



## T4MA 2021 Policy Priorities

**Federal policy:** Supporting federal stimulus and recovery that invests in transit, walking, and, biking infrastructure, reduces emissions and air pollution, and makes our infrastructure more resilient. Ensure federal resources are dedicated to sustainable transportation solutions, while discourage roadway and highway expansion.

**Gas tax:** Fund transit, walking, and biking and encourage less fuel consumption through an increase in the state gas tax, with specific provisions that mitigate impacts to low-income households, ideally through benefits that accrue before any cost increases.

**RTAs:** Increase state support for the Commonwealth's regional transit authorities, which serve many low-income riders across the state. Modernize Regional Transit Authority governance and operations to provide more effective and efficient transit service for those that rely on it.

**COVID Recovery:** Provide more federal and state resources to be dedicated to the MBTA and RTAs to avoid service cuts and support safe and accessible transit.

**Congestion:** Advance roadway and congestion pricing to support transit and reduce local air pollution, while ensuring that any pricing policies implemented in Massachusetts are made through a transparent, stakeholder-engaged process, and include provisions for low-income households.

**TCI:** Promote an equitable transportation and climate policy, work toward meaningful state and coalition engagement with environmental justice populations, continue working with the MA TCI Table to advance a broader transportation justice platform, and implement a regional TCI policy that is robust and equitable in conjunction with other states in the region.

**Fare Policy:** Institute a low-income fare program at the MBTA, supported by additional state revenue as to not reduce existing resources for the MBTA. Reform fare-evasion policy that currently discriminates against riders of color and low-income riders.

**Rail:** Advance a vision for a modernized rail system throughout the Commonwealth, including preservation of existing service under threat from cuts, and electrification of the system, prioritizing routes that serve and pass through environmental-justice communities.

**Chapter 90:** Increase Chapter 90 funding, while investigating ways to ensure ensure that Chapter 90 resources flow to communities that need it most.

**Complete Streets:** Increase Complete Streets and Safe Streets funding, while investigating ways to ensure ensure that Complete Streets resources flow to communities that need it most.

**Local Options:** Advance local revenue options for transportation, including through RBIs with the goal of a progressive state match that builds in racial and socioeconomic equity as criteria for the level of state funding provided to communities that pass Regional Ballot Initiatives.

**TNCs:** Update TNC fees and use the proceeds of increased fees to fill critical gaps in public transportation that leave low-income workers and others with few options except Uber and Lyft trips. Require more robust data sharing and improved conditions for drivers.

**Vehicle Excise Taxes:** Increase vehicle excise taxes, potentially through a local option / RBI. Investigate ways to enhance the progressivity of the vehicle excise tax.

**Vision Zero:** Reduce the number of deaths of all users of MA streets, sidewalks, and paths to zero.

**Electrification:** Support electrification of public fleets. Push policymakers and agencies to put EJ communities first as they electrify.

**Fair Share Amendment:** Support the Fair Share Amendment, with provisions for transportation funds to be spent on public and active transportation and not to be used for road and bridge projects.

**Transit/Housing:** Advance policies that create affordable housing production close to transit. This include parking policies, TOD policies, housing production/preservation policies, and anti-displacement policies.

**MBTA Governance:** Advocate for transparent and inclusive long-term governance of the MBTA.

**Rural Transportation:** Support rural transportation needs, especially electrification, public transit, and complete streets.