



Driving Down Climate Change in 2009

Opportunity and Strategy in the
111th Congress

Rail~Volution 2008

San Francisco

We know we need to reform our federal transportation policy...

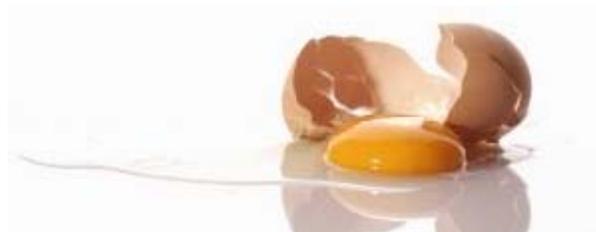
Business as usual will increase VMT and Climate Change



- More than 80% of money dedicated to roads and highways
- Funding formulas reward increasing VMT, fuel use, lane-miles
- High hurdles to obtaining transit funding
- No connection to land-use policy
- Does not consider environmental or economic benefits

...but these eggs are too important to put them all in the same basket!

- Time is of the essence
- There's not much money to work with
- The politics are tricky
- **No one is guaranteeing victory**



What else can we do in 2009?

○ Alternative Federal Policy Opportunity

- Climate Change Legislation
- Economic Stimulus
- Infrastructure Investment



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...and how do we do it?

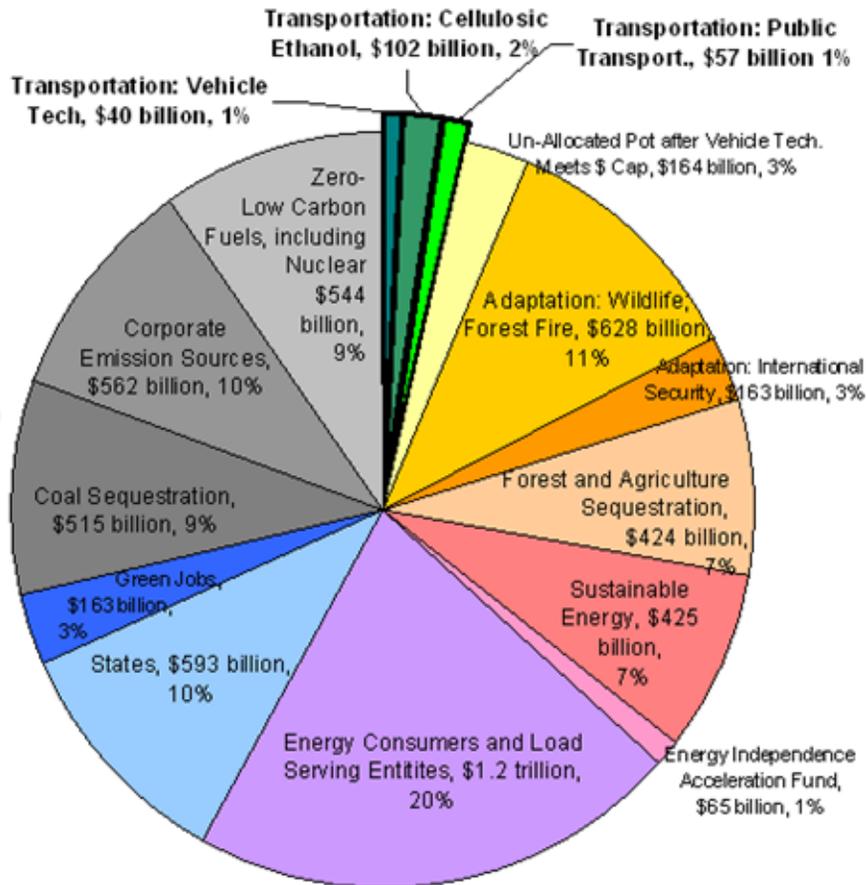
○ Senate Strategy: Making the Case

- Climate Change and Oil Dependence
- Job Creation
- Domestic Investment



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Federal Policy Options: Climate Change



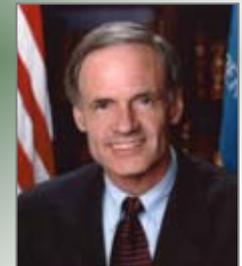
Percentage of Lifetime Allocation and Auction Values in Lieberman-Warner

Use climate revenue to support transit, smart growth, capacity building

- Grants for low-carbon transportation and smart growth development
- Incentive to adopt performance-based VMT reduction targets with strong accountability mechanisms
- State, regional, local capacity building on smart growth planning: data, tools, scenario analyses
- Blueprint planning grants, learning networks (like CA)
- Opportunity to set the stage for climate-friendly transportation bill

Federal Policy Options: Climate Change

- We have a foothold, but there's lots of room to improve
 - Increased funding
 - More effective performance standards
 - Accountability
 - Greater flexibility
- Sen. Boxer will return to climate change in 2009
- Sen. Carper – Clean-TEA
- EPW – Sen. Sanders, Clinton, Cardin, Lautenberg



Federal Policy Options: Econ. Stimulus

○ Transit and smart growth investments create green jobs...

- Every \$1 billion invested in public transportation creates at least 41,000 green collar jobs
- 19 percent more than new road and bridge construction
- Ready-to-go transit projects in 78 metro areas nationwide,
- Potential for 7 million green jobs



Federal Policy Options: Econ. Stimulus

○ ...and ease transportation costs for families.



- The cheapest gallon of gas is the one you don't buy...
- Transportation is the second largest household expense after housing – higher in some regions
- Two-adult, two-car household can save ~\$6000 annually by eliminating one car and taking public transportation
- Cuts household greenhouse gas emissions up to 30 percent

Federal Policy Options: Econ. Stimulus

- Byrd stimulus package: Supports clean cars, invests in highways, meager transit provisions
 - \$25 billion in auto company loans for advanced, energy-efficient vehicles
 - \$300 million for advanced battery research
 - \$8 billion in formula highway investments
 - \$2 billion for transit agencies to address capital and operating needs
 - \$350 million for Amtrak capital projects
- Stimulus package will be a top priority in 2009
 - Obama: focus on clean energy
 - Advocates need to make a the case for clean transportation
 - Associated climate benefits are key



Federal Policy Options: Infrastructure

○ Enormous nationwide infrastructure deficit

- Energy, water, transportation
- Governors and mayors make excellent allies
- Investments must create jobs and address climate change
- Matching grants can leverage state and local investments



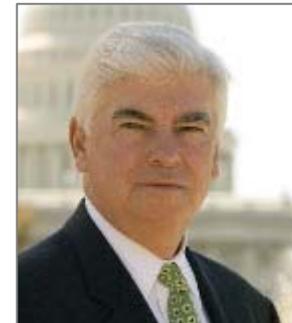
Federal Policy Options: Infrastructure

○ National Infrastructure Bank

- \$60 billion fund independent of Congressional direction
- Finances projects costing more than \$75 million
- Sets national priorities for transit, water, housing
- Evaluation criteria: economic growth, environmental benefits, traffic reduction, smart growth land use

○ Significant political support from leadership

- Sen. Obama has endorsed the idea in policy platforms
- Sen. Dodd, chair of Banking Cmte. is lead sponsor
- Gov. Rendell is a leading proponent



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Seize the day, boys!

- The Change Election: stars are aligning to offer amazing opportunities for real reform
 - New leadership, new ideas
 - Opposition is still strong
 - But inertia is our greatest obstacle
- Keys to success
 - **Organize:** new constituencies, new winners
 - **Communication:** simple, persistent message of clean energy, green jobs, American investment
 - **Government is on the rise:** shore up allies and create leaders
 - **Private sector still matters:** opportunities for entrepreneurs
 - **Preparation:** be first, be clever





Questions? Comments?

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