

Transforming Transportation to Address Climate Change



New York's transportation system accounted for approximately 28% of statewide greenhouse gas emissions in 2019, with road transportation accounting for most of the emissions. Other notable emissions sources include aviation; non-road vehicles; and transporting fossil fuels, such as gasoline and diesel, to New York to power vehicles.

Although the New York Metropolitan Area has very extensive public transit, many New Yorkers are dependent on single occupancy vehicles. Increasing access to public transit, active mobility options, and zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs), such as battery electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles, will make it easier to get around without a car and will reduce vehicle emissions. Growing public charging infrastructure availability and ZEV choice, plus an estimated 50% savings on vehicle repair and maintenance costs, will continue to advance adoption. Current transportation-related emissions underscore the need to accelerate our work to create more walkable communities, increase public transit service and connectivity, and transition to ZEVs.

The Road to Sustainable Transportation

Creating a transit system that reduces emissions while increasing connectivity and access to jobs, schools, and services requires a combination of investment, regulatory action, and coordination at the national, regional, and local levels. The Scoping Plan proposes several key strategies to scale up electric vehicle adoption, improve public transportation access, and implement development patterns to create walkable and bikeable communities.

- **Transition to ZEVs:** New York will require 100% light-duty ZEV sales by 2035, accompanied by enhanced investment in ZEV workforce development and purchase incentives, especially for low-to-moderate income customers. Rapid deployment of charging stations, with a focus on Disadvantaged Communities, multi-family housing, and travel corridors in rural areas will reduce barriers to ZEV adoption statewide.
- **Adopt Zero-Emission Trucks, Buses, and Non-Road Equipment:** New York will require 100% ZEV sales for non-road vehicles by 2035 and medium- and heavy-duty vehicles by 2040, supported by greater incentives, investments in charging infrastructure, and prioritization of converting public buses, school buses, services vehicles, and the State fleet.
- **Enhance Public Transportation:** Greater service connectivity, increased service frequency, and enhanced amenities will improve the convenience of public transit.
- **Encourage Smart Growth and Mobility-Oriented Development:** Implementing incentives and policies will encourage development that prioritizes mixed-uses, density, and public transit access.
- **Expand Low-Carbon Transportation Alternatives:** Investments in active mobility and public transit infrastructure will provide low-cost transportation options for discretionary travel.
- **Support Market-Based Solutions and Financing:** New York will implement policies and strategies that discourage carbon-intensive transportation and generate funding for investment in public transit, vehicle electrification, and other low- and zero-emission modes of transport.





Reimagining Transportation in New York

The Scoping Plan outlines a future vision for the transportation sector that prioritizes equitable access and the state's economic competitiveness while rapidly reducing emissions from vehicles.

Here's how a transportation system centered on people and climate will look for New Yorkers:

- **Pedestrian-Friendly:** The convenience, safety, and mobility of pedestrians and bicyclists will be improved through transportation projects and infrastructure improvements.
- **Zero-Emissions:** Nearly 100% of LDV sales and 40% of medium- and heavy-duty sales will be zero-emission vehicles by 2030. Almost all vehicles will be ZEVs by 2050, including non-road vehicles, such as tractors, boats, and construction equipment.
- **Reduced Vehicle Miles Traveled:** More walkable communities and improved access to public transit, shared mobility options, and rail service means less miles driven in personal vehicles.
- **Innovative:** New York will explore the role of green hydrogen and other alternative fuels, such as renewable biofuels, to replace fossil fuel combustion in hard-to-electrify segments of the transportation sector such as freight, rail, and aviation.

Zero-Emission Transportation in Action

Gates-Chili Central School District debuted two electric buses in June 2022, becoming the first upstate district to begin electrifying its school bus fleet. The new buses will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote health and safety benefits for students and the community.

Electric buses have zero tailpipe emissions, avoiding impacts to air quality from idling on school grounds and traveling through neighborhoods. On the other hand, diesel school buses emit pollutants linked to asthma and respiratory illnesses, posing harm to children's health and development. Gates-Chili bus driver, Chuck Vorndran, emphasizes that the quieter electric engine improves bus safety, too. "It's so nice to be able to hear children on the bus if there's an emergency that I need to act on quickly," says Chuck.

Due to lower maintenance and fuel costs, Gates-Chili CSD will recoup on their investment in student health and climate action. Communities statewide will soon reap the environmental and health benefits of electric buses, as New York plans to electrify the state's approximately 50,000 school buses by 2035.



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