

TRANSPORTATION OPPORTUNITIES

Nick Quint, Mike Dunn, Brandon Burkey,
Durrelle Scott, Greg Tew, Janet Rankin, John
Randolph, Jordan Torregrosa, Lydia Patton,
Kali Casper, Erik Olsen, Beth Lohman,

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENT UPDATE
PROCESS – SPRING 2020



TRANSPORTATION OPPORTUNITIES MEMBERS

Nick Quint, Alternative Transportation Department

Mike Dunn, Office of University Planning

John Randolph, Chair VT 2020 CAC Working Group

Brandon Burkey, Philosophy graduate student

Durrelle Scott, Biological Systems Engineering

Greg Tew, School of Architecture and Design

Janet Rankin, Human Nutrition Foods Exercise

Jordan Torregrosa, Mechanical Engineering undergrad

Lydia Patton, Philosophy

Kali Casper, Town of Blacksburg

Erik Olsen, Blacksburg Transit

Beth Lohman, Blacksburg Corridor Committee

PURPOSE & FOCUS

- Describe the **evolution of the VT transportation** and mobility systems and programs
- **Compare VT experience to peer** and exemplary universities in sustainable transportation.
- Work with GHG Inventory subcommittee to estimate energy **GHG emissions from VT transportation** including car commuting, transit, alternative transport, motor pool, aviation, and business travel.
- Develop and assess scenarios and **strategies for future VT transportation systems** including efficiency improvements and systems to improve sustainable mobility choices.



PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Transportation causes about **8.4% of campus GHG** not counting VT business airline travel, 6.7% attributable to commuting to campus.
- There have been **four decades of improvements in alternatives** to single occupancy commuting, including
Blacksburg Transit (1983), Improved bicycle infrastructure, Commuter Alternatives Program (2001), Smart Way Bus (2004), Alternative Transportation Office (2007), Car-sharing, Ridesharing & Bikes sharing (2011-2014), recognition from Best Workplaces for Commuters (since 2009), Bicycle Friendly University (2019 silver)
- Still **single occupancy vehicle commuting rose 10%** from 2014 to 2018
- VT plans for **Infinite Loop, Green Links, Multi-modal Facility** are very positive initiatives for campus mobility
- Transportation **emissions** per vehicle-mile will **naturally decline** with improved vehicle efficiency and increasing percentage of electric vehicles.

PRELIMINARY GOALS & PATHWAYS

PRELIMINARY GOAL

Reduce transportation-related GHG emissions by 40% by 2030 and Reduce single-occupancy vehicle commuting to campus by 20% by 2025

POTENTIAL PATHWAYS TO GOAL

- In 2020, provide better data on student and staff commuting behavior and reasons for that behavior through surveys and other means to monitor progress.
- Improve **safety, convenience, and use of walking/biking/transit** as the preferred means of commuting to campus, use parking demand management, alternative transportation programs, campus mobility planning along with the Town and BT
- Promote **sustainable mobility choice** through good marketing including social media, parking permit literature, university promotion literature/website, student orientation materials, and other means.
- **Mandate fuel efficiency** in motor pool purchases.
- Before 2030, **negate business airline travel emissions** with carbon offsets.

PRELIMINARY GOALS & PATHWAYS

POTENTIAL PATHWAYS TO GOAL

- **Encourage use of electric vehicles** by installing charging stations in parking garages and other locations.
- Implement infrastructure recommendations in the Parking & Transportation Master Plan and Beyond Boundaries 2047: The Campus Plan
- Limit/restrict vehicles in the core of campus (Drillfield Drive, Alumni Mall, Kent Street, West Campus Drive, and Stanger Street).
- Reduce the speed limit on all campus streets to 15 miles per hour.
- Promote telecommuting, online classes, Zoom conferencing, compressed work week schedules, and other means to reduce travel needs.
- Collaborate with the Town to provide affordable workforce housing proximate to campus.

CLIMATE ACTION COMMITMENT UPDATE

Thank you for your attention. We invite you to engage. Please visit the CAC website (link below) to:

- Watch the other committee videos
- Read the CAC Interim Report
- Complete the climate action survey
- Register for a Zoom forum
- Engage through an online bulletin board
- Contact us

<https://svpoa.vt.edu/index/VTCACRevision.html>

PLEASE FIND LINKS IN THE DESCRIPTION BELOW