# The NH Climate Action Plan The Transportation and Land Use Connection

Travel Demand Management Advocacy Group Meeting April 7, 2010

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#### **Overview**

- Climate Change in the Northeast
- New Hampshire Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Climate Change Policy Task Force Action Plan Recommendations
- Implementation



#### **Our Planet Has a "CO<sub>2</sub>-Blanket"**





http://earth.rice.edu/mtpe/atmo/atmosphere/hot/anom\_99/0Greenhou se\_Effect.html



#### **Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide & Temperature Record**





Source: C. D. Keeling and T. P. Whorf; Etheridge et.al.; Barnola et.al.; (PAGES / IGBP); IPCC

#### **Global Temperature 1880-2005**



# Indicators of Climate Change in the Northeast

- More precipitation
- More frequent extreme precipitation
- Winter warming
- Decreased snowfall
- Fewer days with snow on ground
- Lake ice out dates earlier
- Earlier spring runoff
- Extended growing season
- Sea-level rise

Hodgkins et al., 2002; 2003; Wolfe et al., 2005; Wake and Markham, 2005; Wake et al., 2006



#### **Flooding in NH**

October 2005 May 2006 April 2007 September 2008





#### Lamprey River Instantaneous Discharge





Data from: http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis

#### Highest Daily Discharge - Lamprey River near Newmarket since 1934

Rank	Date	Discharge	
		(cfs)	
1	16-May-2006	8400	
2	15-May-2006	7600	
3	18-Apr-2007	7590	Of 15 largest events since 1934: 13 have occurred in last 24 years 10 have occurred in last 15 years 8 have occurred in last 5 years
4	17-Apr-2007	7410	
5	7-Apr-1987	7360	
6	22-Oct-1996	6310	
7	17-May-2006	6240	o have becarred in last 5 years
8	23-Oct-1996	6150	
9	8-Apr-1987	5920	
10	6-Apr-1987	5460	
11	20-Mar-1936	5270	
12	19-Apr-2007	4830	
13	15-Mar-2010	4810	
14	21-Mar-1936	4690	NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF
15	27-Feb-2010	4640	Services

#### **Presidentially Declared Storm-Related Disasters**



#### **Presidentially Declared Storm-Related Disasters**



Year of Storm Event

## Projections of Climate Change in New Hampshire



## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections



#### **Climate Change Policy Task Force**

- Established through Executive Order 2007-3 December 6, 2007
  - Establish quantified greenhouse reduction goals
  - Recommend specific actions to achieve its greenhouse gas reduction goals



# Climate Change Policy Task Force Recommended Goals

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  20% below 1990 levels by 2025
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions 80% below 1990 levels by 2050

#### STATE ACTION COMPLEMENTS GLOBAL EFFORTS



#### Climate Action Plan Emission Reduction Potential



# Overarching Strategies to Achieve Goals

- 1. Maximize energy efficiency in buildings and transportation;
- 2. Increase renewable and low-emitting heat and electric power sources;
- 3. Protect our natural resources to maintain the amount of carbon sequestered;
- 4. Develop an integrated education, outreach and workforce training program; and
- 5. Adapt to existing and potential climate change impacts.



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## Greenhouse Gas Emissions Transportation Sector



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#### Current New Hampshire Land Use Patterns

- Rapidly growing small towns
- Scattered development
- Dispersing population
- Increasing rate of land consumption
- Segregated land uses
- Lack of activity centers
- Poor accessibility









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#### **Desired Land Use Conditions**

- Open space preservation
- Higher density development
- Concentrated activity centers
- Mixed use development
- Pedestrian oriented design
- Increased density near transit



#### **Recommended Land Use Actions**

- Assess Greenhouse Gas Development Impact Fees
- Streamline Approvals for Low- Greenhouse Gas Development Projects
- Develop Model Zoning to Support Bus/Rail Transit
- Develop Model Zoning for Higher-Density, Mixed-Use Development
- Continue/Expand Funding, Education, and Technical Assistance to Municipalities





#### **Desired Transit Outcomes**

- Expand existing transit availability
- Increase transit options
- Increase connectivity and accessibility of transportation system



#### **Desired Transit Outcomes**



## **Recommended Transit Actions**

- Implement a Stable Funding Stream to Support Public Transportation
- Improve Existing Local/Intra-Regional Transit (Bus) Service
- Expand Local/Intra-Regional Transit (Bus) Service
- Improve Existing Inter-City Bus Service



#### **Recommended Transit Actions**

- Maintain and Expand Freight Rail Service
- Maintain and Expand Passenger Rail Service
- Expand Park-and-Ride Infrastructure
- Expand and Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure



#### Reduce VMTs through an Integrated Multi-Modal Transportation System





#### Climate Action Plan Emission Reduction Potential







#### **Moving Forward**

- NH Climate and Energy Collaborative
  - Six members from the business community.
  - Six members from the public sector.
  - Six members from the education and nonprofit sectors.
  - Legislative liaison committee.
- Implementing Partners
  - "Boots of the Ground"

#### Contacts

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#### **Action Plan Development Process**

- Climate Change Policy Task Force
  - Twenty-nine (29) members
- Working Groups (6)
  - 125+ Participants
- Six (6) Official Public Listening Sessions
  - 15 Locations
  - 275 Participants
  - 100 Commenters
- 300 Pages of Public Comments
  - e.g., mail, email, phone calls

