ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES COALITION

2021 ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITY Clean & Just Transportation



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Invest in Resilience & Structural Equity Washington deserves progressive & stable transportation funding

Washington needs a clean and just transportation system that reduces climate pollution, improves community health, increases economic opportunity, and creates sustainable alternatives to congestion management. A majority of Washington's transportation revenues are regressive and restricted to highway spending, while most of its investments are decided without any defined goals or metrics. As a result, larger, more visible projects—and often projects that increase air pollution and induce demand for driving—are prioritized. These negative impacts do not align with our state's values of creating healthy and safe communities, and a fair and equitable distribution of transportation investments.

2021 SESSION GOAL: PASS A CLEAN & JUST TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

The Clean & Just Transportation campaign focuses on advocating for a more equitable and sustainable transportation system in Washington. During the 2021 legislative session, we are working to pass a new transportation package that supports clean and just ways to fund and invest in transportation, and to shift away from roadway expansion.

A Clean & Just transportation package:

- Ensures 35% of investments in EJ priority areas
- Increases travel by healthy, sustainable modes of transportation
- Transitions to clean transportation
- Ensures current transportation assets are safe, efficient and modernized

Our Recommendations For a New Transportation Package:

CLEAN & JUST STATEWIDE REVENUE

As the state legislature looks at how to fund the transportation system, we must assess how to generate transportation revenue in a way that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, improves multimodal transportation choices, and ensures fair and equitable outcomes. We developed guidelines for evaluating new and existing transportation revenue sources and key considerations for emerging revenue ideas. *Read more.*

CLEAN & JUST LOCAL REVENUE

We need more progressive local revenue options. In addition to statewide sources, the legislature should also grant local jurisdictions the authority to implement or ask voters for additional revenue options. Current options for local jurisdictions are volatile, limited, time-bound, and regressive. We must give local leaders better options to provide and maintain safe and equitable transportation networks, in a way that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, improves multimodal transportation choices, and ensures fair and equitable outcomes. *Read more.*

CLEAN & JUST INVESTMENTS

Transportation dollars must be used in ways that deliver the best investments possible to help build a more efficient, affordable, clean and just transportation system for all. People living in urban and rural Washington should have diverse options to get around so they can be active and healthy; access opportunities like health care, good jobs and education; and live in a sustainable climate. Investments must be prioritized in communities that experience the greatest burden of climate and air pollution, predominantly low-income and communities of color across our state. We created a set of investments that best help achieve a clean & just transportation system in Washington. *Read more.*

Our communities, economies, and natural resources deserve immediate action.

Now is the time to adopt new emissions reduction targets that set a foundation for bold action.

