

Transportation for Massachusetts' Transportation Justice Statement

Transportation Justice

Transportation for Massachusetts is committed to transportation justice. Transportation justice will happen when historically underserved and marginalized communities:

1. Have access to reliable, affordable, sustainable, safe, and efficient ways to get around;
2. Are not negatively impacted by and benefit from existing transportation infrastructure, and
3. Have decision-making power in developing policy decisions that achieve and maintain the aforementioned goals.

Why Transportation Justice?

Transportation justice is critical to the work of T4MA because we understand that our society's inequitable status quo is the result of racism and the intersection of other forms of injustice, such as classism and ableism. Transportation policy decisions have intentionally and unintentionally exacerbated the division and segregation of communities based on race and income. The effects of these policy decisions, such as redlining, taking land by eminent domain to build highways, and disinvestment in public and active transportation, linger today and negatively impact the lives and livelihoods of people of color, low-income communities, and other marginalized populations.

Transportation for Massachusetts recognizes the power of transportation justice to help redress racial, socioeconomic, geographic, and health inequities and create just solutions to environmental burdens and our climate crisis. We seek to accomplish this by working with a broad range of activists and organizations advocating for disability rights, public health, environmental justice, and other intersecting issues to ground transportation policy in the needs of our most marginalized populations.

We know that transportation policies not grounded in the needs, aspirations, and context of the most underserved and marginalized populations can cause harm and even well-intentioned policies can reinforce injustice and compound inequalities.

T4MA is committed to ensuring that communities of color and low-income communities have a voice in decisions that impact them, that resources flow to populations that have been neglected and need them most, and that our advocacy promotes equity.