Sustainable Transportation in the Upper Valley

How energy committees can make an impact

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Today’s Discussion

• Setting the transportation context
• What do we DO?
• Local examples of ECs changing our transportation system
  (all this in 30 minutes)

• Small Group Work Session
  (30 minutes)
Let’s get started with a quick exercise: how do we move?

Think about and answer the three questions on the front of the worksheet:

✓ Three places you travel to most often
✓ Three places you travel to about once a month
✓ Three ways that people travel in your town
We need to live somewhere healthy & pleasant.

We need access to mobility – that is, we need to be able to connect to other places & people!
When we say, “Transportation”...

Transportation Efficiency = Fuel efficiency + People/goods moved

Our Focus: Reduce reliance on driving alone
space required to transport 60 people

car
bus
bicycle

(Poster in city for Muenster Planning Office, August 2001) Credit: Press Office City of Muenster, Germany
Climate benefits

Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector
VT & NH

- Transportation
- All other sectors
Financial benefits

Annual cost of owning a gasoline car: $8,698

- Car payments
- Maintenance
- Insurance
- Gas
- Snow tires
- Registration
- State inspection
Financial benefits

20+ miles each way is a typical Upper Valley commute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>FUEL</th>
<th>FUEL plus Wear &amp; Tear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PER DAY</td>
<td>$5.54</td>
<td>$31.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANNUALLY</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
<td>&gt; $8,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
✓ Broader Benefits

Focus on Fuel Efficiency
(EV’s. hybrids, higher MPG)

Benefits
✓ Climate benefits
✓ Financial benefits

Still AUTO-centered

Focus on Moving People
(carpool, bus, fewer drive-alone trips)

Benefits
✓ Climate benefits
✓ Financial benefits
✓ Health & wellbeing
✓ Social cohesion
✓ Better land use planning
✓ Improved mobility

PEOPLE-centered
More miles spent in a car = Decreased physical activity

More transit & sidewalks in neighborhood = Increased physical activity
Social cohesion
Better land use planning
✓ Improved mobility
Auto-centered = cars are in charge!

“Automobilism”
HUMAN-centered =

healthier, happier, cleaner, and more equitable living

...rather than changing the fuel while maintaining business as usual.
How do we start to shift the paradigm from auto-centered to people-centered?

But all three are needed, and we work on ALL of them.
Alternatives to driving alone & conditions needed

**Biking**
- a bike
- skills & confidence
- safe roads
- accommodations at destination

**Walking**
- proximity to destination
- an able body
- a safe path

**Taking the Bus**
- proximity to a bus going to your destination
- confidence in & knowledge of bus system
- flexibility
Alternatives to driving alone & conditions needed

**Carpooling**
- proximity to people going your direction
- comfort riding with them
- flexibility

**Vanpooling**
- proximity to others going the same way
- knowing how to find them

**Telecommuting**
- work that you can “take home”
- the technology to do it
Starting to shift the paradigm: local examples

Behavior change
Teach people skills, make sure they know about their options

D.I.Y. Bike Workshops
(Cornish)

Electric Vehicle Expos

Bike Rodeo
(City of Lebanon & Cub Scouts in Hartford)

Promote Existing Resources on town "listservs"

Everyday Bicycling Workshops
(many locations)

Annual Curb the Car Day
(many locations)
Starting to shift the paradigm: local examples

*EV Charging Stations (many towns)*

*Better Blocks Grant (Bethel)*

*Sidewalk project (Hanover)*

Infrastructure change
Make it easier for people to adopt new behaviors
Starting to shift the paradigm: local examples

- Write a strong transportation chapter in town plan (Hartford)
- Start a town bike-ped committee (Hanover)
- Membership on Upper Valley TMA (many towns)

Advocacy/policy change
Testify, write letters, and enact policy and plans that enable better land use and infrastructure
Thank you! Questions?

If you think of a question later, be in touch!

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And NOW...
Let’s brainstorm ways to continue transforming the Upper Valley’s transportation system.
Small Group Work Session

*Structure of activity: “1-4-Table”*

1. Fill out the worksheet on your own (3 minutes)
2. Get into a group of four and discuss (10 minutes)
3. Have a full table discussion to share ideas (15 minutes)

*Please assign a scribe for each table. The scribe will take notes on the colored paper. VC will compile the notes and share.*

Let’s shift the paradigm some more! **FUTURE local examples**
Let’s shift the paradigm some more!
FUTURE local examples

Small Group Work Session

Ready...Set...GO!
“Paradise is not a distant destination. It is something we create in our own communities.”

- Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Institute