CLEAN TRANSPORTATION FOR ALL

The Problem

The transportation sector is a major source of air pollution that contributes to asthma, cancer, and an increased likelihood of death from COVID-19, particularly for communities of color who are disproportionately exposed to such pollution. In addition, the transportation sector is one of the largest and fastest-growing sources of carbon emissions in the U.S., responsible for nearly 30 percent of all U.S. climate pollution. We urgently need clean transportation for all. Thankfully, clean transportation options like electric vehicles and clean public transit have been growing, employing hundreds of thousands of workers. However, tens of thousands of clean transportation workers have lost their jobs due to the COVID crisis, and many more are at risk of unemployment as public transit agencies lose billions of dollars amid historic declines in ridership.

The Solution

We urgently need to support clean transportation workers and the continued growth of clean transportation for all. That means investing in clean public transit to ensure safety, cover lost revenues, and expand access to clean and affordable buses, subways, and light rail options. It means making clean electric vehicles affordable and accessible to everyone by offering equitable rebates to make electric vehicles cheaper, electrifying public buses, and investing in charging infrastructure in our communities. It means investing in bikeable and walkable communities that promote safety, accessible mobility, and public health.

The Jobs

Investments in clean transportation programs would provide hundreds of thousands of good jobs. Specifically, Congress should:

► Provide over 635,000 jobs by making electric vehicles more affordable: Congress should pass and fully fund the Clean Cars for America proposal, which would invest \$454 billion over 10 years to replace millions of gas guzzlers with electric vehicles. The proposal includes consumer rebates to lower the cost of electric vehicles, particularly for lowerincome families, and incentives to support domestic manufacturing of electric vehicles.



- Provide 213,000 jobs by investing in clean public transit: Congress needs to increase public transit operational funding by \$50 billion and maintenance funding by \$100 billion over 10 years to support public health measures during the COVID crisis while making up for lost revenues. Estimated CO-VID-related losses to transit agencies tally between \$26 billion and \$38 billion, and the estimated transit maintenance backlog totals \$99 billion.
- Provide 56,000 jobs by electrifying school buses and public transit buses: Congress should invest \$20 billion over five years for school districts and transit systems to replace 60,000 school and public transit buses (about 10 percent of the national fleet) with domestically manufactured electric vehicles and charging infrastructure.

And More ...

For a complete list of clean transportation investments, see <u>economic analysis from the Political Economy</u> <u>Research Institute and Sierra Club's letter to Congress</u>, which outlines specific priorities for a bold stimulus package that puts millions of people back to work to build a healthier, more equitable clean energy economy.