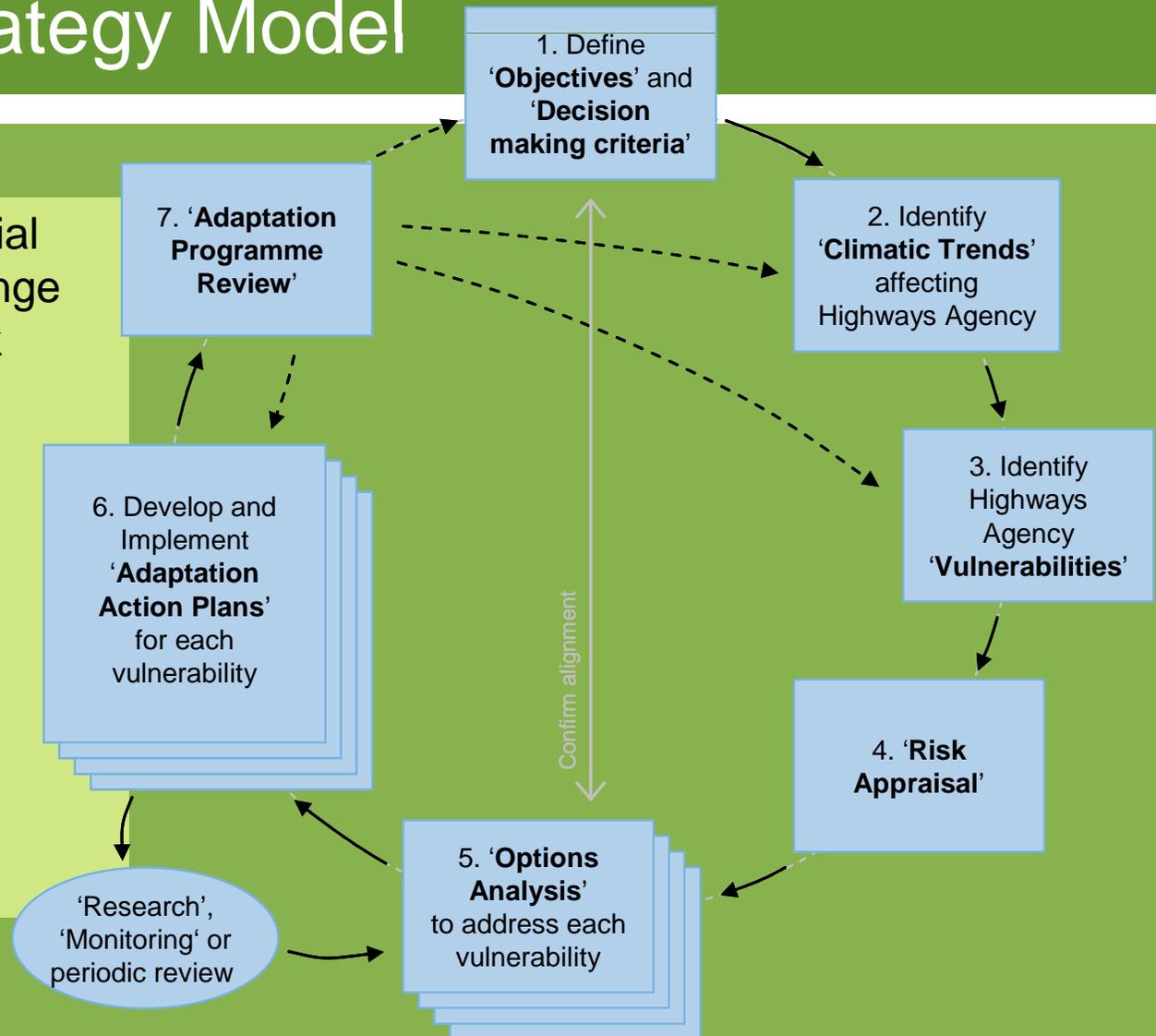
- Update Peak Flood Flow Frequency Regional Regression Equations to produce more accurate flood level predictions (40-year old data)
- Identify and prioritize inland vulnerable assets
- Develop design requirements on a project by project basis
  - Increased clearances
  - Rip-rap, scour protection
  - Relocation – most extreme

# MASSDOT: Long-Term Recommendations

- Continue development of engineering standards with FHWA and AASHTO
- Progressively adapt standards as:
  - More data becomes available
  - Climate change impacts are realized
  - Climate change events are predicted with greater accuracy
  - Universal models are developed

# U.K. Highways Agency Adaptation Strategy Model

- Model identified potential impacts of climate change of the UK road network
- Resulted in a climate change adaptation strategy
- Strategy addresses design, construction, and maintenance
- Includes a risk appraisal for all operations



# Summary

- **All modes** of transportation threatened
- **Affects all transportation functions** – planning, programming, environment, location, design, construction, operations, emergency planning – and budgeting
- Gulf Coast and **low lying coastal areas especially vulnerable**
- **Risk assessment and prioritization** is key
- Transportation planners need to **be aware of and adapt to climate change impacts** on our transportation infrastructure
- Looming in future: where **not to build or re-invest?**

# V. Planning and NEPA Issues



# New Federal Planning Requirements are Very Likely

- House-passed Cap-and-Trade bill includes new planning requirements for climate change
- Oberstar's draft bill for transportation authorization includes new planning requirements for climate change
- Various Senate bills include new planning requirements for climate change
- Most of the provisions in the different bills are virtually identical

# Federal Legislation – Cap and Trade - Transportation Planning Provisions

- **TARGETS AND STRATEGIES:** States and TMA MPOs must develop GHG reduction targets and strategies, as part of transportation plans
- **PROGRESS:** States and TMA MPOs must “demonstrate progress in stabilizing and reducing” GHG emissions
- **METHODOLOGIES:** EPA must issue regulations on transportation GHG goals, standardized models, methodologies, and data collection
- **CERTIFICATION:** US DOT shall not certify state or MPO plans that fail to “develop, submit or publish emission reduction targets and strategies”
- **PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS:** US DOT must establish requirements, including performance measures, “to ensure that transportation plans... sufficiently meet the requirements..., including achieving progress towards national transportation-related GHG emissions reduction goals.”

# Transportation Planning Ground Rules will be Critical – Methods, Tools, etc..

1. Who will set the rules for transportation GHG planning?
2. What models will be allowed or required?
3. What data will be required?
4. What assumptions will be permitted?
5. How will baseline GHG be calculated?
6. What form will GHG targets take? (total GHG? per capita? for freight and passenger? passenger only?)
7. How will through-traffic GHG be counted?
8. How will state GHG planning and MPO GHG planning mesh?

# GHG Calculators On Line

- EPA GHG calculator (converts GHG tons to equivalencies in terms of annual operation of cars, power plants, etc.)  
<http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/refs.html#vehicles>
- EPA GHG calculator for households (enter HH activity data to get GHG)  
[http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind\\_calculator.html](http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html)
- University of Vermont Transportation Research Center (GIS-based travel demand model/carbon calculator)  
[VMT calculation spreadsheet](#)
- GreenSTEP statewide transportation GHG estimator  
<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TD/TP/docs/HB2186page/GreenhouseGasEmissions.pdf>
- Summary and assessment of GHG methodologies  
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/1277/default.aspx>

# One Emerging Tool: GreenSTEP

## **GreenSTEP = Greenhouse gas State Transportation Emissions Planning model**

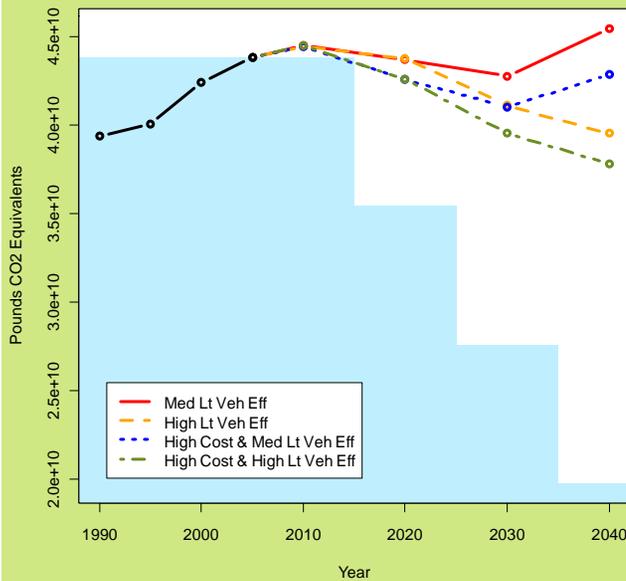
- A statewide planning model to help Oregon develop a statewide transportation strategy on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions
- Complements metropolitan travel demand models and ODOT's integrated statewide model
- Peer Review by Oregon travel modelers and experts in other disciplines
- Many elements have been estimated using 2001 NHTS data
- Open source model developed and implemented in open source software (R programming language)
- Partially developed with FHWA SPR program funds

# GreenSTEP Inputs

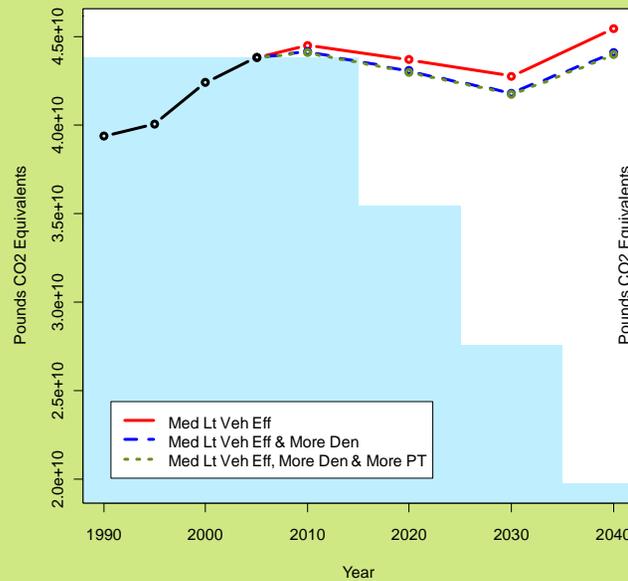
- Demographic changes
- Relative amounts of development occurring in urban and rural areas
- Metropolitan and other urban area densities
- Urban form
- Amounts of metropolitan area public transit service
- Highway capacity
- Vehicle fuel efficiency
- Vehicle ages
- Electric vehicles
- Fuel & carbon pricing
- VMT pricing
- Demand management
- Effects of congestion on fuel economy
- Carbon content of fuels – including well to wheels impacts
- CO2 production from electrical power use for transportation

# GreenSTEP can Analyze Many Different Strategies

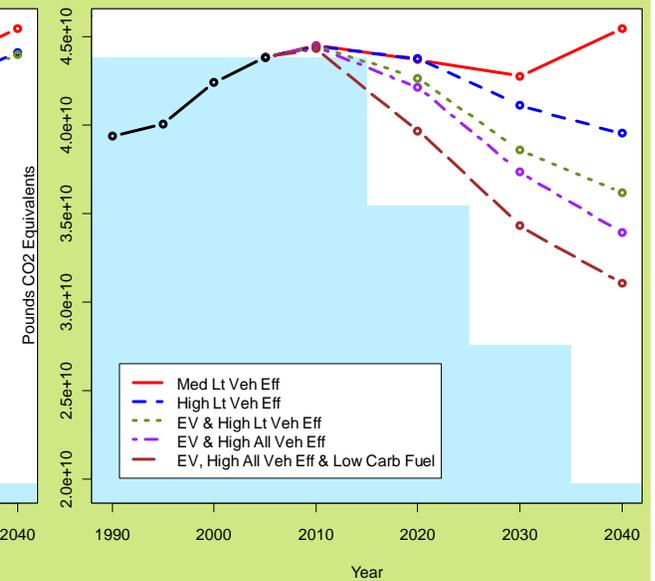
## Fuel Economy & Costs



## Urban Planning



## Vehicle Tech & Fuel



# NEPA: Draft CEQ Guidance

- Draft issued by CEQ on February 18, 2010
- Comments due: May 24, 2010
- Proposal:
  - Evaluate proposed actions that are reasonably expected to cause direct emissions of 25,000 metric tons or more of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent on an annual basis
  - Quantify cumulative emissions over the life of the project
  - Consider impact of climate change on the project

# NEPA: Potential GHG Considerations

- Emissions from vehicles using the highway
  - In no-action and build alternatives
  - Usually treated as direct emissions in NEPA air quality analysis
- Construction-related emissions
- Up-stream emissions from fueling cycle (drilling, refining, shipping, etc.) and vehicle cycle
- Others?
  - Emissions effects of land use changes, roadway maintenance and lighting, etc.

# NEPA: Roadway GHG Emissions

- 25,000 metric tons = 43,000,000 VMT/year or about 120,000 VMT/day
  - Examples:
    - One mile highway with 120,000 ADT
    - Two mile highway with 60,000 ADT
  - Action that would increase VMT by 120,000/day (NEW VMT) would trigger analysis, with all else being equal (e.g. speeds, congestion, fleet mix, etc.)

# NEPA: Future Roadway GHG Emissions

- 25,000 ton is based on annual emissions over life of the project
- Future fuel economy projected by US DOE
  - 2020 fleet - ~14% more fuel efficient than 2010 fleet; raises VMT threshold to 137,000 VMT/day
- Upstream and downstream emissions?
  - Fuel supply (well to pump) and vehicle manufacture and disposal included in EPA national inventories
  - Proposed approach would add 40% to emissions generated to account for upstream and downstream emissions
    - 120,000 VMT becomes 86,000 VMT **IF** 40% and upstream/downstream emissions included

# NEPA: Construction GHG Emissions

- Methodologies to quantify construction emissions dated
- But, based upon NY procedures
  - 25,000 metric tons could result from 30-50 lane-miles of new road work
  - Emissions vary widely
- Construction emissions would be annualized over life of project

# NEPA: Construction GHG Emissions

Source: NYSDOT

Construction Energy Factors -- Lane-Mile Approach		
Type of Improvement	Construction Energy Consumed per Rural <sup>a</sup> -Lane-Mile (10 <sup>9</sup> Btu/mi)	CO <sub>2</sub> , tonnes
New construction	12.70	637
Relocation	10.50	526
Reconstruction	5.20	261
Restoration and rehabilitation	2.30	115
Resurfacing	0.75	38
Major widening	5.00	251
Minor widening	1.90	95
New Bridges	192	9624
Bridge Replacement	222	11128
Major rehabilitation	134.4	6737
Minor rehabilitation	11.91	597
<sup>a</sup> Increase rural energy consumption by 20% for urban construction		

# NEPA: Projects Potentially Triggering GHG Analysis

- New 6-lane bridge,
  - 1.2 miles long, 100,000 ADT, 70 mph (in 2020, 114,400 ADT)
- New 4-lane highway,
  - 3.5 miles long, 40,000 ADT, 70 mph (2020, 45,800 ADT)
- New 2-lane highway,
  - 6 miles long, 25,000 ADT, 60 mph (2020 ADT 28,600)
- Widening existing highway –
  - 6 to 10 lanes, 13 miles, speeds increase from 60 to 70 mph (2020 volumes could increase by 14%)
- Transit Projects
  - Light-Rail, Heavy-rail, Inter-city Rail?

# NEPA: Bottom Line

It all depends...

- What emissions sources are included in total?
- How are direct and indirect emissions defined?
- What analysis year (or years) are used?
- Speed assumptions?
- Fleet assumptions?
- New VMT vs. VMT shifted from elsewhere?
- Many questions...

# DEIS For Columbia River Crossing

- Won national award for GHG analysis from National Association of Environmental Professionals
- DEIS issued May 2008
- Project is for congested river crossing between Portland OR and Vancouver WA
- Estimated cost of \$3.1 - \$4.2 billion
- 4 build alternatives – all are a combination of transit (BRT or LRT) and improved highway capacity

# DEIS For Columbia River Crossing – GHG Results

- Build alternatives have lower GHG than no-build
- Relatively small differences among build alternatives
- Transit GHG emissions varied substantially
- Highest GHG: The alternative with more transit, higher toll, and less highway improvement

Source: Colin McConnaha, Parametrix, Inc.

# Summary

- New Federal planning requirements, targets, etc. are likely
- CEQ Draft Guidance will impact required NEPA Analysis; consider both
  - \* impact of project on GHG; and
  - \* impact of climate change on project
- Tools will be needed to evaluate GHG emissions
- NEPA documentation will be important
- Mitigation actions needed for both plans and NEPA

# VI. Participant Workshop



# Participant Workshop

A working session in break-out groups to identify an initial set of activities for PENNDOT to get started with:

- (a) GHG reduction strategies and framework;
- (b) Climate adaptation planning;
- (c) Public communication strategies;
- (d) Outreach/collaboration with other agencies and organizations.

# INFORMATION RESOURCES



# Resources -- Websites

- AASHTO: <http://realsolutions.transportation.org/Pages/default.aspx>
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC):  
<http://www.ipcc.ch/>
- US DOT Transportation and Climate Change Clearinghouse:  
<http://climate.dot.gov/index.html>
- FHWA Climate Change Program  
<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/hep/climate/index.htm>
- The Pew Center on Global Climate Change:  
<http://www.pewclimate.org/>
- EPA Climate Change Program  
<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/>
- TRB Climate Change Activities  
<http://www.trb.org/main/SpecialtyPageClimateChange.aspx>

# Resources – Key Documents

- AASHTO, “Primer on Transportation and Climate Change,” 2008
- NCHRP 20-24 (59), “Strategies for Reducing the Impacts of Surface Transportation on Global Climate Change,” 2009
- European Council of Ministers of Transport, “Review of CO2 Abatement Policies for the Transport Sector,” 2006
- U.S. DOE, “Annual Energy Outlook,” 2009 (primary source of official U.S. data on energy and GHG)
- TRB Special Report 290: “Potential Impacts of Climate Change on U.S. Transportation,” 2008
- Pew Center on Climate Change, “Climate Change 101”

# The Primer

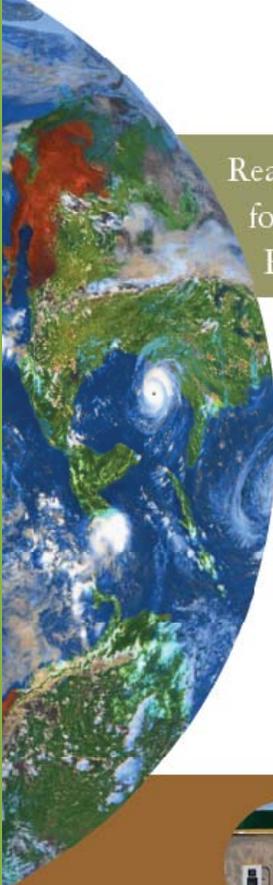
- AASHTO "Primer on Transportation and Climate Change"
- <http://downloads.transportation.org/ClimateChange.pdf>

## Primer on Transportation and Climate Change

*April 2008*



# AASHTO - Real Transportation Solutions



## Real Transportation Solutions for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions

**A**utos and light-duty trucks contribute 16.5 percent of the greenhouse gases in the United States. States are looking at the best ways to reduce these emissions while sustaining the transportation services people and businesses depend upon. We are committed to doing our part to help achieve the goal of reducing U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 80 percent by 2050. Our strategies include:

1. Smarter Travel: Reduce the rate of growth in the number of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) in the United States.
2. Better Cars: Increase vehicle fuel efficiency.
3. Better Fuels: Shift to fuels that produce low or zero carbon dioxide emissions.
4. Optimize the System: Improve the efficiency and operation of our roads.

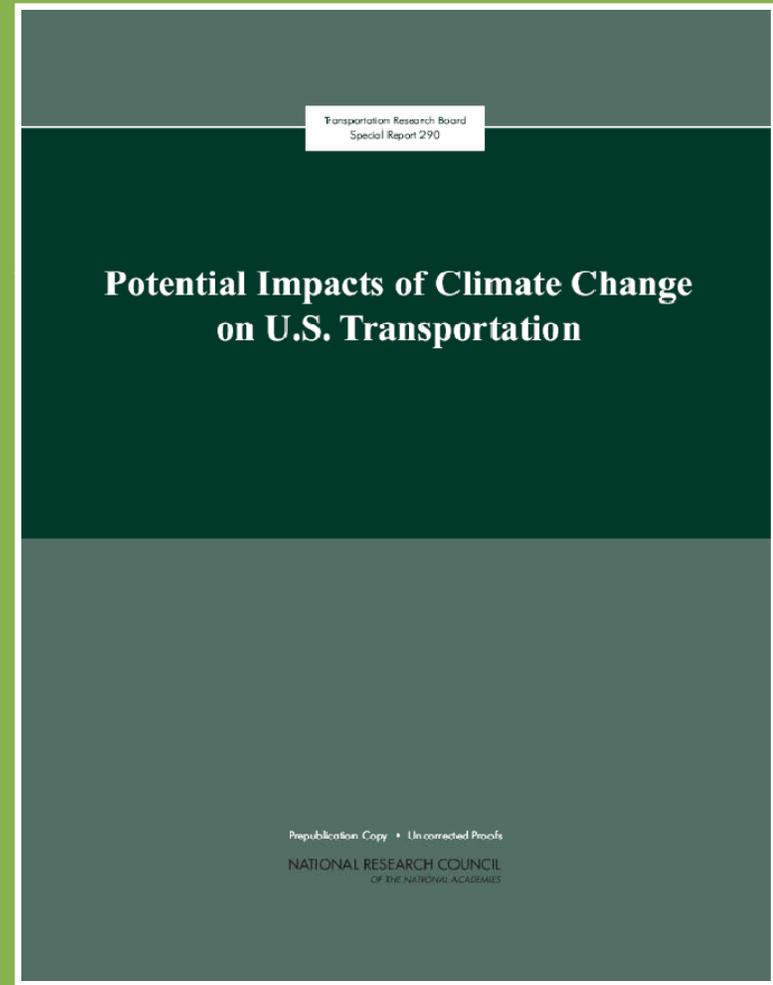


<http://www.transportation1.org/RealSolutions/RealSolutionsReport.pdf>

Parsons Brinckerhoff / Sarah J. Siwek & Associates, Inc. | Climate Change

# TRB Special Report 290

- "Potential Impacts of Climate Change on U.S. Transportation"
- <http://onlinepubs.trb.org/onlinepubs/sr/sr290.pdf>



# Pew Center on Global Climate Change

- "Climate Change 101"
- <http://www.pewclimate.org/global-warming-basics>

**CLIMATE CHANGE 101**  
**Understanding and Responding to Global Climate Change**

**Overview**

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**Science and Impacts**

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**Technological Solutions**

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**Business Solutions**

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**International Action**

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**State Action**

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**Local Action**

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# Resources – AASHTO

- **AASHTO Climate Change Steering Committee:** CCSC acts as a focal point and coordinating body for AASHTO's activities related to climate change. CCSC members act as the focal point for AASHTO on climate change policy issues and provide oversight and guidance to AASHTO's Climate Change Technical Assistance Program.
- **AASHTO Technical Assistance Program on Climate Change:** This is a new, voluntary program that provides timely information, tools and technical assistance to assist AASHTO members in meeting the difficult challenges that arise related to climate change.

For more information on AASHTO's Climate Change Steering Committee and Climate Change Technical Assistance Program, please contact:

Shannon Eggleston at AASHTO (202) 624-3649

[seggleston@ashto.org](mailto:seggleston@ashto.org)

# Contact Info for Workshop Instructors

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